

## **MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK BEGINNING: 19th February 2023**

|                          |                 |  |
|--------------------------|-----------------|--|
| Sat. 18th (St. Mary's)   | 5.30pm          | Syd Haslam                             |
| Sun. 19th (St. Aidan's)  | 9.15am          | Patricia Gilmore                       |
| Sun. 19th (St. Mary's)   | 11.00am         | People of the Parish                   |
| Mon. 20th                | *** NO MASS *** |  |
| Tues. 21st (St Mary's)   | 10.00am         | Fr. Paddy McMahon                      |
| Wed. 22nd (St Aidan's)   | 10.00am         | (Ash Wednesday)                        |
| Wed. 22nd (St Mary's)    | 7.00pm          | (Ash Wednesday)                        |
| Thurs. 23rd (St Aidan's) | 10.00am         | Priest's Intention                     |
| Fri. 24th (St Mary's)    | 10.00am         | Charles Urie                           |
| * Fri. 24th (St Aidan's) | 6.00pm          | Stations of the Cross led by A Rebello |
| * Sat. 25th (St. Mary's) | 11—1130am       | Confession                             |
| Sat. 25th (St Mary's)    | 5.30pm          | Winnie Haslam                          |
| Sun. 26th (St Aidan's)   | 9.15am          | Fr. Paddy McMahon                      |
| Sun. 26th (St Mary's)    | 11.00am         | Michael Cassidy                        |

## **PREPARATION FOR NEXT WEEK:**

The First Sunday of Lent - 26th February 2023

"Christ, by his supreme act of loving obedience, turned back the course of human destiny." Second Reading: The Second Adam (Romans 5:12.17-19).

## **CHILDREN'S PRAYER:**

*God of love, you gave your son Jesus strength in the desert. May we also have the strength to do what is right and to stand up for what we believe in. 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**

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

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

**Join us on Facebook - NE12Catholic**

## **Sunday 19th February 2023**

### **The Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**

After listening to today's Gospel, Jesus completes the Law (Matt 5:38-48) consider Fr Henry Wansbrough's reflection.

Following on from the four adjustments of the Law in last Sunday's gospel come two more, perhaps the most demanding.

The Law of Moses had limited revenge: only a tooth might be taken for a tooth, only an eye for an eye, not life itself. Jesus, however, will not tolerate even this limited vengeance; he allows no revenge at all. Again and again in the course of the gospel Jesus returns to this need for unconditional forgiveness. We daringly engage ourselves with this teaching whenever we say the Lord's Prayer, 'forgive us just as we forgive...'.

The final demand, however, is the most challenging of all.

There is in fact no passage of the canonical scripture which encourages 'hate your enemy'. In any case, just as God lavishes his benefits of life, sun and rain on good and evil alike, so we must put no limits to our love. Only in this way – think of the first reading! – can we attempt to honour and imitate the holiness of God. This is what it means to be a son of God, 'sons of your Father in heaven': only by following in his way and by fulfilling his designs can we be integrated into his family.

There can be no enmity in Christianity. Can I really forgive with no trace of animosity?

**Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB**

## **NEWS FROM OUR CHURCHES:**

**PARISH BOUNDARIES:** The Diocesan Boundaries Committee has provided maps identifying our parish footprints and they are available to view for information at St Aidan's in the foyer and at St Mary's in the church hall. If you have any questions please email [parishsecretary@mail.com](mailto:parishsecretary@mail.com)

## **ASH WEDNESDAY:** 22nd February

Mass at St Aidan's at 10am // Mass at St Mary's at 7pm

**BOOKS OF REMEMBRANCE:** During Lent, lists will be available at St Aidan's entrance and in the hall at St Mary's for you to write the names of the loved ones you would like to be entered into our Books of Remembrance. Please PRINT clearly and please do not provide names which are already in the book or attempt to write in the book yourself. Thank you.

## **STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** Friday 24th February, 6pm at St Aidan's.

Alison Rebello will be leading Stations of the Cross at 6pm every Friday throughout Lent. All are welcome.

## **SCRIPTURE REFLECTION GROUP:**

Tuesday 21st February, 1030am at St Mary's.

Thursday 2nd March, 7pm at St Aidan's (join also via zoom)

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

All are very welcome. More details on [www.stmarysforesthall.co.uk](http://www.stmarysforesthall.co.uk)

## **CONFESSION** - Saturday 25th February at St Mary'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 12th February

ST. AIDAN'S - Loose Plate: £153.00 / Envelopes: £42.00 / Hall Hire: £40.00

ST. MARY'S - Loose Plate: £334.80 / Envelopes: £43.00 /

Friday Coffee Morning: £29.40 / CAFOD Earthquake Appeal: £337.70

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

## **CAFOD:** TURKEY & SYRIA EARTHQUAKE APPEAL

Donations can be made at both churches. Thank you for your help.

## **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER:** Friday 3rd March

Taking place at St Andrew's Church in Benton at 10:30am, this special service was written by the Christian women of Taiwan remembering those people of Taiwan who are in need of our prayers at this time.

All are welcome with refreshments and homemade cakes served afterwards. Donations are requested to support projects run by Christian charities around the world. See [www.wwdp.org.uk](http://www.wwdp.org.uk) for more information.

## **EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:** Monday 6th March

Thank you to all who joined Alison for Eucharistic Adoration at St Aidan's - a much welcomed reception for the first week.

Alison will be ordained as a Deacon this summer and will lead this mass on the first Monday of the month at St Aidan's, 6pm-7pm.

## **FROM THE DIOCESE**

### **LENTEN REFLECTIONS PART 1**

The Vicariate for Faith & Mission has produced the first booklet of Lenten reflections, ahead of the beginning of Lent on Wednesday 22nd February. The reflections have been contributed by a mix of clergy, religious and lay people to express the richness and variety of our diocesan community. The dedicated Lenten reflection page on the diocesan website can be found at <https://bit.ly/DHNLent2023>

## **CENTRE FOR CATHOLIC STUDIES**

The CCS are seeking to appoint a part-time Administrator, 21 hours per week, focusing on CCS events and communications.

Full details can be accessed via [www.durham.taleo.net](http://www.durham.taleo.net) using the reference number 22001983. Closing date is midnight on Mon 20th February 2023.

## **HOLY ISLAND SVP VINNIE CAMP 2023**

Girls and boys aged 9-12 are welcome for a great way to meet new people and make friends from all over the North East. A week's all-inclusive holiday costs £150 and can be paid in instalments.

In some circumstances children may be able to receive partial or full funding to attend. If you're interested, or know of a child who could benefit from such a holiday, please visit: [www.svp.org.uk/microsite/holy-island](http://www.svp.org.uk/microsite/holy-island)  
Applications are open now and fill up fast.