

### **MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEKS BEGINNING: 12th March 2023**

Sat. 11th (St. Mary's)	5.30pm	Irene Haslam
Sun. 12th (St. Aidan's)	9.15am	Fr. Paddy McMahon
Sun. 12th (St. Mary's)	11.00am	People of the Parish
Mon. 13th	*** NO MASS ***	
Tues. 14th (St. Mary's)	10.00am	Priest's Intention
Wed. 15th (St. Aidan's)	10.00am	Fr Paddy McMahon
Thurs. 16th (St. Aidan's)	10.00am	Priest's Intentions
Thurs. 16th (St. Mary's)	2.00pm	Requiem Mass John Bradley
Fri. 17th (St. Mary's)	10.00am	Priest's Intention
* Fri. 17 (St. Aidan's)	6pm	Stations of the Cross (A Rebello)
* Sat. 18th (St. Aidan's)	11am	Confession
Sat. 18th (St. Mary's)	5.30pm	Welcome Ottilie Margot Ronan
Sun. 19th (St. Aidan's)	9.15am	Nan Hayes
Sun. 19th (St. Mary's)	11.00am	Shirley Charlton

### **PREPARATION FOR NEXT WEEK:**

The Fourth Sunday of Lent - 19th March 2023

*"Grace is the loving way in which God has regarded us from the beginning of time." Second Reading: The Response to God's Love (2 Timothy 1:8-10)*

### **CHILDREN'S PRAYER:**

God of peace, you care for all people in our world. Move us to do the same and to do all that we can to help others, no matter where in the world they are. Amen.

### **WE ASK THAT YOU PRAY FOR:**

Those who are sick. Those who have died recently.

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

### **KEEP IN TOUCH**

Contact us via [parishsecretary@mail.com](mailto: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)  
St. Mary's Catholic Comprehensive School [www.stmarysnewcastle.co.uk](http://www.stmarysnewcastle.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](mailto:parishsecretary@mail.com)

[www.stmarysforesthall.co.uk](http://www.stmarysforesthall.co.uk)

[www.staidansbenton.yolasite.com](http://www.staidansbenton.yolasite.com)

Join us on Facebook - NE12Catholic

### **Sunday 12th March 2023**

#### **Third Sunday in Lent**

After listening to today's Gospel, The Samaritan at the Well (John 4:5-15.19-26.39-42), consider Fr Henry Wansbrough's reflection. In this lively dialogue Jesus almost seems to be teasing the Samaritan woman, deliberately leading her into misunderstanding about what he means by living water or about the conditions of worship.

Nothing daunted, she gives as good as she gets, replying with a cheeky series of sarcastic questions, gradually edging nearer to the truth: an open-minded Jew – greater than our father Jacob – a prophet – and finally acknowledging him as the Messiah.

With its serious message it is a lovely example of Jesus' willingness to engage with people as they are, and of his openness with women.

On these last three Sundays of Lent before Palm Sunday in Cycle A, the Church lays before us the three great symbols of the baptisms which will be celebrated at Easter. This concerns not only those who will be baptised at the Easter Vigil, but all those who are invited to renew our baptismal promise and commitment at Easter. By so doing we enter afresh into the living and nourishing water of God's love which surpasses any food or drink (the teaching given to the Samaritan woman), into the light which enlightens the blind (the Cure of the Man Born Blind) and true life (the Raising of Lazarus).

What does Jesus really mean by 'living water'?

What is the real life that God gives us?

**Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB**

## **NEWS FROM OUR CHURCHES:**

**ST MARY'S CHILDREN'S LITURGY:** We are delighted to be restarting our Sunday morning sessions. Could all children wishing to join us in the church hall please bring a parent until we have all DBS Forms returned. Thank you.

### **ST MARY'S PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: Wed 15th March, 7pm**

Could all council members please try to attend.

### **ST AIDAN'S PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: Wed 22nd March, 7pm**

This is an open meeting with all parishioners very welcome to attend and hear about that which is needed to support our parish. It's a friendly, informal, hour long meeting in the church hall. Previous minutes are on the website [www.staidansbenton.yolasite.com](http://www.staidansbenton.yolasite.com). We hope to see you there!

### **STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** Friday 17th & 24th March only.

Alison Rebello will be leading Stations of the Cross this week and next from 6pm at St Aidan's. All are welcome.

### **SCRIPTURE REFLECTION GROUP:** (see [www.stmarysforesthall.co.uk](http://www.stmarysforesthall.co.uk))

Thursday 16th March, 7pm at St Aidan's (join also via zoom)

Tuesday 21st March, 10.30am at St Mary's

Each session, we reflect together on the Readings for the coming Sunday.

### **CONFESSION** - Saturday 18th March 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

### **COLLECTIONS:** w/c 5th March

ST. AIDAN'S - Loose Plate: £177.00 / Envelopes: £67.00 / Hall Hire: £36.00

ST. MARY'S - Loose Plate: £211.20 / Envelopes: £26.00

CAFOD Family Fast Day: £89.00

### **w/c 26th February**

ST. AIDAN'S - Loose Plate: £217.00 / Envelopes: £32.00 / Hall Hire: £40.00

Candles: £34.00 / Northern Cross: £12.00 / Piety: £10.00

ST. MARY'S - Loose Plate: £282.40 / Envelopes: £41.00 /

Fri Coffee Morning: £82.50 (CAFOD Earthquake Appeal) / Donations: £50.00

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

## **FROM THE JESMOND ST MARY PARTNERSHIP**

### **CHRISTIAN MEDITATION COURSE: *Join anytime!***

This five week meditation course provides an opportunity for those interested in finding out about Christian Meditation to experience the practice in a small group, to learn about its origins, and to discover its relevance as a form of prayer for the contemporary world. The course runs at Holy Name, Jesmond in the Church Hall (accessed on Towers Avenue behind Church) for five weeks, every Tuesday from 7th March to 4th April starting at 7pm for an hour. More info via [wccm.org](http://wccm.org) or email [rosie.hodnett@btinternet.com](mailto:rosie.hodnett@btinternet.com)

## **FROM THE DIOCESE**

### **UPDATE**

The investigation commissioned by the Dicastery for Bishops has issued a survey to be completed by parishioners. This is an anonymous survey, all answers are provided in complete confidence, and you are asked to give your own individual views. The survey will run until Mon 27th March and can be accessed at <https://forms.gle/wevQ6zrj1t8SCxNq5> or through the Diocesan website. Please complete the survey only once, even if you hold more than one role in the Diocese.

### **JUSTICE & PEACE REFUGEE PROJECT**

Monthly data to share with donors and supporters - February 2023

Total Number of current clients: 472 / Client footfall to the centre: 304

Food bag beneficiaries: 447 / New clients registered: 26

Clients & children supported by the clothing bank: Est 45

Thank you for your continued support which is as vital as ever. Donations of tinned and packet foods, toiletries and clothing is collected from the foyer in St Aidan's and the hall at St Mary's. Find out more via [www.diocesehn.org.uk](http://www.diocesehn.org.uk)

### **VACANCIES**

Administrator, Vicariate for Faith and Mission (maternity cover) – full-time.

Closing date: 15 March 2023. Please visit [www.diocesehn.org.uk](http://www.diocesehn.org.uk) for full details or contact 0191 243 3301.

### **CATHOLIC SCHOOLS ADMISSION APPEALS PANEL MEMBERS**

For information or an application form, email [education@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:education@diocesehn.org.uk) or telephone 0191 243 3313.