

Weekend Masses will now be streamed via YouTube only.

Simply search 'St Mary of the Rosary' for our page.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR w/c 10th December 2023

Sat. 9th (St. Mary's)	5.30pm	Hodgson & Treanor Families
Sun. 10th (St. Aidan's)	9.15am	People of the Parish
Sun. 10th (St. Mary's)	11.00am	Velia Rea
Mon. 11th	*** NO MASS ***	
Tues. 12th (St. Mary's)	10.00am	Frank Murphy
Wed. 13th (St. Aidan's)	10.00am	Priest's Intentions
Thurs. 14th (St. Aidan's)	10.00am	People of the Parish
Thurs. 14th (St. Mary's)	2.00pm	St Mary's Primary Carol Service
Fri. 15th (St. Mary's)	10.00am	Gerard McAndrew
* Sat. 16th (St. Aidan's)	11.00am	Confession
Sat. 16th (St. Mary's)	5.30pm	Margaret Bradford
Sun. 17th (St. Aidan's)	9.15am	People of the Parish
Sun. 17th (St. Mary's)	11.00am	People of the Parish

For Mass Intentions, please see envelopes in our churches.

PREPARATION FOR NEXT WEEK: 17th Dec - Third Sunday of Advent

"We do know that the whole universe is focused on God."

CHILDREN'S PRAYER: God of light, you sent your Son into the world to guide us and show us how to live. Help us to follow his example by loving and caring for others. Amen.

WE ASK THAT YOU PRAY FOR: Those in our parishes who are sick; Those who have died recently. And those of our parishes whose anniversary occurs at this time.

KEEP IN TOUCH: Contact us parishsecretary@mail.com / 0191 268 4222
Access weekend mass live via YouTube, search St Mary of the Rosary
Newsletters & Homilies can be viewed on www.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

www.stmarysforesthall.co.uk

www.staidansbenton.yolasite.com

Join us on Facebook - NE12Catholic

*To arrange Baptisms, please email
parishsecretary@mail.com*



Sunday 10th December 2023:

The Second Sunday of Advent

After listening to today's Gospel, Baptism for Conversion (Mark 1:1-18), consider Fr Henry Wansbrough's reflection:-
Each Advent has two 'John the Baptist' Sundays: the first when we see John preparing a community for the Messiah, the second when he points out Jesus as the Lamb of God. Today is the first of these. John chose a point where the busy road from Jerusalem to the East crossed the Jordan River. There he button-holed all the busy financiers, merchants and other travellers and tourists, warning them to change their ways - and to change them now, before it was too late. 'I am too busy,' no doubt they said. 'I have other things to worry about; I have a wife and family to feed.'

John was forming a community of repentance; but not so much a community which wept 'Boo-hoo!' about their sins, as a community of people determined to set their scale of values right. He meant them to stop going in one direction, to turn round and go in a different direction – towards God. Do we give ourselves a moment to pause and ask whether we have our priorities right?

Where on that list of priorities does the entry of Christ into our lives come? John expected Jesus to baptise with fire.

Does that mean burning something away? Or warming something up? Or a shining light? What does your baptism mean to you?

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

NEWS FROM OUR CHURCHES

ADVENT ALMS: Donations made at our churches this Advent Season will support St Cuthbert's Care in Newcastle. Thank you for generosity.

ADVENT REFLECTIONS: The Diocese's Advent Reflections to help foster prayerful reflection on the Scriptures and a renewed sense of belonging as we prepare for Jesus' coming at Christmas. They have been written by a variety of people and are available to view on the diocesan website www.diocesehn.org.uk or via our Parish Facebook page NE12Catholic. ***If you would prefer a printed copy of these Reflections, please leave your name with our greeters at St Aidan's or speak to Fr Hall.***

ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL CAROL SERVICE:

In St Mary's Church on Thursday 14th December from 2pm - everyone is welcome to come along.

CONFESSION: Saturday 16th December at St Aidan's , 11am

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

ST AIDAN'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS RAFFLE: Tickets now on sale with the draw taking place after Mass on Sun 17th December. Donations of prizes are gratefully received. Thank you for your support.

ST AIDAN'S CRIB AND NATIVITY FIGURES: Volunteers are needed after 9.15am mass on Sunday 17th December to help set up our Holy Family statues in front of the Altar. Two people also required to draw the Christmas Raffle. Thank you in advance for all your help.

AFTERNOON TEA AT ST MARY'S COMP SCHOOL, BENTON PARK ROAD

All parishioners are invited to a Christmas Afternoon Tea on Thurs 21st Dec from 1:30 - 3:00pm, with tea, cakes and music. There's no cost but there will be stalls to raise funds for a local foodbank. Contact the school on 0191 2153260 / admin@st-marys.newcastle.sch.uk to attend.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE AT ST MARY'S: Tickets also on sale in St Mary's hall for the chance to win a Christmas Hamper. Good Luck Everyone!

COLLECTIONS: w/c 3rd December 2023

ST. AIDAN'S - Loose Plate: £161.00/ Envelopes: £55.00 / Hall Hire: £34.00
ST. MARY'S - Loose Plate: £236.96 / Envelopes: £18.00
Donation: £500.00 / Friday Coffee: £57.10 (Mary's Meals)
Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

CHRISTMAS CRAFT SESSION - REMINDER!

Today (Sun) at St Mary's, 2pm - 4pm. Help make Christmas decorations for our Churches and enjoy a mince pie and warm drink! All welcome.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES: Please note, no booking required.

This year the Fourth Sunday of Advent falls on Christmas Eve.

Mass will take place at the usual Sunday times:-

9.15am at St Aidan's and 11.00am at St Mary's.

Christmas Vigil Mass (24th December)

4.30pm at St Mary's (with carols 30 mins before Mass)

6.30pm at St Aidan's (with carols 15 mins before Mass)

Christmas Day (25th December) - 10am at St Mary's.

Boxing Day (26th December) - 10am at St Mary's.

EVENTS FOR NEW DIARIES

DIOCESAN HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL EVENING

Tues 23rd January 2024, 7pm at St Mary's Comprehensive School, Benton Park Road. This year's theme is Fragility of Freedom with guest speaker Mrs Deanna Van Der Velde. Booking is essential via Interreligious.relations@diocesehn.org.uk or 0191 243 3316.

ST MARY'S SOCIAL - FISH AND CHIP SUPPER

Saturday 10th February, 6.15pm onwards (weekend before the start of Lent!) All welcome and a sign up sheet will be available in the new year. If you are able to help, please email parishsecretary@mail.com