

MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK BEGINNING: 23rd October 2022

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|---------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Sat. 22nd (St. Mary's) | 5.30pm | People of the Parish |
| Sun. 23rd (St. Aidan's) | 9.15am | Jim Humble |
| Sun. 23rd (St. Mary's) | 11.00am | People of the Parish |
| Mon. 24th | *** NO MASS *** | |
| Tues. 25th (St. Mary's) | 10.00am | Holy Souls |
| Wed. 26th (St. Aidan's) | 10.00am | Priest's Intention |
| Thurs. 27th (St. Aidan's) | 10.00am | Bernard McMenemy |
| Fri. 28th (St. Mary's) | 10.00am | Peg & Harry Allen |
| * Sat. 29th (St. Mary's) | 11.00am | Confession |
| Sat. 29th (St. Mary's) | 5.30pm | Holy Souls |
| Sun. 30th (St. Aidan's) | 9.15am | Noel and Monica Bogie |
| Sun. 30th (St. Mary's) | 11.00am | Sheila Phelan |

PREPARATION FOR NEXT WEEK

The Thirty First Sunday in Ordinary Time - Sunday 30th Oct 2022

"The Lord's death and resurrection has changed everything."

Second Reading: The Final Coming of the Lord (2 Thessalonians 1:11 - 2:2)

CHILDREN'S PRAYER

"Saving God, you welcome everyone into your Kingdom.

Help us to be welcoming to everyone that we meet. Amen."

WE ASK THAT YOU PRAY FOR:

Those who are sick: Eddie McCormack, Anne Innes, Yeau Sen Mai, Mary Jane Dellbridge.

Those in our Books of Remembrance;

And all those within our Parishes whose anniversary occurs at this time.

KEEP IN TOUCH

Contact us via parishsecretary@mail.com or 0191 268 4222

Access weekend mass live via our Facebook page NE12Catholic.

Newsletters & Homilies can be viewed on [ww.stmarysforesthall.co.uk](http://www.stmarysforesthall.co.uk)

St. Mary's Catholic Primary School www.stmarysrcprimaryschool.co.uk

St. Stephen's Catholic Primary School www.ststephensprimaryschool.co.uk

Welcome to our Parish Newsletter for:

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

Rev. Sean Hall

Tel. 0191 268 4222 / parishsecretary@mail.com

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Join us on Facebook - NE12Catholic

Sunday 23rd October 2022

The Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

After listening to today's Gospel, The Pharisee and the Tax-Collector (Luke 18:9-14), consider Fr Henry Wansbrough's reflection.

These two figures in today's Gospel are stock characters, sketched with Luke's brilliant wit and sensitivity. The gospels invariably give the Pharisees a bad press: after the destruction of Jerusalem they were the only surviving branch of Judaism and so, for the evangelists, they represent the vigorous opposition of Judaism to Christianity at that time.

The Jewish historian, Josephus, paints a sympathetic picture of them, and Matthew's picture of them as the personification of hypocrisy may be a caricature of their scrupulosity concerning the observance of the Law. Jesus played them at their own game in his careful interpretation of scripture, presenting them with a rich and profound understanding of God's Word. The question must be asked: was Jesus a Pharisee too?

Pre-occupation with exact observance of rules can often appear to outsiders as hypocrisy. In Jesus' time a tax-collector was the epitome of malpractice and the abandonment of all decent standards: he worked for the hated Roman occupying power; he had to make his own living by extorting excessive tax. So this parable is one more example of Jesus' reversal of expected values, and his outreach to those generally despised: to the woman notorious in the city as a sinner, to the woman taken in adultery, to Zacchaeus and to the 'good thief'. It beautifully fulfils the first reading, demonstrating that the prayer of the humble 'pierces the clouds'. Take some moments to reflect on these words from the Gospel: "God be merciful to me, a sinner". Through these words, what is God saying to you?

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

NEWS FROM OUR CHURCHES:

CONFESSION - Saturday 29th October at St Mary'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

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION GROUP - Thurs 27th Sept, 7pm - 8pm

Our fortnightly sessions take place in St Aidan's Church Hall where we reflect on the readings for the coming Sunday. You can also join us via zoom with details available via www.stmarysforesthall.co.uk

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS (previous minutes available on our websites)

St. Aidan's - Wed 2nd November at 7pm

St. Mary's - Wed 9th November at 7pm

JUSTICE & PEACE REFUGEE PROJECT WITH SVP, BLACKFRIARS

Non-perishable food and toiletries are always needed. Please leave your donations at St Mary's. Thank you.

ST MARY'S SUNDAY CHOIR

We are looking to start a children's choir to sing at mass on occasional Sundays. Please email Trisha & Peter on trishatindall@yahoo.co.uk if you would like to join.

COLLECTIONS: w/c 16th October

ST. AIDAN'S - Loose plate: £219.00 / Envelopes: £62.00 / Hall Hire: £34.00

Donation: £90.00

ST. MARY'S - Loose plate: £197.70 / Envelopes: £141.00

Friday Coffee Morning: £63.30 / Donations: £125.00

Thank you all for your continued support and generosity.

"What an incredible response for Harvest Fast Day and Pakistan Emergency Appeal. I've always known that people in our region are generous, but to see their response in such difficult times is truly amazing!

Thanks to you CAFOD (continues) to help others all around the world."

Mark Maughan, CAFOD Community Participation Coordinator.

PARISH VOLUNTEERS - Please speak to Fr Hall if you are able to help support either of our parishes in any way.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY TODAY (23rd Oct)

World Mission Sunday is being celebrated in every Catholic parish around the world today! It supports missionaries who work alongside communities that are poor or in need, regardless of their background or belief. By supporting Mission, the Pope's charity for world mission, you will help missionaries like Maria witness to their faith and offer vulnerable women in Ethiopia hope for a better future. Please pray for the mission of the Church throughout the world and give what you can to this very important collection which will sustain the future of our Church. Please call 020 7821 9755 (office hours) or visit www.mission.org.uk to give a single gift, set up a Direct Debit and Gift Aid your donation if possible.

FROM THE DIOCESE:

PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2023

The Diocese needs nurses, healthcare assistants, doctors and volunteers to provide care to the assisted pilgrims who will travel to Lourdes on Fri 28th July. Previous helpers have found it a rewarding & spiritually uplifting week. Visit www.hexhamandnewcastlelourdespilgrimage.co.uk

LINDISFARNE GOSPELS

On display at the Laing Art Gallery until 3rd Dec the book, created on Holy Island, represents the golden age of design & craftsmanship in Northumbria. Book via www.diocesehn.org.uk

A DAY OF CONSOLATION - 9th November 2022

Minsteracres Retreat Centre is welcoming those who have suffered loss or bereavement, to come along and have some quiet time, to be listened to and to share similar experiences with others, and to explore the experience of loss and bereavement within a spiritual context. Led by Chris Smith & Sr. Steph Romaine Diocesan Ministry of Consolation, from 10:00am to 4:00pm, tickets cost £30 and include lunch. Contact Minsteracres via info@minsteracres.org or 01434 673248.