

**THE GATESHEAD FAMILY OF  
CHURCHES OF  
ST ANNE,  
ST AUGUSTINE,  
AND ST OSWALD.**

Parish Priest and Dean:

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**TIMES OF MASSES AND MASS INTENTIONS 11<sup>th</sup> December 2022**

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT Rejoice Sunday – Rose vestments**

**Vigil St Anne 5.30 p.m.**

**9.15 a.m. St Augustine** Lily Robinson

**11.15 a.m. St Oswald** For the Parishioners

Tuesday St Augustine 10.00 am Joe Wiley

**12 noon St Oswald Funeral Service for Hayley McPherson**

Wednesday St Anne 10.00 am Betty Watson

Thursday St Oswald 12.00 noon Elliott family

**Friday St Oswald 10.00 am School present at Mass.**

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**Vigil St Anne 5.30 p.m.** Laura Beatrice Robson

**9.15 am St Augustine** Thanksgiving for Recovery (M.T)

**11.15 a.m. St Oswald** For the Parishioners

**(Confessions 30 minutes before the start of all Masses. Also, by appointment.)**



**THE WEEKLY SUNDAY OFFERTORIES**

**3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> December 2022**

**St Augustine £364.89**

**St Anne £639.00**

**St Oswald £247.50**

(Inclusive of monthly donations  
via Standing Orders)



**Pope Francis**

**on the Sacrament of Reconciliation**

'Confessing to a priest is a way of putting my life into the hands and heart of someone else, someone who in that moment acts in the name of Jesus. It's a way to be real and authentic: we face the facts by looking at another person and not in the mirror .... It is true that I can talk to the Lord and ask him for forgiveness, implore him. And the Lord will forgive me immediately. But it is important that I go to confession, that I sit in front of a priest who embodies Jesus, that I kneel before Mother Church, called to dispense the mercy of Christ. There is an objectivity in this gesture of genuflection before the priest; it becomes the vehicle through which grace reaches and heals me.'

**ADVENT REFLECTIONS**

The Vicariate for Faith & Mission have produced a series of reflections on the readings used throughout our Advent preparations.

The reflections have been written by members of the Diocese and offer the opportunity to pause and reflect.

The **third and fourth of Advent reflections** can be downloaded

<http://bit.ly/DHNA Advent2022>

**Children's Carol Service**

**St Augustine's Church**

**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December**

**1.30 pm**

**All are Welcome**

**Cardinal Hume School**

**Christmas Liturgy**

**at St Oswald's Church**

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> December**

**9 am – 10.30 am**

**Masses for Christmas**

**Christmas Eve**

**5.30 pm St Anne**

**Christmas Morning**

**9.15 am St Augustine**

**11.15 am St Oswald**

**Northern Catholic Calendar**

**2023**

**On Sale today**

**Ringbound £3.50**

A mine of useful information about the Catholic Church in the North East of England

**Your charitable prayers**

are requested for the repose of the souls of Glynis Quinn and Hayley McPherson who have died.

**May they rest in peace.**

**PARISH AMALGAMATION UPDATE**

The joint meeting of the three parish finance committees took place on 29<sup>th</sup> November. There was unanimous agreement that we merge the three parishes, in order to streamline further the administration of the cluster of three parishes, especially with the imminent introduction of centralised online recording of both financial matters and Gift Aid donations from April 2023. **History:** St Anne's has been "clustered" with St Augustine's since February 2019, sharing one priest and one deacon. Since 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021 St Oswald's has joined, making a cluster of three. **Intermingling:** Parishioners have been getting used to circulating around the three churches at weekends, finding the choice of Mass times convenient. Baptism Preparation for parents and Marriage Preparation is now centralised at St Augustine's, and there is only one Christmas Eve Mass and only one Easter Vigil Mass, with the three communities are more united. **Parish Administration:** There is now only one Presbytery and one Parish Office, serving all three parishes. Following the trend in the diocese over the past 10 years, as clustered parishes like our own have requested to be formally amalgamated, we to do the same.

**Some Clarifications**

Merger does not mean one parish taking over another parish. Merger does not mean closing a church. All three churches remain; church names do not change. A new parish will be created with new boundaries and inclusive of all three churches. The new parish will be given a new name. One suggestion coming up is the recently beatified **Blessed Carol Acutis**, an Italian teenager saint, an attractive modern saint with appeal to young and old alike. His love of Jesus and the Eucharist would have inspirational relevance for us all.

**If you have any questions and/or concerns, please get in touch with Father Paul or Deacon Paddy.**