

MASS INTENTIONS FOR w/c 29th October 2023

Sat. 28th (St. Mary's)	5.30pm	Jenny Kenney
Sun. 29th (St. Aidan's)	9.15am	Noel & Monica Bogie
Sun. 29th (St. Mary's)	11.00am	People of the Parish
Mon. 30th	** NO MASS **	
Tues. 31st (St. Mary's)	10.00am	Priest's Intention
* Wed. 1st Nov (St Mary's)	10.00am	All Saints Day
* Wed. 1st Nov (St Aidan's)	7.00pm	All Saints Day
Thurs. 2nd (St. Aidan's)	10.00am	All Souls Day (St Stephen's Primary School Mass)
Fri. 3rd (St. Mary's)	10.00am	Priest's Intention
* Sat. 4th (St. Aidan's)	11.00am	Confession
Sat. 4th (St. Mary's)	5.30pm	People of the Parish
Sun. 5th (St. Aidan's)	9.15am	Geoffrey Porthouse
Sun. 5th (St. Mary's)	11.00am	Mary Elizabeth Barr

For Mass Intentions, please see envelopes in our churches.

PREPARATION FOR NEXT WEEK: 5th Nov - 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

"His letters show how earnest and eager Paul was."

Second Reading: Paul's Care for his Converts (Thessalonians 2:7-9.13)

CHILDREN'S PRAYER: God of truth, help us not to be too distracted by what is not important. Help us always to listen to Jesus and to follow him. Amen.

WE ASK THAT YOU PRAY FOR: Those in our parishes who are sick;

Pat Sanderson, Patrick Bradley and Jane Hall.

Those who have died recently. And those of 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

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

Welcome to our Parish Newsletter:

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

Rev. Sean Hall

Tel. 0191 268 4222

parishsecretary@mail.com

www.stmarysforesthall.co.uk

www.staidansbenton.yolasite.com

Join us on Facebook - NE12Catholic

To arrange Baptisms or First Holy Communion at our churches, please email parishsecretary@mail.com

Sunday 29th October 2023: The Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

After listening to today's Gospel, The Greatest Commandment (Matthew 22:34-40), consider Fr Henry Wansbrough's reflection:- Familiarity with Jesus' answer to the question about the greatest commandment blunts our awareness of its startling directness. Many answers could be given, perhaps singling out any one of the ten commandments as the greatest, the most important basis of society. A frequent answer to the question was and is the Golden Rule which exists in many cultures: 'Do not do to another what you would not have done to you'.

This is basically a selfish answer, protecting one's own interests. By contrast, Jesus' answer hits home, turning us away from self to God. 'Love' (not 'obey' or 'adore' or 'fear' or 'reverence') is the command. Love is not simply the warmth of companionship or of sex, but is the willing generosity of mother to helpless young child or daughter to helpless old parent, of wife to alcoholic husband or husband to paralysed wife, seeking no reward but the happiness of the receiver. Paul gives a useful check-list about love in chapter 13 of his first letter to the Corinthians. John's first letter provides a useful summary: 'No one who fails to love the brother or sister whom he can see, can love God whom he has not seen'.

How do we put into practice this commandment to love?

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

NEWS FROM OUR CHURCHES

RCIA 2024: First session is Tues 31st October at St Mary's, 7pm—8pm

ALL SAINTS DAY: On Wednesday 1st November, we honour all the saints of heaven whose lives have been examples of faith and love.

ALL SOULS DAY: On Thursday 2nd November, we commemorate the faithful departed. Please note changes to weekday masses on back page.

CONFESSION: Saturday 4th November at St Aidan's, 11am

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Mon 6th November at St Aidan's, 6pm-7pm

ST MARY'S FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2024: Details have been shared with participating families. If you have not received an email, please contact parishsecretary@mail.com as soon as possible.

ALTAR SERVERS: Children who have made their First Holy Communion and are interested in becoming altar servers at St Aidan's or St Mary's are asked to send names and contact info to parishsecretary@mail.com so details of a short training programme can be shared.

COLLECTIONS: w/c 22nd October 2023

ST. AIDAN'S - Loose Plate: £218.00/ Envelopes: £67.00

ST. MARY'S - Loose Plate: £386.77 / Envelopes: £126.00

Donations: £80.69 / Friday Coffee: £53.00 (Mary's Meals)

Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY - THANK YOU: Your prayers and support of World Mission Sunday will help missionaries work alongside communities throughout the world that are poor or in need, regardless of their background or belief. Please pray for the work of Missio & those working to offer the love of Jesus, that we may remain strong in our witness to Christ's love for all peoples. To support mission throughout the year, please go to missio.org.uk or call 020 7821 9755.

CARE NORTH EAST: This small local charity supports people in our area, providing food and clothing to the homeless. Given the recent bad weather they are making an urgent appeal for gloves, socks, hand warmers, sleeping bags and tents. Donations can be left in St Aidan's foyer. Thank you for your help.

JUSTICE & PEACE - SUPPORT THOSE IN NEED: There is a continuing need for tinned and packet food and personal toiletries to help refugees in our area. Donations can be left at both churches. Thank you.

The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

A NOTE OF THANKS

Thank you all so very much for such a wonderful get together on Saturday evening, it was so special and meant the world to us.

Thank you to those who shared their musical talents on the evening and to everyone for your cards, presents, hugs and good wishes. Thank you also to those behind the scenes who made the tea and coffee and provided the opportunity for us all to share a meal together. These special memories will carry us through the difficult transition of our unexpected move to an unfamiliar part of the country. It has been an emotional journey so far and we appreciate the extra support of those who have called it an 'adventure' as that has helped us come to terms with the inevitable move.

We leave St. Mary's with heavy hearts and you will all hold a special place in our memories, thoughts and prayers for many years to come. St. Mary's is a prayerful and caring community and this is expressed in the many ways we have all needed to draw on that ever ready support, which makes it even more special.

Thank you Father Sean for giving us the opportunity to grow on our own faith journey and for always being there to support us. We take the many things we have learnt from you into this new part of our lives.

Bye for now and we hope we will all stay in touch through Facebook and even better in person if you are ever in the Southwest. We will certainly always be ready to pop the kettle on for you.

With very best wishes, Trisha and Peter.