

**MASS INTENTIONS:** w/c 16th and 23rd February 2025

Sat 15th (St. Mary's)	5:30pm	People of the Parish
Sun 16th (St. Aidan's)	9:15am	Phil Burke
Sun 16th (St. Mary's)	11:00am	John Bradley
<i>Mon 17th - Thurs 20th *** NO MASS ***</i>		
Fri 21st (St Mary's)	10:00am	Eucharistic Service & coffee
Sat 22nd (St. Mary's)	5:30pm	People of the Parish
Sun 23rd (St. Aidan's)	9:15am	Paddy and Nan Hayes
Sun 23rd (St. Mary's)	11:00am	Sarah Nancy Kerr
<i>Mon 24th *** NO MASS ***</i>		
<i>Tues 25th *** NO MASS ***</i>		
Wed 26th (St. Aidan's)	10:00am	Gyfford Richards
Thurs 27th (St. Aidan's)	10:00am	Phil Burke
Fri 28th (St. Mary's)	10:00am	Michael Cassidy
Sat 1st March (St. Mary's)	5:30pm	John Hannon
Sun 2nd (St. Aidan's)	9:15am	People of the Parish
Sun 2nd (St. Mary's)	11:00am	People of the Parish

***For Mass Intentions, please see envelopes in our churches***

*"March is about preparation and perseverance.*

*Sow your seeds and trust the harvest." — Unknown*

**PREPARATION FOR NEXT WEEK:** 23rd Feb / 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"The Resurrection of Christians follows the model of Jesus' own Resurrection." 2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 15.45-49

**CHILDREN'S PRAYER:** God of all, we give you thanks for your great love. Especially for those who are poor, who hunger & those who are sad. Amen.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:** Those who have died recently: Ann Thompson  
Those in our parishes who are sick or who may need our thoughts and prayers:- Lyndsey Stowar & Terry Cookson.  
And those of our parishes whose anniversary occurs at this time.

**KEEP IN TOUCH:** NE12Catholic@diocesehn.org.uk or 0191 268 4222.

Weekend mass live on YouTube, search St Mary of the Rosary  
Newsletters & Homilies can be viewed on our Facebook page NE12Catholic

St. Mary's Catholic Primary School [www.stmarysrcprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.stmarysrcprimaryschool.co.uk)

St. Stephen's Catholic Primary School [www.ststephensprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.ststephensprimaryschool.co.uk)

St. Mary's Catholic Comprehensive School [www.stmarysnewcastle.co.uk](http://www.stmarysnewcastle.co.uk)

**Parish Newsletter:**

**St. Mary's & St. Aidan's Churches**

**Rev. Sean Hall**

**Tel. 0191 268 4222**

**[www.stmarysforesthall.co.uk](http://www.stmarysforesthall.co.uk)**

**[www.staidansbenton.yolasite.com](http://www.staidansbenton.yolasite.com)**

**Join us on Facebook: NE12Catholic**

*For Baptisms, First Holy Communions and Confirmations, please email*

*NE12Catholic@diocesehn.org.uk*



**Sunday 16th February 2025:**

**The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

After listening to today's Gospel, The Beatitudes (Luke 6:17.20-26 ), consider this reflection.

Matthew's Sermon on the Mount and Luke's Sermon on the Plain are both collections of sayings of Jesus about the basic conditions of Christian living. Each begins with a set of 'Beatitudes', announcing who is specially blessed by the Lord. One frisky modern translation renders them, 'Congratulations to you who are...!'

Matthew's set of eight Beatitudes focuses more on spiritual qualities, poor in spirit, hunger and thirst for justice, whereas Luke's four are more directly on the circumstances of life. The stress is therefore on the reversal of values which Jesus brings. Jesus turns the world upside-down. His gospel or 'good news' comes to the poor, the neglected, the oppressed. True blessedness does not consist in wealth, fame or festivities. It is those who struggle now who will receive a lasting reward. Are the four negatives which follow too hard on the rich, the contented, the frivolous, the famous? Through this gospel runs a thread of warning about the dangers of contentment, and we seldom pay attention to warnings unless they are overstated! The worry of those who have plenty (about how they should use their advantages responsibly for others) must be as least as great as those who worry to survive. *Is money a positive bar to eternal happiness, or a challenge?*

**Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB**

**DOUBLE EDITION:** Please note no weekday masses this coming week and a two week edition newsletter.

**LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR SIX:** Thurs 20th February, 7pm at St Aidan's. National Charis team member (CNSC) Deacon Frank O'Neill will speak on Growth during the penultimate seminar. In faith as in life, growth is only possible through sustainability so how do we continually grow in faith? Susan Picola, sacristan at English Martyrs, Fenham will share her testimony.

**22nd / 23rd FEB:** We welcome Fr Jude Ibeh celebrating mass with us.

**LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR SEVEN:** Thurs 27th Feb, 7pm at St Aidan's. This last seminar will see our shepherd Bishop Stephen Wright talk on Transformation and how we can build up our lives based on faith values in the jubilee year & beyond. Coordinator of Anointing Fire Catholic Ministries Newcastle Santhosh Joseph will share his testimony. Bring a friend along!

**DIARY DATES:**

Sat 1st March - Confession at St Aidan's, 11am

Mon 3rd March - Eucharistic Adoration at St Aidan's, 6pm

Tues 4th March - Requiem Mass for John Feeney at St Aidan's, 12.15pm

Wed 5th March - Ash Wednesday, we will celebrate mass 10am at St Mary's and 7pm at St Aidan's.

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER:** Fri 7th March, 10:30am St Bartholomew's Church "I made you Wonderful" is the theme and is inspired and led by the Christian women of the Cook Islands who have shared stories of struggles & triumphs. Through this service we hope people will be spiritually uplifted as they come to trust the great love of God. All are welcome

**COLLECTIONS:** 9th February 2025

St Aidan's - Loose Plate: £271.00 / Envelopes: £97.00 / Hall Hire: £52.00

Donations: £120.00

St. Mary's - Loose Plate: £305.13 / Envelopes: £28.00 / Donations: £55.00

Friday Coffee Morning: £83.00 (Cafod at Blackfriars)

For details about Gift Aid or donating via standing order, please email NE12Catholic@diocesehn.org.uk Thank you for your continued support.

**RED MISSIO BOXES:** Please return your red boxes to church by the end of February so all monies can be counted and cheques sent to Missio.

**GOLDEN RECOGNITION:** Many congratulations to young St Aidan parishioners Emmanuel Joseph, Josh Kunjumon and Joshua Rebello (all at St Mary's Comp) who recently won the Pope John Paul II Gold Award at a Diocesan event at the Hilton Hotel. The three are active in parish life as altar servers, readers and kitchen helpers during Sunday Coffee Mornings.

Emmanuel and Joshua are also new members of the parish council at St Aidan's and are planning an event to engage other parish youngsters. Look out for more information coming soon!

**MUSIC MINISTRY:** We are looking for musicians, singers & accompaniment to help lead our songs of praise across all our weekend masses. Support for those less experienced and for younger parishioners is available. Please speak to Fr Hall or email NE12Catholic@diocesehn.org.uk

**ST MARY'S FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS:** Our children have been learning about how we can all grow through prayer. During Lent we will try to make our faith grow stronger and to help us we are planting spring bulbs in the border next to the church. Keep an eye out for the flowers early summer.

**NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE**

**50 FACES OF THE HOLY LAND:** A powerful photographic exhibition at St Mary's Cathedral from 1st March until 10th March. The exhibition is free.

**CAFOD BIG LENT WALK:** Challenge yourself to walk 200km over the 40 days of Lent and get sponsored to raise money to help people fighting extreme poverty globally. Find out more and sign up via [www.walk.cafod.org.uk](http://www.walk.cafod.org.uk)

**DIOCESAN ENVIRONMENT GROUP** (DEG) Sat 8th March, 11am - 12:30pm You are cordially invited to join Bishop Stephen and members of DEG in a webinar to find out more about what we can all do to reduce our impact on the environment. Details via [www.diocesehn.org.uk/whats-on](http://www.diocesehn.org.uk/whats-on)

**LITURGICAL DAY OF REFLECTION FOR LITURGICAL LEADERS OF THE CELEBRATION OF THE WORD AND HOLY COMMUNION.**

Date: Saturday 15 March 2025.

Time: 10.30am – 3.00pm (registration & refreshments from 10.00am).

Venue: St Hilda's Diocesan Resource Centre, West Road, NE15 7PY.

Catering: Please bring a packed lunch, tea and coffee will be provided.

If you would like to attend, please speak to Fr Hall or email NE12Catholic@diocesehn.org.uk