

MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK BEGINNING: 20th November 2022

Sat. 26th (St. Mary's)	5.30pm	Margaret Bradford
Sun. 27th (St. Aidan's)	9.15am	Herbert Ball
Sun. 27th (St. Mary's)	11.00am	Thanksgiving for support and kindness to Pat MacDonald

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

Tues. 29th (St. Mary's)	10.00am	Teresa Hall
Wed. 30th (St. Aidan's)	10.00am	Teresa Hall
Thurs. 1st Dec (St. Aidan's)	10.00am	George Todhunter
Fri. 2nd (St. Mary's)	10.00am	Doug Stowar
* Sat. 3rd (St. Aidan's)	11.00am	Confession
Sat. 3rd (St. Mary's)	5.30pm	People of the Parish
Sun. 4th (St. Aidan's)	9.15am	Edith Latimer
Sun. 4th (St. Mary's)	11.00am	Teresa Hall

PREPARATION FOR NEXT WEEK

The Second Sunday of Advent - 4th December 2022

"The perfect generosity of Jesus Christ must be the model for our own generosity." Second Reading: The Generosity of Christ (Romans 15:4-9)

CHILDREN'S PRAYER

God of love, help us always to try to do the right thing, even when we find it hard, so that we are ready when Jesus comes. Amen.

WE ASK THAT YOU PRAY FOR:

Those who are sick: Eddie McCormack, Anne Innes, Yeau Sen Mai, Mary Jane Dellbridge.

Those in our Books of Remembrance; And all those within our Parishes whose anniversary occurs at this time.

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

St. Mary's Catholic Primary School www.stmarysrcprimaryschool.co.uk
St. Stephen's Catholic Primary School www.ststephensprimaryschool.co.uk

Welcome to our Parish Newsletter for:

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

Rev. Sean Hall

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Join us on Facebook - NE12Catholic

Sunday 27th November 2022

First Sunday of Advent

After listening to today's Gospel, Like a Thief in the Night (Matthew 24:37-44), consider Fr Henry Wansbrough's reflection.

In each year of the three-year cycle the Advent Sunday gospel-readings have the same pattern: the first is about the final Coming of Christ.

In the second John the Baptist is preparing a community of repentance to welcome Jesus' mission.

In the third John the Baptist points out Jesus as the Messiah.

On the fourth Sunday we look to Mary preparing for the birth of her Son.

In this Sunday's reading about the Second Coming the accent is the same as in the Paul's letter to the Romans (today's second reading): we have a pressing and urgent need to take action without delay. The Second Coming will be sudden and unexpected as when a thief breaks in at night and no protective preparations have been made; it will also seem random and apparently without discernible cause, as when one person is taken, another left behind. We do not even know whether that final confrontation (when each of us is brought face to face with the awesome presence of God) will be a unique event for each of us at death, or whether it will be a group event, as is suggested by Matthew's parable of the sheep and goats sent to right and left. There is no time in eternity, no waiting-room! It will not be as any human mind can envisage it.

Should we look forward to or dread the final meeting with the Lord?

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

NEWS FROM OUR CHURCHES:

THANK YOU

"A personal thank you for all the kind words, the thoughts and the prayers offered for my family at this time - it is much appreciated." Fr Hall.

ST AIDAN'S CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Tickets will be on sale on November 27th, December 4th and 11th.
The raffle will be drawn on Saturday, December 17th with prizes ready to collect on Sunday 18th. Donations of prizes are requested.
Thank you in advance for your support & generosity.

PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE CARD SIGNING - this weekend!

"Lord when did we see you in prison and visit you?"....

Please 'visit' those imprisoned for their beliefs by sending a Christmas card. Parishioners from both parishes are invited to come along to St Mary's hall during the First Weekend of Advent after 530pm Mass on Sat 26th Nov and / or after 11am Mass on Sun 27th Nov to write a card. Children very welcome to help. *Released prisoners have shared how much these cards meant to them.* Cards are provided, donations towards postage is most appreciated.

ST MARY'S PARISH CAROL SERVICE - Sunday 11th December, at 4pm

Come along to enjoy the music & hear more about projects supporting Christians in Bethlehem. All very welcome.

ADDITIONAL DECEMBER DATES FOR THE DIARY!

Wed 14th Dec, 6pm - St Stephen's School Carol Service at St Aidan's.
Mon 19th Dec, 2pm - St Mary's School Carol Service at St Mary's.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES - update!

Latest thinking is to switch the venues of our two Christmas Eve masses to accommodate car parking restrictions near St Aidan's.

* Christmas Eve Vigil - 4pm at St Mary's

* Christmas Eve Vigil - 6pm at St Aidan's

Christmas Day Mass - 10.30am at St Mary's

Booking is NOT required this year, but please remember to arrive early as we expect our Churches to be busy.

CONFESSION - Saturday 3rd December 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

CONFIRMATION COURSE

A confirmation course for students in school year 9 and above will run from January/February - July 2023 for those in the parishes of St Teresa's, St Anthony's, St Lawrences', St Vincent's, St Aidan's & St Mary's Forest Hall. Please contact Fr Shaun O'Neill / Fr Sean Hall or email Pat /Sarah on chris.henzell@gmail.com to sign up.

COLLECTIONS: w/c 20th November

ST. AIDAN'S - Loose plate: £220.00 / Envelopes: £62.00 / Hall Hire: £124.00

Clergy Training Fund: £150.00 / Catholic Youth: £40.00

ST. MARY'S - Loose plate: £304.40 / Envelopes: £30.00 / Donation: £200.00

Thank you all for your continued support and generosity.

JUSTICE & PEACE REFUGEE PROJECT WITH SVP, BLACKFRIARS

As the colder weather takes hold, donations of warm clothing, non perishable food (no pork please) and toiletries are even more desperately requested for those in need. Items can be left in the foyer at St Aidan's and in the hall at St Mary's. Thank you for your care & support.

FROM THE DIOCESE

MEDICAL LEAVE

On the advice of his doctor, Bishop Robert Byrne C.O. is taking some medical leave as of this weekend. Please keep him in your prayers.

ADVENT REFLECTIONS

The Vicariate for Faith & Mission have produced a series of reflections on the readings used throughout our Advent preparations. The reflections have been written by members of the Diocese and offer an opportunity to pause and reflect. The first and second week of Advent reflections can be downloaded from bit.ly/DHNAdvent2022 or by searching for #DHNAdvent2022 on Facebook. The second part of the Advent reflections will be available shortly.