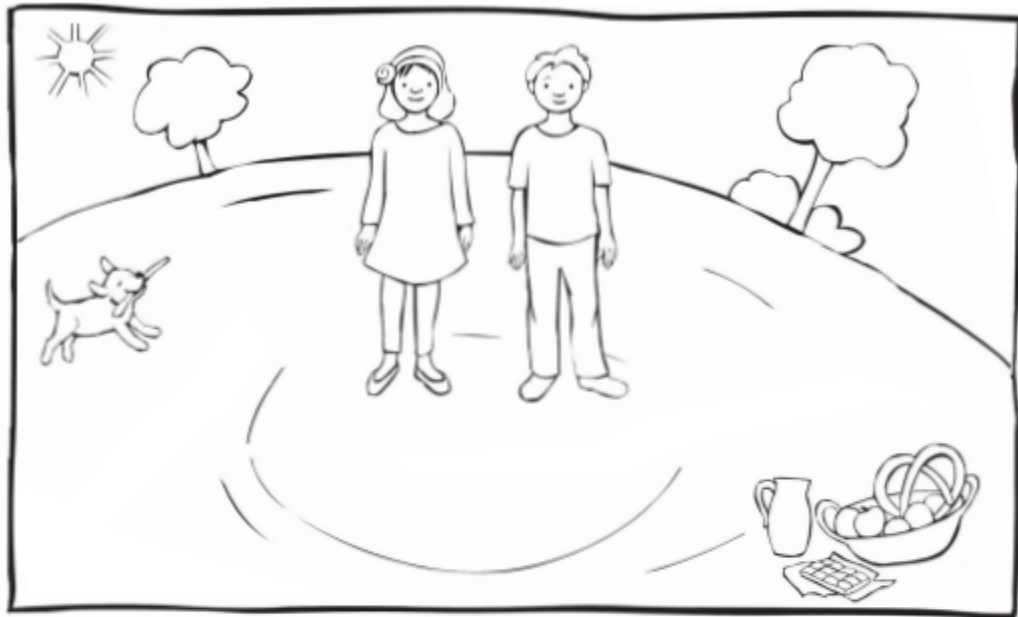


## Fifth Sunday of Lent (Year A)

Gospel: John 11:1-45

"When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had been buried four days before."



God gives life to us all. And God wants us all to have the things that we need to grow and be happy. In the picture draw all the things the children need to grow and be happy. One example, food, has been added to get you started.

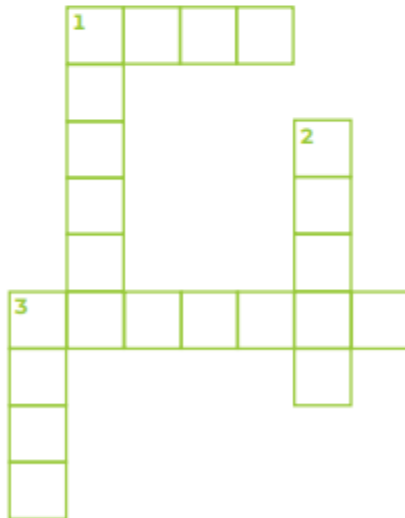
### Complete the crossword puzzle

#### Across

1. The name of one of Lazarus' sisters
3. The name of Jesus' friend who died

#### Down

1. The name of Lazarus' other sister
2. Who raised Lazarus from the dead?
3. What did Jesus give to Lazarus? New.....



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Welcome to our Parish Newsletter for:

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

Rev. Sean Hall

Tel. 0191 268 4222

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

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Sunday 26th March 2023

### Fifth Sunday in Lent

After listening to today's Gospel, The Raising of Lazarus (John 11:1-45), consider Fr Henry Wansbrough's reflection.

This is the third of the great Johannine gospel readings on the Sundays of Lent which lead up to and prepare us for the baptisms of the new members of Christ at the Easter Vigil; today's gospel grips us with the story of Jesus' gift of life to his friend Lazarus.

This is not the same thing as the gift of life to us by Jesus in the resurrection, for Lazarus returns to ordinary human life, and will die again, whereas the Christian resurrection transforms us into a new way of life, giving us a life which is a participation in the divine life for ever.

Rather, the resurrection of Lazarus is the last and greatest of Jesus' signs, his marvellous works which point towards and hint at this final gift of divine life. The first of the signs was the transformation of the water of the Law into the wine of the messianic wedding banquet at Cana.

These signs show who Jesus really is. As well as showing the divine power of Jesus – for only God can give life – they also show the real, human love of Jesus for his friends. He is upset by Lazarus' death and weeps for him, sharing the human sorrow of his family as he shares our sorrows too. Is death something to fear?

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

## **NEWS FROM OUR CHURCHES:**

**ST MARY'S:** We welcome the children preparing for First Holy Communion to mass this morning - please remember them in your prayers.

**TIN ON A WALL:** The Cresti Family are collecting items for the Tin on a Wall campaign on Saturday 1st April. Non-perishable foods, toiletries & chocolate eggs will help many people in need this Easter. They will be in St Mary's church carpark next Saturday between 130 and 2pm and any support would be much appreciated. Thank you.

## **HOLY WEEK MASS TIMES:**

Wed 5th April, 7pm at St Mary's - Penitential Service

Thurs 6th April, 7pm at St Aidan's - Mass of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday, 3pm at St Mary's - Liturgy of the Passion

Sat 8th April, 530pm at St Mary's - Easter Vigil

Sun 9th April, 9.15am at St Aidan's - Easter Sunday

Sun 9th April, 11am at St Mary's - Easter Sunday

## **DIOCESAN SURVEY: Open until Monday 27th March**

Fr Hall has referenced the online survey from the Diocese which is seeking input from all parishioners. Please take a look at [www.diocesehn.org.uk](http://www.diocesehn.org.uk)

**COLLECTION ENVELOPES:** Please collect your boxes of envelopes from our Welcomers at St Aidan's or from the hall at St Mary's. If your box isn't there leave your name on the list provided and it will be ready for you next week.

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

Thurs 30th March, 7pm at St Aidan's (also via zoom)

Tuesday 4th April, 10.30am at St Mary's

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

## **COLLECTIONS:** w/c 19th March

ST. AIDAN'S - Loose Plate: £192.00/ Envelopes: £62.00 / Hall Hire: £46.00

ST. MARY'S - Loose Plate: £264.76 / Envelopes: £82.00 / Donations: £250.00

FRI. COFFEE MORNING: £60.00 (CAFOD EARTHQUAKE APPEAL)

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

## **MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEKS BEGINNING: 26th March 2023**

Sat. 25th (St. Mary's)	5.30pm	Jane & Lawrence Johnson
Sun. 26th (St. Aidan's)	9.15am	June Weatherstone
Sun. 26th (St. Mary's)	11.00am	Laura Anne Heslop
Mon. 27th	*** NO MASS ***	
Tues. 28th (St. Mary's)	10.00am	Kath Cassidy
Wed. 29th (St. Aidan's)	10.00am	Matilda Bews
Thurs. 30th (St. Aidan's)	10.00am	Priest's Intention
Fri. 31st (St. Mary's)	10.00am	Anne McMenemy
* Fri. 31st (St. Aidan's)	10am	Stations of the Cross (A Rebello)
* Sat. 1st April (St. Aidan's)	11am	Confession
Sat. 1st (St. Mary's)	5.30pm	Norman Wise
Sun. 2nd (St. Aidan's)	9.15am	People of the Parish
Sun. 2nd (St. Mary's)	11.00am	C.T Varghese

## **PREPARATION FOR NEXT WEEK:**

Palm Sunday - 2nd April 2023

*"To the glory of God the Father."*

Second Reading: Raised High through Suffering (Philippians 2:6-11)

## **CHILDREN'S PRAYER:**

"God of joy, we welcome you into our lives as the people of Jerusalem welcomed Jesus, with respect, love and happiness. Help us to remember that you are in all people and to try to make them feel welcome. 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 [ww.stmarysforesthall.co.uk](http://ww.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)