

Preparing for the Mass of Sunday 27th August 2023

The Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time

After listening to today's Gospel, Jesus Claims Peter as Rock (Matthew 16:13-20), consider Fr Henry Wansbrough's reflection:-

At last Peter recognizes that Jesus is the Messiah, the Christ. At last he realizes that in Jesus he can see the action of God made visible. The disciples followed Jesus as soon as he called, but for a long time they were puzzled about what to make of him, of his wonderful teaching and his godlike personality. Now comes a shaft of light and understanding.

We too often take some time to appreciate the true worth of someone we know well: a little gesture can sometimes reveal just how generous and thoughtful they are. Peter suddenly grasps that here is the Son of God, acting among them, a daunting or even terrifying thought. Jesus replies to Peter's recognition with his own generosity, giving him a new name, 'Rock', for this is what 'Peter' means.

If you name something, you make it your own, take it to yourself. This is just what Jesus does with Simon who becomes his own Peter, his own 'Rock'. That is the importance of the naming of a child at Baptism: Jesus takes us to himself and we become his. The early Christians called themselves 'Those over whom the name of Jesus has been called'. We may have been named Mary or John, but the name of Jesus has been called over us and we have become his. What are the implications for us of Jesus' promise to Peter?

Fr Henry Wansbrough

CHILDREN'S PRAYER

*Dear God,
Speak to our hearts and help us to see that we are one big family.
Old or young, short or tall, wherever we live, you made us all.
Help us to share, however hard it seems, to make our world fair,
And live out our dreams.
Amen.*

Welcome to our Parish Newsletter:

St. Mary's & St. Aidan's R.C Churches

Rev. Sean Hall

Tel. 0191 268 4222 // parishsecretary@mail.com

www.stmarysforesthall.co.uk

www.staidansbenton.yolasite.com

Join us on Facebook - NE12Catholic

Sunday 20th August 2023:

The Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

After listening to today's Gospel, Jesus and the Canaanite Woman (Matthew 15:21-28), consider Fr Henry Wansbrough's reflection:- This is an especially significant scene in two ways. Mark's Gospel was the first to be written, and Matthew edits and expands it, using other sources as well.

In Mark this scene is the only explicit encounter between Jesus and a gentile – and a woman at that! At first Jesus is reluctant to do anything for her, for his mission was primarily to Israel. He puts her off, and is really quite brusque to her. However, she wins through by her persistence and her determined confidence in his power. The disciples get fed up with her shrieking after them, and ask Jesus to cure her daughter, which he does.

We need to be persistent in our prayers and in our efforts. God does not grant a casual request. Secondly, this passage reveals a lot about Jesus' relationship to women and about his sense of humour: Jesus and the woman seem to tease each other with their repartee. There is the same repartee in the account of Jesus' meeting with the Samaritan woman in the Gospel of John: she stands up to him with her cheeky responses. Jesus and the woman are both obviously enjoying this playful scene. It suggests that not everything is solemn and serious in heaven, and there is room for a sense of humour! Is Jesus rude to the Canaanite woman, or is he merely challenging her? How does Jesus challenge you?

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

NEWS FROM OUR CHURCHES

A two week newsletter this week—please keep it safe!

CONFESSION:

Sat 26th August at St. Mary's. / Sat 2nd September 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 4th September.

At St Aidan's with Deacon Alison Rebello from 6pm until 7pm.

All are very welcome.

EXALTED YOUTH RETREAT WITH ANOINTING FIRE CATHOLIC MINISTRIES

This 3-day residential retreat from 8th-10th Sept, takes place at Emmaus Youth Village in Consett and is aimed at 17-24 year old students.

See <https://afcmuk.org/register> or contact Deacon Alison Rebello on 07931-136243 for more details.

SONGS OF PRAISE AT ST GEORGE'S CHURCH, JESMOND

Monday 21st August, 630pm - 930pm. There is a big space to fill at a relatively quiet time of year, so the more the merrier! It's free but people do need to book their place – singwithus@ctvc.co.uk or 07734 030 888.

ST MARY'S CHILDREN'S LITURGY: Meeting after Mass on Sun 3rd Sept to plan a rota for the forthcoming term.

COLLECTIONS: w/c 13th August 2023

ST. AIDAN'S - Loose Plate: £183.00 / Envelopes: £57.00 / Hall Hire: £50.00

ST. MARY'S - Loose Plate: £264.20 / Envelopes: £60.00 / Donation: £150.00

Friday Coffee Morning: £67.00 (Little Sisters of the Poor)

Thank you all for your continued support and generosity.

SUPPORT THOSE IN NEED THIS SUMMER: There is a continuing need for food to help refugees in our area. Donations can be left at both churches. Non-perishable food is always in demand—sugar, rice, tea, tuna, tomatoes, biscuits etc. Thank you for your support.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR w/c 20th August 2023

Sat. 19th (St. Mary's) 5.30pm Frances & Maurice Egan (Anniversary)

Sun. 20th (St. Aidan's) 9.15am Derek Savin

Sun. 20th (St. Mary's) 11.00am Honey B.N

Mon. 21st *** NO MASS ***

Tues. 22nd (St. Mary's) 10.00am John Rayson

Wed. 23rd (St. Aidan's) 10.00am People of the Parish

Thurs. 24th (St. Aidan's) 10.00am Priest's Intentions

Fri. 25th (St. Mary's) 10.00am Tony Charlton

* Sat. 26th (St. Mary's) 11.00am Confession

Sat. 26th (St. Mary's) 5.30pm Samuel Cardozo

Sun. 27th (St. Aidan's) 9.15am People of the Parish

Sun. 27th (St. Mary's) 11.00am John and Betty Hall

Mon. 28th *** NO MASS ***

Tues. 29th (St. Mary's) 10.00am Alan Shingfield

Wed. 30th (St. Aidan's) 10.00am Priest's Intentions

Thurs. 31st (St. Aidan's) 10.00am People of the Parish

Fri. 1st Sept (St. Mary's) 10.00am Priest's Intentions

Sat. 2nd (St. Aidan's) 11.00am Confession

Sat. 2nd (St. Mary's) 5.30pm Steve Brattle

Sun. 3rd (St. Aidan's) 9.15am People of the Parish

Sun. 3rd (St. Mary's) 11.00am People of the Parish

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

WE ASK THAT YOU PRAY FOR: Those in our parishes who are sick or who may need our prayers for help, guidance and support. Those who have died recently. And those of our parishes whose anniversary occurs at this time - St Peter and St Paul Book of Remembrance is at St Aidan's.

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 ww.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