

Fr David Coxon will be here from the weekend of 7 & 8 September. I know you will make him welcome. Let's arrange to have a simple get together on the Monday evening of 9th September with some food as an enjoyable way to facilitate introductions. More on this later. Thank you.

Caring for children - The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC) that we support in January through the White Flower collection, has asked that we petition the new government to end the two-child benefit cap. Sadly, one of the biggest drivers of abortion in the UK is **poverty**, and one particular policy which penalises families and contributes to poverty is the current government policy on Universal Benefits. Some abortion providers themselves have identified that the government's punitive two-child Universal Credit limit is 'a **significant factor**' in many women deciding to abort their children. Can I ask if you would sign one of the petition cards while you are here in church and leave it here so we can send the signed cards back to SPUC. Thank you.

The Foodbank - a huge thank you for the donations received last week. **The following items are needed this week, small tinned meats, pasta sauce and soup. 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 fuel costs 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.

SVP raffle we have recently received tickets for the above Annual Raffle and the prizes start at £5000 for first prize and £1000 for second, plus additional prizes with all details on the sheet on the porch notice board. Tickets will be on sale most likely next Sunday, 3rd August, and throughout that month. The draw date is 26 September. Please give the raffle your usual support.

The Second Collection this weekend is for the Missionary work of the Church. Thank you.

Hour of Prayer at St Wilfrid's - on the first three Wednesdays of August (7th, 14th and 21st) at 5.00pm there will be an hour of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament in the Mass Room (entry via the front door of the presbytery). No need to come for the

Please pray for the health of:

*Mrs Aitken
Joan Lightfoot
Michael Nicholson
Adam Hudspeth
Christopher Browne
Tyler Quinn
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
Eileen Kelly
John Green
Lynette Stott
Mary Oldfield
Brenda Dawes
Jayne Littlefair*



Scripture Readings for this week's Masses:

Sun	Acts 12: 1-11	Ps 33	2 Timothy 4: 6-8, 17-18	Matthew 16: 13-19
Mon	Jeremiah 28: 1-17	Ps 118	Matthew 14: 13-21	
Tues	Daniel 7: 9-10, 13-14	Ps 96	2 Peter 1: 16-19	Mark 9: 2-10
Wed	Jeremiah 31: 1-7	Jeremiah 31: 10-13	Matthew 15: 21-28	
Thurs	Jeremiah 31: 31-34	Ps 50	Matthew 16: 13-23	
Fri	2 Corinthians 6: 4-10	Ps 30	John 15: 18-21	
Sat	2 Corinthians 9: 6-10	Ps 111	John 12: 24-26	
Sun	1 Kings 19: 4-8	Ps 33	Ephesians 4: 30-5:2	John 6: 41-51

whole hour - just join us for as long as you like.

Laudato Si - A big THANK YOU to everyone who completed our annual environmental survey. We had a good response this year. Thank you to Tom Bowman who has again collated the results and put them into a display which will be available shortly in both churches. If anyone has any comments they would like to give us, we would be very happy to receive alongside any suggestions for ways we can help with care of our environment.

Plant Swap - this was part of the Laudato Si week in May. Thanks to all who took part in bringing and exchanging plants.

Care of Creation will be celebrated in September and we are hoping to have a parish event of displays. Anyone interested would be most welcome to get involved, more information to follow.

Our wild flower garden is now in full bloom and part of encouraging bio-diversity. Please take a look at the back of the church. Many Thanks to Ernie for his work on this.

Bible Alive - August copies of Bible Alive are available now to those on the list. Price £1.50.

Pope Francis recognises 2025 as a year of Jubilee and asks that 2024 be a Year of Prayer leading up to it.

Little Sisters of the Poor - Used postage stamps (any period or country) foreign currency (notes & coins from any country or period), old, broken or unwanted pieces of gold & silver (even earring backs) & military medals which no longer have meaning for the families help the Sisters and residents of St Joseph's Home in Newcastle.

World Peace - please have a space in your personal prayer for peace in the war zones of the world and for the plight of innocent children and civilians. Thank you.

This week

	Services & meetings
Saturday 3 August <i>St Oswald (King)</i>	10.00 am Mass: <i>People of the parish</i> 5.30 pm Vigil Mass: <i>Irene Welford</i>
Sunday 4 August <i>18th Sunday of the Year</i>	09.30 am Mass at St Wilfrid's: <i>Caterina Margherita Ghetta Danielon</i> 11.00 am Mass at St Mary's: <i>Special Intention</i>
Monday 5 August	No Mass 10.00 am <i>Eucharistic Service at St Wilfrid's</i> 1.00 pm <i>Craft Club at St Mary's</i>
Tuesday 6 August <i>TRANSFIGURATION of THE LORD</i>	No Mass
Wednesday 7 August	No Mass 5.00 pm <i>Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament at St Wilfrid's</i>
Thursday 8 August <i>St Dominic</i>	No Mass
Friday 9 August <i>ST TERESA BENEDICTA OF THE CROSS</i>	No Mass
Saturday 10 August <i>ST LAWRENCE (Deacon)</i>	No morning Mass 5.30 pm Vigil Mass: <i>For the health of Michael Robinson</i>
Sunday 11 August <i>19th Sunday of the Year</i>	09.30 am Mass at St Wilfrid's: <i>People of the parish</i> 11.00 am Mass at St Mary's: <i>Holy Souls</i>

Quotation

"The one who gives thanks for the gift of yesterday will receive another gift tomorrow"
- Sierra Leone proverb

The Parish of St Mary + St Wilfrid

In the Escomb Partnership of the Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle
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To access streamed Masses: St Mary's Bishop Auckland YouTube **4, August 24**

18th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Working Together

Only God creates - but we are called to enhance that creation.
Only God gives life - but we are called to cherish life.
Only God makes things grow - but we are called to nourish that growth.
Only God gives faith - but we are called to be signs of God for each other.
Only God gives love - but we are called to care for each other.
Only God gives hope - but we are called to give each person reason for hope.
Only God gives power - but we are called to get things going.
Only God can bring peace - but we are called to build bridges.
Only God brings happiness - but we are invited to be joyful.
Only God is the way - but we are called to show the way to others.
Only God is the light - but we are called to make that light shine in the world.
Only God makes miracles happen - but we must offer our loaves and fishes.
Only God can do the impossible - but it's up to us to do what is possible.

Safeguarding

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (CSSA) and the Diocese's policies and procedures at all times.

Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives are Jeannie Hardy for St Mary's and Fiona Ottewell for St Wilfrid's or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding Team can be contacted on 0191 2433305 or at safeguarding@diocesehn.org.uk

Confession Times

St Mary's

Saturdays at 10.45-11.30 and by request.

St Wilfrid's

before Sunday Mass