



TO OUR PARISHES OF
ST. MARY & ST. THOMAS AQUINAS',
STELLA
& ST. AGNES', CRAWCROOK.

Parishes' Landline & answering machine: 0191 4142749;
Retired in residence at St. Agnes', Crawcrook: Rev. Fr. J. James.

14th Sunday of the Year. 5th July, 2026.

Saturday 4 th July	Vigil Mass	- Stella	5.00 p.m.	Robert McDarby.
Sunday 5 th July	14 th of the Year	- St. Agnes'	9.00 a.m.	Thomas Kelly.
		- Stella	10.15 a.m.	Alice Phillipson.
Monday 6 th	(St. Maria Goretti.)	- Stella	9.15 a.m.	The Murray Family.
Tuesday 7 th		- Stella	9.15 a.m.	The November Book.
		- St. Agnes'	10.00 a.m.	Jack & Elsie Kelly.
Wednesday 8 th		- Stella	6.00 p.m.	Maureen Daley.
Thursday 9 th	(St. Augustine Zhao Rong.)	- Stella	9.15 a.m.	The Holy Souls.
Friday 10 th		- St. Agnes'	9.15 a.m.	Patricia Maxwell.
		- Stella	6.00 p.m.	Geoff Waller.
Saturday 11 th July	(St. Benedict.)	- Stella	10.00 a.m.	Our Lady's Intentions.
	Vigil Mass	- Stella	5.00 p.m.	Bob & Moira Houston.
Sunday 12 th July	15 th of the Year	- St. Agnes'	9.00 a.m.	Phyllis & Norman Callender.
		- Stella	10.15 a.m.	John Middleton.

Safeguarding. Our parishes operate in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance, the CSSA and Diocesan policies at all times. Our Parish reps are:- Rachael Taylor (Stella) & Janet Dale (Crawcrook). The Diocesan Team can be contacted on (0191) 243 3305.

Confessions:- Daily after Mass; Sat. 4.15 – 4.45p.m. Exposition: Saturday, 4.15 – 4.45 p.m .

Please pray for: the sick:- Mark Armstrong; Tommy Carr; Valerie Coleman; Michael Hogan; Avril & Paul Kimmitt Joyce Madine; Margaret March; Annie O'Connor; Jessica Rich; Natasha Rose; Matthew Stewart; Fr. Alan MacKnight.

Offertory Procession. This week: Sophia Reed & Family (Sat.); Amelia Henderson & Family (Sunday);
 Next week: Filip Sikarski & Family (Sat.); Nieve Bell & Family (Sunday).

200 Club Weekly Winner. This week's winner: M. Wheeler, No. 7. Congratulations Marie!



First Confession & First Holy Communions 2026/27!

It is already time to start preparing for our programme for the coming year! The bright yellow application forms are now available from the table at the back of church. If your child will be in year 4 or older in September 2026 and would like to celebrate these sacraments with us in 2027, take a form home with you. Please do read them carefully, and if you feel able to commit yourselves to our programme, return the completed forms to Fr. Rose by **Sunday, 19th July** at the very latest.

Stella Summer Raffle.

Tickets are on sale— just £1 a strip. Prizes include:- Laphroaig Quarter Cask 48% whisky; 1 lite Smirnoff Vodka; Whitney-Neil Hand Crafted 43% Gin; 1 litre Napoleon Brandy; Jameson's Whiskey; 1 litre Baileys; Jose Cuervo Especial Tequila; Spiced 40% Rum; Graham's Ruby Port; Limoncello; Presentation Pack of Wines; Kath Kidston of London Hand Care set.

The winning tickets will be drawn at the end of the fayre!





STELLA SUMMER FAYRE IT'S TODAY – COME TO THE FAYRE!!!

The advertising banners are now up on the gates and the railings. The fun all kicks off on **Sunday, 5th July at 2p.m.**

It's our major fundraising event of the year, proving popular with people of all ages. You can readily see how our funds are spent, with the new roof on the church and the presbytery too. Our next target is the redecoration of the church interior, which we are hoping to address this summer!



Parishes' Monthly Second Collection. This weekend is the first in the month of July. Our July collection will be taken for the Apostleship of the Sea and the Development Fund. Please use the yellow envelopes for this collection if you have a Gift Aid to the parish.



St. Agnes' Summer Draw. Prizes:- Hamper; Meat voucher; Summer Double bed throw; 9" electric fan; Garden Centre voucher; 1L whisky; bottles of wine; beach towel; sweets etc. Tickets: £5 a book. Drawn Sunday, 19th July.

WHY CATHOLICS USE SACRED IMAGES: THE SECOND COUNCIL OF NICAEEA EXPLAINED

“ The honor shown to an image passes to the person represented. ”

1 WHAT WAS THE SECOND COUNCIL OF NICAEEA?

- Held in 787 AD** in Nicaea (present-day Türkiye), it was the **Seventh Ecumenical Council**.
- It addressed the controversy of **Iconoclasm**—the belief that religious images should be banned or destroyed.
- The bishops gathered to defend the true faith using Scripture, Apostolic Tradition, and the teaching of the Church.

2 THE PROBLEM: ICONOCLASM

- Those who supported Iconoclasm believed all religious images should be removed.
- Many sacred images, icons, and artworks were destroyed.
- Christians who defended sacred images were often persecuted.

The controversy threatened Christian unity and required a clear teaching.

3 WHAT DID THE COUNCIL DECIDE?

SACRED IMAGES MAY BE DISPLAYED
Images of Christ, the Blessed Virgin Mary, the angels, and the saints may be placed in churches and honored by the faithful.

IMAGES HELP TEACH THE FAITH
Sacred images remind us of the mysteries of our faith and inspire us to grow in holiness.

HONOR PASSES TO THE PERSON REPRESENTED
The veneration shown to an image passes to the saints, or angels depicted—not to the material itself.

WORSHIP BELONGS TO GOD ALONE
Adoration (latria) is owed to God alone. Images receive veneration (dulia), not worship.

4 DID THE COUNCIL APPROVE IDOL WORSHIP?

- Absolutely not!** The Council strongly condemned idolatry.
- It distinguished between:
 - Adoration (latria) – God alone
 - Veneration (dulia) – Saints and sacred things
- Catholics worship God alone. Sacred images help us honor those who are close to God.

5 WHY IS THE COUNCIL STILL IMPORTANT TODAY?

- It answers the claim that Catholics “worship statues.”
- It protects the Church’s teaching on the proper use of sacred images.
- It helps the faithful meditate, pray, and remember the saints and the mysteries of our faith.
- It directs our minds and hearts toward Christ, not toward the material image.

6 WHAT CATHOLICS BELIEVE TODAY

We worship God alone.

We venerate the saints.

Sacred images point us to Christ.

Images are reminders, not idols.

“ Sacred images are windows to heaven, not objects of worship. ”

SOURCES: Second Council of Nicaea (787 AD) | Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC 1159–1162; 2131–2132) | Sacred Scripture (Exodus 25:18–22; John 1:14) | Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church

Be Prayerful. Be Inspired.
[catholicdailies](#)

This week's chuckle!



