



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.

15th Sunday of the Year. 12th July, 2026.

Saturday 11th July	Vigil Mass	- Stella	5.00 p.m.	Bob & Moira Houston.
Sunday 12th July	15th of the Year	- St. Agnes'	9.00 a.m.	Phyllis & Norman Callender.
		- Stella	10.15 a.m.	John Middleton.
Monday 13th	(St. Henry.)	- Stella	9.15 a.m.	School Leavers' Mass (The Holy Souls).
Tuesday 14th	(St. Camillus de Lellis)	- Stella	9.15 a.m.	Special Intention – a sick person.
		- St. Agnes'	10.00 a.m.	Fr. Michael Hickey.
Wednesday 15th	(St. Bonaventure.)	- Stella	6.00 p.m.	Ged Trodden.
Thursday 16th	(Our Lady of Mount Carmel.)	- Stella	9.15 a.m.	The November Book.
			10.30 a.m.	School Leavers' Mass (Parishioners).
Friday 17th		- St. Agnes'	9.15 a.m.	The November Book.
		- Stella	6.00 p.m.	Richard Morris.
Saturday 18th July		- Stella	10.00 a.m.	Our Lady's Intentions.
	Vigil Mass	- Stella	5.00 p.m.	Fred Wilson.
Sunday 19th July	16th of the Year	- St. Agnes'	9.00 a.m.	Freda Evelyn Barff.
		- Stella	10.15 a.m.	Urszula Antosik.

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. Recently deceased:- Wilf Reed (Stella) & Billy Hall (Crawcrook). Requiescant in pace.

Offertory Procession. This week: Filip Sikorski & Family (Sat.); Nieve Bell & Family (Sunday);

200 Club Weekly Winner. This week's winner: **T. Hafferty**, No. 127. Congratulations Terry!



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 **NEXT SUNDAY, 19th July** at the very latest.

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. Please do remember to bring your tickets along as soon as possible so that they can be included in this year's Summer Draw!



Other Fayre Prize Winners! Small Raffle. The Children (aged 6 – 16) 2 hour workshop voucher – No. 36 Sheila Jackson. The Treasure Hunt – 2nd Treasure trove of assorted goodies – Square Number 52 Jacob Jewvsiaik.

Stella Summer Raffle – List of this Year’s Lucky Winners! Laphroaig Quarter Cask 48% whisky – Green 147 Gemma Wilders; 1 lite Smirnoff Vodka – Orange Joan McGurk; Whitney-Neil Hand Crafted 43% Gin – Green 970 Maureen Morris; 1 litre Napoleon Brandy – Pink 259 Terry Hafferty; Jameson’s Whiskey – Orange 146 D. I. Robson (c/o Joan); 1 litre Baileys – Blue 147 Alan Storey; Jose Cuervo Especial Tequila – Pink 943 Joan Haswell; Spiced 40% Rum – Green 559 Jacob Jewvsiak; Graham’s Ruby Port – Pink 795 M. Morris; Limoncello – Orange 406 A. Wood (c/o Joan); Presentation Pack of Wines – Blue 491 Bernadette Pye; Kath Kidston of London Hand Care set – Pink 991 Diane Taylor. Prizes can be collected from Fr. Rose.



STELLA SUMMER FAYRE 2026!!! Many thanks to all who put so much time and effort into this year’s Summer Fayre – the bakers, donors, grass-cutters and bunting erectors, the table carriers and stallholders. Thanks too, to all who came along in such great numbers, despite the weather. You will be delighted to know, that this year’s total comes to **£2,809.55!** Well done everyone.

Welcome! We warmly welcome Emilia, Isobella, Florence and Ottelie who have been baptized at Stella, the twins whose Baptism will be celebrated this weekend and the four children who will be baptized at Stella next weekend. May God who has begun His good work in them, bring it to fulfilment.



Work at Stella Continues... The roofers are still on site - they will be followed by the decorators. The decorators will begin initial works this week, hence the Stella Leavers’ Mass being on Monday. Work will be phased, due to all that is required:- plasterwork; new ceiling paper; scaffolding (initially in the nave of the church); specialist coatings; boxing in of the high altar; renewal of paint to all surfaces - a lengthy project that will take up the summer holidays. Bear with us as work goes on, remembering that the front church car park is CLOSED during the working week. Thank you!

I’ve recently been asked about Mass Intentions...

The Catholic Church teaches that the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is the highest act of worship and the most powerful prayer on earth. In every Mass, Christ's one sacrifice on Calvary is made sacramentally present, and the faithful are invited to unite their prayers with His perfect offering to the Father. A Mass intention allows us to entrust a particular person or need to God through the Holy Eucharist. It is one of the greatest spiritual gifts we can offer for both the living and the dead.

It is a specific prayer request for which a priest celebrates the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. It may be offered:- for a living person, asking God to grant healing, strength, guidance, or abundant blessings; for a deceased person, praying for the repose of his or her soul; in thanksgiving for blessings and favours already received; for special intentions such as peace, conversion, vocations, family needs, protection, or any personal petition. By requesting a Mass intention, we unite our prayers to Christ's eternal sacrifice—the greatest prayer the Church can offer.

Holy Mass obtains countless spiritual graces for those who are living. It may be offered:- for healing of body, mind, and soul; for strength during suffering and life's trials; for God's guidance in important decisions; for peace, unity, and protection within families; for birthdays, anniversaries, weddings, ordinations, and other significant occasions; for conversion, holiness, and perseverance in the Christian life. Every Mass places our intentions before God in the most perfect act of worship.

Offering the Holy Mass for the faithful departed is one of the greatest acts of charity a Catholic can perform. The Church has always encouraged prayers for the dead because:-the souls in Purgatory are greatly assisted by the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass; it expresses our enduring love and remembrance for those who have gone before us; it is a powerful plea for God's mercy and eternal rest; it reflects our hope in the resurrection and everlasting life. No prayer benefits the faithful departed more than the Holy Mass.

The Mass is far more than a prayer service or religious gathering. It is:- the sacramental re-presentation of Christ's one sacrifice on Calvary; the perfect offering of Jesus Christ, who is both Priest and Victim; the source from which infinite graces flow to the Church and the world; the highest act of worship that gives perfect glory to God. The Mass is Christ's own sacrifice offered to the Father, no prayer on earth is greater or more pleasing to God.

Having a Mass offered for a loved one, a deceased family member, or a special intention is a profound expression of faith, hope, and charity. Through the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, we confidently place our needs before God, trusting completely in His mercy, wisdom, and divine providence. The greatest gift we can ever offer another person is not merely our prayers, but Christ Himself, truly present in the Holy Eucharist and offered upon the altar for the salvation of the world. "The Holy Mass is the most powerful prayer on earth."

This week’s chuckle!

My friend Jim told me that when he asked his wife where she wanted to go on vacation, she said that being married to him was a vacation.

When I commented that was a nice thing to say to him, Jim replied, "Well, actually, what she said was I was the 'last resort.'"

