

MASS INTENTIONS: w/c 9th March 2025

Sat 8th (St. Mary's)	5:30pm	Maria Poszywak
Sun 9th (St. Aidan's)	9:15am	People of the Parish
Sun 9th (St. Mary's)	11:00am	Jean and Michael Bell
* Mon 10th (St. Mary's)	1:30pm	Requiem Mass Dennis Nicholson
Tues 11th (St. Mary's)	10:00am	Private Intention
Wed 12th (St. Aidan's)	10:00am	Priest's Intention
Thurs 13th (St Aidan's)	10:00am	Phil Burke
Fri 14th (St Mary's)	9:30am	People of the Parish
Fri 14th (St. Aidan's)	6:30pm	Stations of the Cross
* Sat 15th (St Aidan's)	11.00am	Confession
Sat 15th (St Mary's)	5:30pm	Peter Doran
Sun 16th (St Aidan's)	9:15am	People of the Parish
Sun 16th (St Mary's)	11.00am	People of the Parish

For Mass Intentions, please see envelopes in our churches

*"Jesus was tempted by Satan and the angels looked after him -
Ask for strength when you are tempted and protection of God's angels."
(The God who Speaks: Scripture and Actions for the Season of Lent)*

PREPARATION FOR NEXT WEEK: 16th March / Second Sunday of Lent

"We cannot rest in contentment except in the expectation of the Risen Lord." 2nd Reading: Philippians 3:17 - 4:1

CHILDREN'S PRAYER:

God of light, you sent your Son Jesus to show us how to live. Help us to make a change in our world, so that all people may live free from poverty and hunger. 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

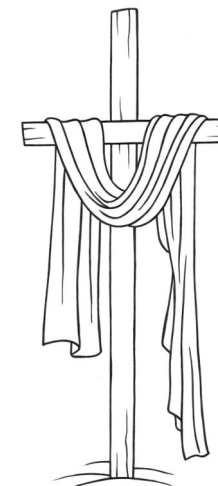
Tel. 0191 268 4222

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 9th March 2025: First Sunday of Lent

After listening to today's Gospel, Jesus is tested in the desert (Luke 4:1-13), consider this reflection.

To remind us that Lent is a time of testing, the gospel reading of the First Sunday of Lent is always about the testing of Jesus. Through our fasting (or whatever that extra offering we make to the Lord during Lent may be) we enter into solidarity with the hardship undergone by Jesus in his Passion. Of course Lent is not a matter of testing out how far we can push ourselves (a sort of macho self-torture). Rather it is a period of preparation for the Passion and Resurrection - just like the forty years of Israel in the desert preparing for the Promised Land, or like the prophet Elijah's forty-day preparation before he encounters God on Mount Horeb, or like the forty days during which Christ prepared the apostles between Easter and the Ascension. The point of Jesus' forty-day fast is to give some force in response to the devil's first temptation. To each of the devil's taunts Jesus replies with a word of scripture: if you rely on God's word you are unshakably safe, for God has created and arranged everything. Matthew and Luke have a different order for the second and third temptations: Matthew climaxes with Jesus as the Second Moses, like Moses seeing all the territories from a high mountain. Luke ends the scene as he begins and ends his gospel, at Jerusalem, the turning-point of the gospel - the place where Jesus rises from the dead and ascends to the Father. We do not live on bread alone. How has the Word of God fed you? In the solitude of the desert Jesus prayed to his Father. Can you find solitude for prayer? What can you do during Lent to come closer to the Lord?

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

SUN 9th MARCH: St Aidan’s First Holy Communion Preparation Classes.
We look forward to seeing our families in the church hall at 3:30pm

MON 10th MARCH: Requiem Mass Dennis Nicholson, 1:30pm at St Mary’s.

WED 12th MARCH: Funeral Service for Andrea Kane, 2:15pm at West Road Crematorium.

FRI 14th MARCH: CAFOD Family Fast Day - there are envelopes for your kind donations at the entrances to our churches.

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

ST AIDAN’S BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE: Please share names of loved ones to be added by printing details on the list at the entrance to church.

ST AIDAN’S MISSIO RED BOXES: Thank you to all parishioners who returned their collections. A cheque for £312.42 has been sent to ‘Help missionaries share the love of Jesus overseas.’

ST MARY’S EASTER FLOWERS: There are boxes in the hall and at the front door for those wishing to make a donation towards our Easter flowers—thank you for your support.

MISSIO RED COLLECTION BOXES: Available from St Mary’s church hall. Please consider taking one home for your loose change this Lenten season.

COLLECTIONS: 23rd February
St Aidan’s - Loose Plate: £290.00 / Envelopes: £82.00 / Hall Hire: £33.00
Donation: £10.00
St. Mary’s - Loose Plate: £359.22 / Envelopes: £20.30 / Donations: £40.00
Missio Red Boxes: £8.03 / Fri Coffee Morning: £81.40 (SVP at Blackfriars)

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.

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

NE12CATHOLICS TAKE ON THE BIG LENT WALK!
Fr Hall and a number of parishioners have signed up to CAFOD’s Big Lent Walk all hoping to complete 200K in 40 days. If you would like to sponsor them or if you would also like to take part, please visit www.justgiving.com and search NE12Catholic. Individual walkers can click to ‘join our team’ via their page. To support the team offline, please see paper sponsorship forms at church entrances.

PAULINE BOOKS & MEDIA: The Pauline Book shop at St Mary’s Cathedral in Newcastle is looking to recruit a part time shop assistant, for 3 days work a week. If you’re interested please contact them directly via 0191 231 6040.

PASTORAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS: Minutes from our February meetings are available on our websites, on the noticeboard at St Aidan’s and in the hall at St Mary’s.

NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE
CARITAS SOCIAL ACTION NETWORK: CSAN is conducting a survey to understand the impact of the two-child benefit cap and the current economic climate on Catholic families in England and Wales. They invite you to share your experience by completing the survey, which can be accessed at csan.org.uk/news/familysurvey where you’ll also find further information about the survey. The survey will close on 25th March.

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

IRISH NIGHT FUNDRAISER: Sat 29th March, 7pm
Little Sisters of the Poor invite you to St Joseph’s Home to dance the night away to the Ceilidh Band, enjoy the Irish Dancers whilst feasting on Irish stew, soda bread and a dessert (alternative choice for vegetarians). Tickets are £10.00 each and available from St Joseph’s or via 0191 273 1279. All very welcome to attend.