

# This week

Day/Date	Services & meetings
<b>Saturday 31 December</b> <i>New Years Eve</i>	<b>No Morning Mass</b> <b>5.30 pm Vigil Mass at St Mary's:</b> <i>For those who died in 2022</i>
<b>Sunday 1 January 2023</b> <i>MARY, THE MOTHER of GOD</i>	<b>09.30 am Mass at St Wilfrid's:</b> <i>People of the parish</i> <b>11.00 am Mass St Mary's:</b> <i>Marjorie Harrop and Elaine Miller</i>
<b>Monday 2 January</b> <i>SS Basil and Gregory</i>	<b>No Mass</b> <b>10.00 am - Eucharistic Service at St Wilfrid's</b>
<b>Tuesday 3 January</b> <i>The Holy Name of Jesus</i>	<b>10.00am Mass:</b> <i>Joe and Ann Tindall</i>
<b>Wednesday 4 January</b>	<b>10.00 Mass:</b> <i>Paul Mary Chu Sinh</i>
<b>Thursday 5 January</b>	<b>10.15 am Requiem Mass at St Mary's for JASON KING</b> <b>7.00 pm Vigil Mass:</b> <i>People of the parish</i>
<b>Friday 6 January</b> <i>THE EPIPHANY of THE LORD</i>	<b>10.00 am Mass:</b> <i>Health of Adam Quarmby</i>
<b>Saturday 7 January</b>	<b>10 am Mass:</b> <i>Holy Souls</i> <b>5.30 pm Vigil Mass at St Mary's:</b> <i>People of the parish</i>
<b>Sunday 8 January</b> <i>THE BAPTISM of THE LORD</i>	<b>09.30 am Mass at St Wilfrid's:</b> <i>Lina and Luigi Quagliari</i> <b>11.00 am Mass St Mary's:</b> <i>Tommy and Veronica Loye</i>

## Quote

*"Your rewards in life will be in direct proportion to the value of your service to others"*  
- Brian Tracy

## The Parish of St Mary + St Wilfrid

In the Escomb Partnership of the Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle  
Fr Dennis Tindall, St Mary's, Vart Road, Bishop Auckland, DL14 6PQ Tel: (01388) 603431  
website: Parish of St Mary and St Wilfrid : Bulletin e-mail: office@stmaryandstwilfrid.org.uk  
To access streamed Masses: St Mary's Bishop Auckland YouTube [1 January, 2023](#)

# MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

## *Listen to your life.* *All moments are key moments*

I discovered that if you really keep your eye peeled to it and your ears open, if you really pay attention to it, even such a limited and limiting life as the one I was living on a mountain opened up onto extraordinary vistas. Taking your children to school and kissing your wife goodbye. Eating lunch with a friend. Trying to do a decent day's work. Hearing the rain patter against the window. There is no event so commonplace but that God is present within it, always hiddenly, always leaving you room to recognise him or not to recognise him, but all the more fascinatingly because of that, all the more compelling and hauntingly....

If I were called upon to state in a few words the essence of everything I was trying to say both as a novelist and as a preacher, it would be something like this: Listen to your life. See it for the fathomless mystery that it is. In the boredom and pain of it no less than in the excitement and gladness: touch, smell your way to the holy and hidden heart of it because in the last analysis all moments are key moments, and life itself is grace.

- **Frederick Buechner**



## Confession Times St Mary's

By request and by simple arrangement.

**New Year** - I suspect we're all happy enough to leave the old year behind us. Unfortunately the only clear break is on the calendar and the issues of 2022 roll on into this new year too. But it's an opportunity to set our sights on positive aims and plans. It will bring us new possibilities as well as challenges and our personal outlook makes a difference to how we greet each day. Go for the best and intend our community to flourish.

Thank you for last year. For prayers, your cards and gifts and your support for the good causes we serve. Have a good new year. We live it together.

**Epiphany** - is a new sight. It's showing God to the world - signified by the three wise men or kings coming to see the one who is the real star. May we learn more this year about the God who has come among us, who has spoken to us and continues to do so. We meet him in our prayers and Masses and he walks with us, hidden in all that's ordinary and all that isn't. Come and celebrate on Thursday evening or Friday morning. It's a holy day of obligation for us.

**Holy Hour at St Wilfrid's** - there will be no Holy Hour on 2 January.

**Craft Club** - there will be no craft club on 2 January. The next meeting will be on 9 January.

**St Mary's Piety Shop** - We have a few cards and inexpensive "Wee Gifts" left for sale - why not pop in and have a look. We are also looking for a new home for a much loved set of Nativity Figures - could you house these figures this Christmas and give them another loving home for many years?

**Churches with warm spaces during winter** - The Bishop Auckland Fellowship of Christian Churches have made arrangements to have safe and warm places where individuals can come to socialize over a cuppa and biscuits.

**Woodhouse Close Church**, Proudfoot Drive, DL14 6PD - open Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 9.30 am to 2.30pm.

**The Parish Centre**, Middlewood Avenue, St Helen's, DL14 9DJ - the lounge is open on Tuesdays from 10am - 3pm and Thursdays from 11am - 2pm.

**The Ark** - at the back of St Helen's Church DL14 9DN—open on a Wednesday from 10.30am to 4pm.

**Bishop Auckland Baptist Church**, Cockton Hill Road, DL14 6AH, from week beginning 31st October their Church will be open Tuesdays and Wednesdays 10am - 3pm, Thursdays—Wellbeing Café, from 9.30am including a light lunch from 12.30pm.

**St Mary's Catholic Church**, Vart Road, DL14 6PQ—Thursdays and Fridays 11am to 2 pm.

**Bishop Auckland Methodist Church**, Cockton Hill Road, DL14 6DN, Monday and Fridays 10—3 pm.

**Coffee morning/Warm Space** - Thursdays and Fridays in St Mary's Meeting Room 11am—2pm. Please see the helpers rota at the back of church. Any problems ring Zita on 01388 604926 or 07722219173.

**SVP 200 CLUB** - we are advised by SVP that the 200 club will restart in 2023 after a 3 year break due to Covid. Is anyone interested in dealing with this for the Parish. The club arrangements are simple. Each member pays £12 in advance for a years membership. The club organiser collects the money and passes this on to a contact in Durham. There is a monthly draw and the contact will ensure that the prize winners list is circulated to all parishes. The proceeds of this venture go to help feed the homeless at Vinnies Cafe in Newcastle. The 200 club coordinator is at the end of a telephone and will help and advise as necessary. Anyone interested please contact Fr Dennis or John Stockton.

Please pray for the health of:

*Irene Welford  
Mrs Aitken  
Val Mundell  
Joan Lightfoot  
Michael Nicholson  
Adam Hudspeth  
Christopher Browne  
Tyler Quinn  
Norah Hutchinson  
Robin Davis  
Angela Graham  
Frank Ridley  
Jacob Thomas  
Charlotte Thomas  
Teresa Brown  
Christina Marsh  
Kathy Lloyd  
Roman Banks  
Jane Hardy (Kirby)  
Margaret Pattenden  
Mary Curry  
Adam Quarmby  
Alan Harrison*

Please pray for

**JASON KING (51) and  
NEIL SEAGRAVE (50)**

**who have died.  
May they rest in  
peace.**



Scripture Readings for this week's Masses:

Sun	Numbers 6: 22-27	Ps 66	Galatians 4: 4-7	Luke 2: 16-21
Mon	1 John 2: 22-28	Ps 97	John 1: 19-28	
Tues	1 John 2: 29-3:6	Ps 97	John 1: 29-34	
Wed	1 John 3: 7-10	Ps 97	John 1: 35-42	
Thurs	1 John 3: 11-21	Ps 99	John 1: 43-51	
Fri	Isaiah 60: 1-6	Ps 71	Ephesians 3: 2-3, 5-6	Matthew 2: 1-12
Sat	1 John 5: 14-21	Ps 149	John 2: 1-11	
Sun	Isaiah 42: 1-4, 6-7	Ps 28	Acts 10: 34-38	Matthew 3: 13-17

**Care for Creation** - the wonder and drama of space, galaxies, planets and stars is mind-bending. We may be fascinated by the sheer numbers and dimensions of what's going on in our own galaxy and beyond in the whole cosmos - it's all God's creation. Our part is to look after and responsibly protect our Earth. We've damaged it severely and it needs our deliberate intervention.

**The Laudato Si group** are planning to hold a food/cookery event as part of this year's Season of creation. If anyone has any expertise in cookery or recipe ideas and would like to be involved in a small group of us, please get in touch via email - [jeanniemariehardy@gmail.com/mobile](mailto:jeanniemariehardy@gmail.com/mobile) Tel: 07708108119, or with Eileen Thornton at St Mary's.

**From the Parish Laudato Si Group (Care of Our Common Home)**

As we are now moving into the season of Advent and preparation for Christmas, we would like to ask parishioners to consider your purchases and if possible reduce buying plastic packaging.

The Facts about plastic:

- 1 Plastic pollution is a huge problem and made worse by excess consumption
- 2 Microplastics are being found in food and have been detected in human blood.
- 3 A truck load of plastic enters the ocean every single minute and the UK produces more waste per person than almost any other country. Also, Christian Aid is campaigning to support the funding for countries devastated by the climate changes. We will be placing a small Christmas tree (and poster) at the back of each church and a prayer person template to write on. We would like to ask people to write a prayer supporting this work and place it on the tree during the season of Advent.

**The Foodbank** - A huge thank you for the donations received last week. **The following items are needed this week, UHT milk, rice and packet custard. Help with funds for assisting with gas and electricity needs.**

Anything you can do to help people with food, heating and lighting is a most practical way of showing love and humanity. Funds to help folks with heating are already urgent. Your help is invaluable. No one should be living in a house with no heating or be unable to put a light on, boil a kettle or warm up food. Thank you.

**Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2023** Can you help the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes next year? We need nurses, healthcare assistants, doctors and volunteers to provide care to the assisted pilgrims who travel with us. Previous helpers have found it is a rewarding and spiritually uplifting week. We plan to travel on Friday 28th July. If you would like to find out more information please email or look at our website <https://www.hexhamandnewcastlelourdespilgrimage.co.uk/> or email [lourdes@rcdhn.org.uk](mailto:lourdes@rcdhn.org.uk)