

20th March 2016

Passion Sunday



ST AIDAN'S

Coach Lane

www.staidansbenton.yolasite.com

Parish Priest Fr Michael Hickey M.A.
Fr Patrick McMahon
Tel: 0191 2655290

Date		Time	Service	Feast	Intention
Saturday	19 March	10:00 am 5:00 pm	Mass Vigil Mass		Sick in the Parish Cathy (Anne's sister)
Sunday	20 March	9:30 am	Mass	Palm Sunday	Matilda Bews
Monday	21 March	10.00 am	Mass		Maggie Breen (Deceased)
Tuesday	22 March	6.30 pm	Mass		People of the Parish
Wednesday	23 March	10.00 am	Mass		Special Intentions (CO)
Thursday	24 March	7.00 pm	Mass	The Lord's Supper	
Friday	25 March	10.00 am 3.00 pm	Stations of the Cross Passion of the Lord	Good Friday	
Saturday	26 March	10:00 am 8:00 pm	No Service Easter Vigil Mass		Bob Coleby
Sunday	27 March	9:30 am	Mass	Easter Sunday	In Thanksgiving (Cassiday Family)

There is no 10.00 am Mass on Thursday 24, Friday 25 & Saturday 26 March

Parish News

Penitential Services: Please take the opportunity to come back to the Lord and each other in preparation for Easter:
Sacred Heart, Gosforth: Sun 20th March at 5pm St Anthony of Padua, Walker: Mon 21st March at 7pm
St Aidan's, Benton: Tue 22nd March at 6.30pm St Teresa's, Heaton: Wed 23rd March at 7pm

From Fr David Milburn May I warmly thank all who helped me celebrate my 90th birthday in some style! The number of prayers, good wishes, cards and gifts was quite overwhelming. The Sunday get together (with the beautiful cake) demonstrated in a special way how well the former parishioners of Longbenton have settled into their new surroundings, made possible by the evident good will at St Aidan's. For that I am particularly grateful. Thanks also to Fathers Hickey and McMahon for the all-important Wednesday and Sunday masses which set the tone for the day. May the Lord bless you all. David Milburn

Lent at St Aidan's: *Stations of the Cross* on Sunday at 4 pm from 14 February.

Prayer Services in Bethany based on the Redemptorist Lent Booklet on Mondays at 6 pm. Sisters Dorothy & Theresa welcome us into their Chapel.

Good Friday Procession of Witness – Leaves St Bartholomew's carpark at 11 am to walk to Forest Hall shops for a short service at 11.15 am. All welcome.

Book of Remembrance: During Lent, lists will be available at the church entrance for you to write the names of the loved ones you would like to be entered into our Book of Remembrance. Please **PRINT** the names and details of your loved ones. **Please Do Not include names which are already in the book or attempt to write in the book yourself.**

Humanitarian visit to the Philippines: Bake sale: Many thanks to everyone who gave so generously to the bake sale last weekend. We raised £291 including sales from the raffle. Tickets will continue to be sold before & after weekend masses until the draw on Easter Sunday. **A further bake sale will be held on Easter Sunday after 09:30 mass.** Many thanks. Carolyn & Jonathan.

Coming soon - Come to the Well and Drink This course aims to help people to explore and experience different ways of praying. No expertise is required – only a desire for God. Six weekly sessions will be held at St Aidan's beginning on Thursday 21 April from 7.00pm to 8.30pm. Everyone is welcome.

Justice & Peace Magazine: Copies are available at the back of Church. This quarterly magazine reports on and aims to further the church's social teaching. If you think that the parish should continue to receive the magazines, please tell Peter Short or one of the PPC.

Dates for Your Diary: Golden Jubilee Celebrations: Both Fr. McMahon and Fr. Hickey will be celebrating their Golden Jubilees this year. If you would like to help with the celebrations please see one of the PPC. The dates of their celebratory masses are:

- Fr. McMahon - Monday, 6th June at St. Aidan's; Monday, 13th June at St. Teresa's.
- Fr. Hickey – Monday, 11th July at St. Teresa's; Tuesday, 12th July at St. Aidan's.

Justice & Peace Spring Plant & Home Bake Sale – 21/22 May; **Summer Concert** with Newcastle Concert Band – 26 June. <http://www.newcastleconcertband.org.uk/>

Gardening: Activities resume at the end of this month after Tuesday & Friday mass. Anyone who can help is most welcome.

Calling All Gardeners: Please keep our Spring Plant Sale in mind when sowing seeds and taking cuttings.

Parish Census: The PPC would like to carry out a census of the parish which will help us know who is in our parish and will make sure that everyone who wants to help is given the opportunity to do so. The PPC have prepared an outline of the census, but need help in producing the final document. If you would be willing to help with this, please contact Bernie Lamb on 07889790769.

Annual Deanery Day of Reflection for Eucharistic Ministers & Readers: April 16th 11am – 3.30pm at St Cuthbert's Primary School Hall, Balmain Road, Kenton. Please let Fr Michael or Fr Patrick know if you wish to go so we can advise numbers and the parish will meet the costs.

Special collections in Lent: As usual there will a retiring collection box for Lenten Alms for St Cuthbert's Care. Special Gift Aid envelopes will be available. Anyone who has a CAFOD Home Pyramid Box may bring it in that weekend to be included in the collection.

February collections: Wk1- £462: Wk2 - £391: Wk3 - £430: Wk4 - £413.

Special collections: ECV Uganda - £150 : Catholic Education - £172

Paying tax and donating under Gift Aid from 6 April 2016: Increase in personal Income Tax allowance, combined with changes announced in respect of the taxation of savings income, may have consequences on parishioners and their continuing ability to sign Gift Aid Declarations. From 6 April 2016 the standard personal Income Tax allowance will increase to £11000 per annum. The first £1k of interest from banks, building societies etc will be exempt for basic taxpayers, as will the first £5k of dividend income. It will therefore be possible to be in receipt of up to £17k of income without paying any income tax. The Diocese, on behalf of Parishes, claims 25p on every £1 given under Gift Aid, so this means that for a claim to be valid for an individual giving £1 per week, the minimum tax paid needs to be £130 per annum. We need to ensure that you do not face an unexpected request from HMRC to repay tax we have claimed on your donations. We therefore ask those who have signed Gift Aid Declarations to check that they are paying sufficient tax to cover the amount to be reclaimed from HMRC in relation to your donations. Please bear in mind tax paid must cover ALL amounts reclaimed from charitable organisations you donate to.

The boxed envelope sets for 2016/17 are ready for collection from the church entrance.

We are no longer providing envelope sets to those on Planned Giving, as this scheme is to be wound up. Thank you for your support over the years. Please make your donations to the Offertory Collection bags.

If anyone has any queries, or you wish to join the Gift Aid Scheme, please see Peter Short.

Please Continue to Pray for our Sick and Housebound:

Diocesan Prayer: Glory be to the Father, in whom we live & move & have our being. Glory be to the Son, whose name we bear & who calls each of us to be his disciples to build his Kingdom & to go out into the world & bear its fruit. Glory be to the Holy Spirit, pouring out grace and guidance, forming us & renewing us. Inspire us all in the Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle to live the Gospel, to be open to change & to move forward together in hope.

Diocesan News

Hospital Visits: Patients going to RVI/Freeman hospitals should inform priests at St Andrew's, Worswick Street, tel 2321892

Year of Mercy: Throughout the diocese ***Celebrations of God's Mercy*** will be held to reach out to all, especially those on the fringes of the church. Invite your family and friends to come and experience God's unconditional mercy. In addition to private Confession there will be other ways of expressing sorrow and forgiveness. God is not confined to the Sacraments. Priests & listeners will be on hand to offer encouragement & reconciliation. See the notice board for details of services.

Mass with Anointing of the Sick: Celebrated at St Joseph's Gateshead on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 12 noon. All are welcome.