

MASS INTENTIONS: w/c 30th March 2025

Sat 29th (St. Mary's)	5:30pm	Alan Nesbitt
Sun 30th (St. Aidan's)	9:15am	People of the Parish
Sun 30th (St. Mary's)	11:00am	Laura Anne Heslop
Mon 31st	*** NO MASS ***	
Tues 1st April (St. Mary's)	10:00am	Private Intention
Wed 2nd (St. Aidan's)	10:00am	Frank Bourk
Thurs 3rd	*** NO MASS ***	
Fri 4th (St Mary's)	10:00am	Anthony Ward
* Fri 4th (St. Aidan's)	6:30pm	Stations of the Cross
* Sat 5th (St Aidan's)	11.00am	Confession
Sat 5th (St Mary's)	5:30pm	Dennis Nicholson
Sun 6th (St Aidan's)	9:15am	Bernard Richards
Sun 6th (St Mary's)	11.00am	Betty Davison

For Mass Intentions, please see envelopes in our churches

*God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son;
everyone who believes in him has eternal life. (Jn 3:16-21)*

Action: Imagine Jesus looking at you with love.

What would you like to say to him?

(The God who Speaks: Scripture and Actions for the Season of Lent)

PREPARATION FOR NEXT WEEK: 6th April / Fifth Sunday of Lent

"All our power comes from the Resurrection of Christ."

2nd Reading: Philippians 3:8-14

CHILDREN'S PRAYER: God of mercy, we ask you to help us to do what is right. Help us to see that we all get things wrong sometimes and to say sorry when we do. Amen.

PLEASE PRAY FOR: Those who have died recently.

Those in our parishes who are sick or who may need our thoughts and prayers: 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
St. Stephen's Catholic Primary School www.ststephensprimaryschool.co.uk
St. Mary's Catholic Comprehensive School www.stmarysnewcastle.co.uk

Parish Newsletter:

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

Rev. Sean Hall

Tel. 0191 268 4222

www.stmarysforesthall.co.uk

www.staidansbenton.yolasite.com

Join us on Facebook: NE12Catholic

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

NE12Catholic@diocesehn.org.uk

Sunday 30th March 2025:

Fourth Sunday of Lent

After listening to today's Gospel, The Prodigal Son (Luke 15:1-3. 11-32), consider this reflection.

Who is the hero of the story? What should its title be?

Some call it the parable of the Powerless Father, for the father is powerless to do anything but welcome his son. Clearly the principal message of the parable is that we can count on God's forgiveness, whatever we do.

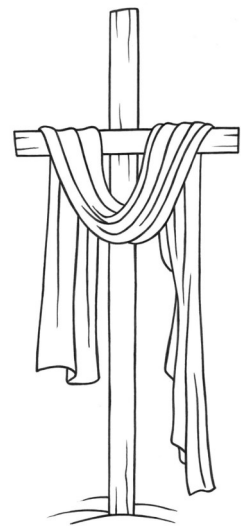
The contrast is also between the two sons. The younger insults his father: all he thinks about is his inheritance, as though he wished his father already dead. All the same, the father is eagerly on the watch, and forgets all his dignity to run and welcome his returning son. And to persuade the elder son to join in the party, the father even leaves his dinner-guests at table, going out into the field to urge the jealous elder brother to join in.

Forgiveness and love is his whole motivation. The elder son responds to his father with insults ('That son of yours' he says), inventing guesses about sexual loose-living. It is a splendid example of Luke's delicate, witty and subtle characterisation.

Which brother comes out of the story best?

Have you ever felt like the elder brother?

What picture of God does Jesus present in the Parable of the Prodigal Son?



Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

NEWS FROM OUR CHURCHES

LAETARE SUNDAY: Easter is coming...

The fourth Sunday of Lent gets its name from the first words of the introit at Mass, “Laetare Jerusalem” - Rejoice, O Jerusalem. Like Gaudete Sunday midway through Advent, Laetare reminds us of the event we look forward to at the end of the penitential season and the joy in anticipation of the Resurrection. We remember our Mother Church and all those who give us love, support, guidance and encouragement. Happy Mothers Day!

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS: Spring 2025

St Aidan’s - Tuesday 1st April at 7pm

St Mary’s - Wednesday 2nd April at 7pm

New members welcome to attend. Agenda items can be left in offertory baskets, emailed to Joanne or mentioned to Fr Sean or a council member.

SCHOOL MASSES: Everyone welcome.

Wed 2nd April - we will be joined by children from St Stephen’s Primary.

Fri 4th April - we will be joined by children from St Mary’s Primary.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Every Friday during Lent, St Aidan’s from 6:30pm

CONFESSION: Saturday 5th April, 11am at St Aidan’s

The first and third Saturday of the month at St Aidan’s 11am - 11.30am

The second and fourth Saturday of the month at St Mary’s 11am - 11.30am

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Mon 7th April

Led by Deacon Alison Rebello at St Aidan’s, 6pm - 7pm. All are welcome.

COLLECTIONS: 23rd March

St Aidan’s - Loose Plate: £257.00 / Envelopes: £107.00 / Hall Hire: £36.00

CAFOD Family Fast Day: £30.00 / Donations: £70.00

St. Mary’s - Loose Plate: £320.11 / Envelopes: £28.61 / Donations: £105.00

CAFOD Family Fast Day: £50.00 / Fri Coffee Morning: £67.05 *

* Donations raised in March in aid of Mary’s Place at the cathedral.

SUPPORTING OUR CHURCHES: Boxes of offertory envelopes are available for collection. For more details about donating via envelopes or for information about Gift Aid or donating via standing order, please email

NE12Catholic@diocesehn.org.uk

Thank you for your continued support.

WALKING WITH JESUS ONLINE: You can view Fr Sean’s videos reflecting on the Stations of the Cross via our Facebook page NE12Catholic.

NEWCASTLE STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Anointing Fire Catholic Ministries, Newcastle (AFCM) invites everyone to walk with them as Stations of the Cross are prayed publicly along Northumberland Street, Newcastle on Saturday 5th April, 10am - 11am. The meeting point is Five Guys Restaurant from which all will walk to Haymarket Metro Station and then return back to starting point. For further information please contact Deacon Alison Rebello 07931-136243 or Santhosh Joseph 07545-861400.

NE12CATHOLICS TAKE ON THE BIG LENT WALK!

Please visit www.justgiving.com and search NE12Catholic to support Fr Sean and our fundraising parishioners taking part in CAFOD’s Big Lent Walk.

Individual walkers can add their kms to the total by emailing Joanne at NE12Catholic@diocesehn.org.uk

To support the team offline, please see paper sponsorship forms at church entrances. Thank you to everyone who has donated.

EASTER MASS TIMES

Holy Thursday (17th April) 7pm Mass of the Lord’s Supper at St Aidan’s

Good Friday (18th April) 3pm at St Aidan’s - led by Deacon Alison Rebello

Good Friday 3pm at St Mary’s – led by Fr Sean

Holy Saturday (19th April) 5.30pm mass at St Mary’s

Easter Sunday (20th April) - 9.15am at St Aidan’s

Easter Sunday – 11am at St Mary’s

SAVE THE DATE!

We are planning a joint parish pilgrimage to Holy Island on Sat 2nd August 2025. There will be coach transportation and the opportunity to celebrate mass together at St Aidan’s on the island. More details to follow soon.

INFORMATION FOR PARISH VOLUNTEERS WHO REQUIRE A DBS

The Update Service is a free online subscription service that allows you to keep your enhanced DBS certificates up to date. When this is due you will receive an email from DBS which will help you to do this. If you need any further info, please speak to our Parish Safeguarding Representatives:- St Aidan’s - Bernie Lamb // St Mary’s - Anna Parry.