



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.

23rd of the Year. 6th September, 2026.

Saturday 5th September	Vigil Mass - Stella	5.00 p.m.	Dorothy Gunson.
Sunday 6th September 23rd of the Year	- St. Agnes'	9.00 a.m.	Rosaleen Wright.
	- Stella	10.15 a.m.	Urszula Antosik.
Monday 7th	- Stella	9.15 a.m.	The Holy Souls.
Tuesday 8th (Birthday of Our Lady.)	- Stella	9.15 a.m.	Catherine Cruddas.
	- St. Agnes'	10.00 a.m.	Clem Kelly
Wednesday 9th (St. Peter Claver.)	- St. Agnes'	10.00 a.m.	Priest's Intention.
	- Stella	6.00 p.m.	Living & Deceased Members Madine Family.
Thursday 10th	- Stella	9.15 a.m.	The November Book
	- St. Agnes'	10.00 a.m.	Priest's Intention.
Friday 11th	- St. Agnes'	9.15 a.m.	The November Book.
	- Stella	6.00 p.m.	Geoff Waller.
Saturday 12th September	- Stella	10.00 a.m.	Our Lady's Intentions.
Vigil Mass	- Stella	5.00 p.m.	Norma & Michael Kavanagh.
Sunday 13th September 24th of the Year	- St. Agnes'	9.00 a.m.	Bill Conner.
	- Stella	10.15 a.m.	Alice Phillipson & Lynn Fox.

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 Processions:- This week:- Noah Brennan & Family (Saturday); Ruby Bonner & Family (Sunday);
Next week:- Phoebe Brockett & Family (Saturday); Isaac Fitches (Sunday).

200 Club Weekly Winner. This week's winner: **T. Docherty, No. 109.** Congratulations Terry!



First Confession & First Holy Communions 2026/27! Please keep these children and their parents in your prayers as they begin our parishes' programme of preparation this weekend:- Ruby Bonner; Noah Brennan; Phoebe Brockett; Finn Buddin; Jake Coxon; Harry Coyne; Samuel Elder; Rena Exley; Isaac Fitches; Eleanor Foster; Harry French; George Gallon; Myla Glenton; Ben Grimes; Ella Jones; Lucy Jones; Tom Langford; Sophie McFadden; Henry McMullon; Ivy McNair-Templeton; Arlo Marshall; Elena Marzo; Ava Mason; Millie Moody; Gemma Mora Salcedo; Erin O'Neil; Delilah Robinson-Bell; Alexander Rosa; Dylan Ryan-Short; Agata Skidmore; Blake Smith; Harry Stout; Grace Taylor; Poppy Tulley; Hannah Underwood; Bobby Walker; Leo Walker; Elena Wheeler; Archie Williams; Zac Wilson and Zach Wilson.

Stella Strollers. The next walk will be on Saturday, 19th September. Details, together with an opportunity to sign up, can be found on posters at the back of our churches.



Monthly Second Collection this Weekend. This weekend sees the beginning of the month of September. As usual, there will be our normal parish monthly second collection that will cover those normally taken at this time in the year, which include:- The Catholic Education Service: Home Mission Sunday; Autumn Family Fast Day (CAFOD). If you have a box of Offertory Envelopes, please do remember to use the yellow envelope for this collection. Thank you!



I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit

Welcome! We warmly welcome into the faith Archie who was baptized last week at SS Mary & Thomas Aquinas', the four children who are being baptized at Stella this weekend and the three children who will be baptized next week. We pray that God may continue to encourage them and all the children who have recently been baptized, to follow in the footsteps of the Saviour, by the example of their parents and with the warmth of the support of our parish family.

ADVANCED NOTICE! St. Agnes' Annual MacMillan Coffee Morning will be on Sunday, 27th September after the 9.00 a.m. Mass.



The November Book. As we head towards the autumn, we are beginning to plan already for November, the month of the Holy Souls. Throughout the month of November, Masses will be offered in each of our churches for those whose names are inscribed in our November Books, with further Masses being celebrated every week throughout the year. Attached to this week's newsletter is a November Book envelope. If you would like members of family, friends, former colleagues and fellow parishioners remembered during our November Book Masses, either complete the pro-forma on the exterior of the envelope or enclose a list of names, together with a donation, and place the envelope in the box available at the back of each church. Thank you.

YOU RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION... BUT DO YOU KNOW WHAT FOLLOWS YOU HOME?

You walk forward. You receive the Host. You say "Amen." You return to your seat. Mass ends. You leave the church and return home. Everything feels... finished. Here is the truth many never consider: something does not end when you leave the church; something follows you home.

1. CHRIST DOES NOT DISAPPEAR THE MOMENT YOU WALK OUT.

When you receive Holy Communion: you receive Christ Himself. Not symbolically. Not emotionally. Really present. For a time after receiving, His Sacramental Presence remains within you. This is why the Church insists: silence after Communion matters, because you are carrying: the Presence you just received.

2. BUT SOMETHING EVEN DEEPER CONTINUES.

Even when the Sacramental Presence passes, the grace does not disappear, because Holy Communion is not just about a moment, it is about transformation. You do not just receive Christ. Christ begins to shape you.

3. WHAT FOLLOWS YOU HOME IS A CALL.

After Communion, something invisible follows you: a call to live differently, to speak with charity, to forgive more quickly, to act with patience, to love more deeply, because you have received Love itself and Love does not stay hidden.

4. YOU BECOME WHAT YOU RECEIVE.

This is one of the deepest truths of the Eucharist: you receive the Body of Christ so that you may become the Body of Christ. So, when you leave the church, you are not empty, you are sent. Sent to:- your family, your work, your daily life, carrying what you have received.

5. THE HARD TRUTH.

Many receive Holy Communion and leave unchanged... ..the same anger, the same habits, the same indifference. So, Christ was received, but not allowed to transform. You don't leave Christ at the altar, you carry Him into the world. NEXT TIME YOU LEAVE MASS... ..DO THIS.

Pause at the door and say silently: "Lord, go with me." "Live through me." For what follows you home is not just a memory of Mass. It is a Presence... and a mission.

This week's chuckles!

Sister Mary Ann, who worked for a home health agency, was making her rounds. She was visiting homebound patients when she ran out of petrol. As luck would have it, a petrol station was nearby. She walked to the station to borrow a petrol can and buy some unleaded. The attendant told her that the only petrol can he owned had been loaned out, but she could wait until it was returned.

Since Sister Mary Ann was on the way to see a patient, she decided not to wait and walked back to her car. She looked for something in her car that she could fill and spotted the bedpan she was taking to the patient. Always resourceful, Sister Mary Ann carried the bedpan to the station, filled it with petrol, and carried the full bedpan back to her car. As she was pouring the petrol into her tank, two Baptists watched from across the street. One of them turned to the other and said, "If it starts, I'm becoming Catholic."