



Welcome to our Parish Newsletter for:
St. Mary's R.C. Church and St. Aidan's R.C Church
Rev. Sean Hall
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www.staidansbenton.yolasite.com
Join us on Facebook - NE12Catholic

Sunday 3rd April 2022

The Fifth Sunday in Lent

After listening to today's Gospel, The Woman Taken in Adultery (John 8:1-11), consider Fr Henry Wansbrough's reflection.

Why this reading from John in the middle of the Year of Luke? All the other gospels during this Lenten season have been from Luke. The answer is that it is an independent, floating story which does not even fit into the Gospel of John. In early manuscripts of the gospels this story moves around and is found in various places before it becomes anchored as an example of Jesus' teachings just after he says, 'Our Law does not allow us to pass judgement on anyone without first giving them a hearing' (John 7:51).

It is appropriate for this Year of Luke because the tone of the story and the theme of welcome for the repentant sinner are both thoroughly Lukan, a theme which is constantly stressed in Luke's Gospel (for example, in the Parable of the Prodigal Son). What did Jesus write on the ground, or was it that he was just doodling to allow the accusers time to reflect on their self-righteousness?

The latter is certainly one of the main concerns of St Luke's Gospel, where it is made clear that you cannot be a follower of Christ without first admitting your sinfulness: when Peter meets Jesus, he tells Jesus to go away, because he (Peter) is a sinner; Zacchaeus recognises that he is a sinner and promises to make multiple restitution for his embezzlements; the woman at the supper weeps for her sins at Jesus' feet.

Why do you think Jesus wrote on the ground?

Do I find myself judging others too quickly and too often?

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

NEWS FROM OUR CHURCHES:

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Fr Hall will celebrate the sacrament in one to one confessions at:

St Aidan's on Saturday 9th April, 10-11 am.

With a Service of Reconciliation at St Mary's on Tues 12th April at 7pm.

ST MARY'S SECOND HAND BOOK STALL

A variety of pre-loved books available once again in the church hall.

40p per book or £1 for 3, please leave your donation in the box provided.

ST. MARY'S FRIDAY COFFEE MORINGS

In the church hall after 10am Mass. All are welcome, donations for the weekly fundraising raffle are always greatly received.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Fr. Hall has recorded several virtual presentations of the Stations of the Cross.

Watch via our website www.stmarysforesthall.co.uk

COLLECTIONS: W/C 27th March 2022

St. Aidan's - Loose Plate: £144.00 / Envelopes: £55.00 / Hall Hire: £46.00

Candles: £10.00

St. Mary's - Loose Plate: £188.70 / Envelopes: £162.60

CAFOD Family Fast Day total: £401.40

Friday Coffee Morning (Help for Ukraine): £60.00

Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

FROM THE DIOCESE:

LENTEN REFLECTIONS

Walk the forty Lent days with Jesus, the Son; a pilgrimage of grace in which we look to Him for new direction, for healing and for hope. Worry less about the pace you set for yourself and be open to the stirrings of the Holy Spirit in the silence of this holy season. Visit www.diocesehn.org.uk

LITURGY COURSES

The following will run in April and May:

Welcomers' Course / New Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion Course / Sacristans' Course. For more information about these courses & registration, contact adminfaith.mission@diocesehn.org.uk

MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK BEGINNING: 3rd April 2022

Sat. 2nd (St. Mary's)	5.30pm	People of the Parish
Sun. 3rd (St. Aidan's)	9.15am	People of the Parish
Sun. 3rd (St. Mary's)	11.00am	Laura Anne Heslop
Mon. 4th	***	NO MASS
Tues. 5th (St. Mary's)	10.00am	Elsie Carr
Wed. 6th (St. Aidan's)	10.00am	Holy Souls
Thurs. 7th (St. Aidan's)	10.00am	Dave Carr
Fri. 8th (St. Mary's)	10.00am	Stephen Thompson
Sat. 9th (St. Mary's)	5.30pm	Margaret Thompson
Sun. 10th (St. Aidan's)	9.15am	People of the Parish
Sun. 10th (St. Mary's)	11.00am	Joan Jackson

We ask that ALL except for those with genuine medical exemptions, continue to wear a suitable face covering while in our Churches. You must also sanitise your hands as you enter the buildings & not gather inside our Churches before or after Mass. Thank you.

Please pray for all those who are sick, and those whose anniversary occurs about this time:

Laura Heslop, Stephen Pepper, Gladys Barnes, William Connelly, Mary Wilson, Robert Hann, Anna Richards, Catherine Guthrie, Margaret Coyne, Violet Elsander, Norah Shannon, Leslie Cassidy, Marj Millan, George Walkinshaw, Margaret Moore, Kathleen Morris, Patricia Madden, Mary Stogden, Kenneth Joice, Ena Duffy, Norman Hoggins, Mary Cizakowsky, Bessie Lockey, Catherine Wilkes, Marie Baker, Lawrence Rutherford, Mary Jackson, Marion Copeland, Catherine Oswald, Kathleen Watts, Sarah Hunter, Edith McArdle, Margaret Pigg, Elizabeth Parry, Isabella Gordon, Alfred Harris, Doris Cunningham, Ian MacDonald, Susan Barrett.

KEEP IN TOUCH

Contact Fr Hall directly via 0191 268 4222 or seanehall1@gmail.com
Access weekend mass streaming via our Facebook page NE12Catholic.
Newsletters & Homilies can be viewed on www.stmarysforesthall.co.uk