

# THE WEAVINGS

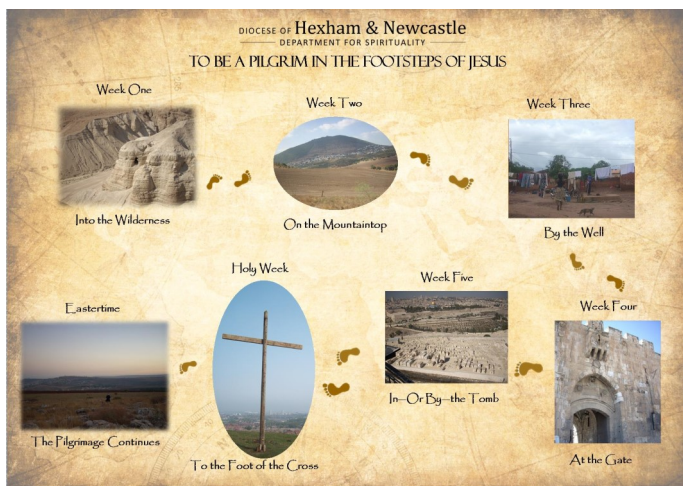
Catholic Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle Department for Spirituality

February 2017

## To be a Pilgrim: In the Footsteps of Jesus

Keen followers of the diocesan website will know that our Lent resources are now out and ready to be downloaded. They are also available on CD and, if you are not able to access them electronically, as paper copies.

Our theme is "To be a Pilgrim: In the Footsteps of Jesus". As always we use the gospels of the Sundays of the Season and, this year, look at some of the places Jesus visited. Each place reflects aspects of our own spiritual journeys too.



In Week 1, we join Jesus going "Into the wilderness"—a place where people often found they encountered God.

In Week 2, we go "Up the mountain" and spend time with Jesus and the disciples at the top—admiring the view but also getting a different perspective.

"By the Well" is our stop in Week 3—a place where people come to meet and chat and recall a conversation which changed the life of one woman who went on to change the lives of a whole village.

In Week 4, we are "At the Gate" - a place of comings and goings—a threshold that can mark the difference between those who are "in" and belong and those who are "out".

We then come "To the Tomb"—remembering Lazarus and his strange journey into death and out of it.

Then on to the "Foot of the Cross" in Holy Week—and reflect on some of the many things that happened along that fateful last journey.


Our pack takes us into Eastertide and reflection on the "Road to Emmaus" and how Jesus continues to walk with us along the many roads of our lives.

There are plenty of resources to go with each week that can be used by groups or by individuals. For people who would like to form a small group but who are not sure how to go

about it, the Leader's guide for each week gives clear ideas as to what to say and do. It can help to work with someone else for moral support and to share the session—it is more fun and can be less daunting. There are leaflets that you can give participants so that they can read along if that helps and, for those with larger groups, there are PowerPoints that take you through the meetings with nice pictures to accompany you!


This year, we have introduced a simple "prayer journal". Many people like to jot or sketch or doodle things about what happens in their prayer and this gives people a chance to try this for themselves.

With prayer stations and booklets of the daily emails that will go out during Lent we hope that there will be something for everyone. You do not need to do it all—in fact, you should not do it all! Browse through the resources—or your pack—or your CD and see what appeals to you.

And remember that we are at the end of the phone or email if you would like any support or advice! 

## Preparing for Partnership

At the time of writing, plans are being put in place for meetings to announce the shapes of the new Partnerships. These will have all sorts of implications in all aspects of parish and community life but one thing they will offer will be new opportunities to come together in prayer. Over coming months we will be putting together ideas that you might like to try locally. Some of the materials that have already appeared are still relevant, of course. The incredibly valuable ministry of those who pray at home will be even more important. And where might gem churches, open as often and as long as possible, be in your Partnership?

Next month, we will begin to look at some ideas to get you started. In the meantime, please pray for the new Partnerships and those who will lead them into what we hope will be a faith-filled and fruitful future. 



## Contact Details

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[www.facebook.com/spiritualityHN](http://www.facebook.com/spiritualityHN)



[@spiritualityhn](https://twitter.com/spiritualityhn)

## BT Emails

Have you had problems receiving messages from us?

We have had several occasions when emails have been returned as undeliverable and, quite often, these have been to btinternet.com or btopenworld.com addresses. This is not happening every day but if you are aware of a problem, you might need to get in touch with BT and ask them to check it out for you!

And, as this may also not get through, please let others who may be expecting it know!



## Date for the Diary



Photo: Festival 2016

The Diocesan Festival will be held at  
Emmaus Village  
on  
**Saturday 24 June –  
Sunday 25 June 2017**  
More information and booking forms  
will be available shortly—but please get  
the date into your new diary!

## Date for your Diary

Following the very successful Interfaith gathering reflecting on the Mercy of God, another event is being planned. It is some time away but please get the date in your diary!

**Interfaith Peace Pilgrimage  
to Flodden Field  
and Crookham Peace Centre  
21 October 2017**

## Voices of Peace

Following on from the “Voices of Mercy” series we organised with the Departments for Justice and Peace and Interreligious Relations, we are in the process of planning a similar series, Voices of Peace. These will look at the situation in the world and explore themes of hope, reconciliation, non-violence and peace with justice.

More details next time—but also on the diocesan website as they are confirmed.

## Upcoming Events in the Diocese and Local Centres

### Minsteracres

#### Walking Retreat:

**Wednesday 8 March 2017, 10.00am - 5.00pm**

Enjoy a walk of seven to ten miles through the beautiful countryside around Minsteracres, with time for prayer, reflection and sharing of the beauty of creation. You will need suitable walking boots and warm, weather-proof clothing. Please bring a packed lunch.

### Lent Days of Reflection

are planned for:

Saturday 4 March—Alnwick

Saturday 25 March—Ushaw College

Wednesday 29 March—Minsteracres



### St Antony's Priory

#### Saturday 11th February: Together in

**Meditation** Two separate hours of Meditation rooted in the Christian tradition. Come to either or both. 10am and 11.30am

#### Wednesday 15th February 9.30am - 1.30pm Ministry Day

This is an opportunity for ordained church ministers and clergy to deepen their faith and spirituality, and also to find a supportive and safe space where they can reflect upon their ministerial practice with fellow ministers, set within the context of prayer.

Facilitator: Canon Paul Tyler.

#### Tuesday 28th February: Lenten Quiet Day “Beginning the Journey into Light” 10:30-4pm Led by Chris Smith.

Lent can be more than a time of fasting; it can be a season of feasting. Shrove Tuesday marks the end of one season and looks towards the beginning of the Lenten Journey. This day will explore and reflect upon how we might use Lent to fast from certain things and to feast on others. Chris Smith a Catholic laywoman involved in the ministries of faith accompaniment and counselling.

More information from St Antony's Priory  
[info@stantonypriory.co.uk](mailto:info@stantonypriory.co.uk),  
0191 384 3747

### Centre for Prayer and Mission,

#### ON-GOING FORMATION AND SPIRITUALITY

**Tuesday evenings at 7.00pm – Seaham**  
All welcome

#### EXPLORING SCRIPTURE

Monday afternoons – 1.30pm -3.00pm

#### PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

A group meets on the **second Thursday** of every month **1.30pm-3.30pm** to pray and to knit shawls for sick people, balaclavas for seamen and any other requests from those in need. Recently we parcelled up 1,000 vests and hats for the “fish and chip “ babies in Kenya. Newcomers always welcome. Next date Thursday 9 February 2017.

#### BEING DISCIPLES OF JESUS

Every Wednesday morning 10.30am-12 noon in Oak Lea Convent, Sunderland  
Being the Light of Christ  
(bring Advent Light Books)  
Wed 18<sup>th</sup> Jan – 5<sup>th</sup> April: we will look at the call and cost of being disciples today.

More information from Sr Michael  
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