



**Welcome to our Parish Newsletter:**  
**St. Mary's & St. Aidan's R.C Churches**  
**Rev. Sean Hall**  
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**Join us on Facebook - NE12Catholic**

**Sunday 30th July 2023:**

**The Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

After listening to today's Gospel, Treasures New and Old (Mt 13:44-52), consider Fr Henry Wansbrough's reflection:-

St Matthew presents us this week with three final pictures from his collection of Jesus' images about the Christian community. Matthew likes pairs of parables: the dragnet pairs with last week's darnel-parable, the treasure pairs with the pearl. The Kingdom is an exciting and unexpected treasure which can change our whole life; it's like winning the pools or the lottery – except that God's gifts change us only for the good, and fill our lives with meaning and joy.

Of course we know that God's call is demanding: you've got to pay a price for the field in which the treasure lies, or for the genuine pearl found in a junk-shop! The very last picture - the householder bringing down different food-packets, pots and jars off the shelf - is encouraging too: some are old favourites (perhaps like the Christian values and prayers which we inherited from our families), but some add new flavours too, which we have discovered or been taught ourselves.

If we listen, the Spirit is always there to show us new ways of living out our Christian calling, revealing to us an opportunity for prayer or help or service. This 'householder' is often thought to be Matthew's secret signature for himself: he brings out old and new in the Christian message. How can we learn new ways of living out our Christian calling?

## **NEWS FROM OUR CHURCHES:**

**SCRIPTURE REFLECTION GROUP:** No sessions during the summer break.

**CONFESSION:** Saturday 5th August at St. Aidan's.

The first & third Saturday of the month at St Aidan's 11am - 11.30am

The second & fourth Saturday of the month at St Mary's 11am - 11.30am

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:** Mon 7th August at St Aidan's, 6pm-7pm.

**ST MARY'S CHILDREN'S LITURGY:** Meeting 11:45am on Sun 3rd Sept.

**COLLECTIONS:** w/c 23rd July 2023

ST. AIDAN'S - Loose Plate: £211.00/ Envelopes: £62.00/ Hall Hire: £52.00

Donation: £200.00 / Piety: £25.00

ST. MARY'S - Loose Plate: £184.32 / Envelopes: £80.00 / Donation: £50.00

Friday Coffee Morning: £64.80 (Little Sisters of the Poor)

***Thank you all for your continued support and generosity.***

**SUPPORT THOSE IN NEED THIS SUMMER:** Non-perishable food is always in demand—sugar, rice, tea, tuna, tomatoes, biscuits etc. Thank you.

**RAINBOWS BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT:** Volunteers are needed to join the North East Team of this national charity which supports children & young people who have suffered significant loss through death, relationship breakdown or other adverse experience. Contact Ruth Higginbottom, on 01670 518546 or rainbows.northeast@btconnect.com for details.

**MASS INTENTIONS:** Please see envelopes and baskets at the entrances to our churches to request a mass intention.

**SECOND HAND BOOKS AT ST MARY'S:** A replenished selection of books, including those for the younger parishioner, are available in the hall. Please leave your donation for the parish in the box on the bookcase.

**SPIRITUAL BOOK LIBRARY:** A selection of thought-provoking books are available in St Mary's church hall. Please borrow, read and return.

## **MASS INTENTIONS FOR w/c 30th July 2023**

Sat. 29th (St. Mary's) 5.30pm People of the Parish

Sun. 30th (St. Aidan's) 9.15am Stuart White

Sun. 30th (St. Mary's) 11.00am Samuel Cardozo

Mon. 31st \*\*\* NO MASS \*\*\*

Tues. 1st Aug (St. Mary's) 10.00am Priest's Intention

Wed. 2nd (St. Aidan's) 10.00am Priest's Intentions

Thurs. 3rd (St. Aidan's) 10.00am Priest's Intentions

Fri. 4th (St. Mary's) 10.00am Priest's Intentions

\* Sat. 5th (St. Aidan's) 11.00am Confession

Sat. 5th (St. Mary's) 5.30pm People of the Parish

Sun. 6th (St. Aidan's) 9.15am James Alan Scott

Sun. 6th (St. Mary's) 11.00am J and M Thompson in celebration of 35 years of happy marriage.

***For Mass Intentions, please see envelopes at the entrances to our churches.***

## **PREPARATION FOR NEXT WEEK:**

Sunday 6th August - The Transfiguration of the Lord

*"As the Beloved Son of God, Jesus shares the same glory."*

Peter's Witness to the Transfiguration (Second letter of St Peter 1:16-19)

**CHILDREN'S PRAYER:** Dear God, Thank you for revealing yourself to us through your Son. Help our lives be transformed by knowing who He is. And help us share His love with others. Thank you for loving us. Amen.

**WE ASK THAT YOU PRAY FOR:** Those who are sick. 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 [www.stmarysforesthall.co.uk](http://www.stmarysforesthall.co.uk)

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)  
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