

Fr Tony Cornforth (01325 313611) will be conducting funerals during my holiday and attending to any emergencies. I'm very grateful. Grateful also to Frs Gordon Ryan and Paul Tully for celebrating our weekend Masses for us.

A Listening Exercise - The Diocese has created opportunities for anyone to share thoughts and concerns for the future in our Diocese. There are times and dates for priests, for religious sisters and brothers and for parishioners. The dates for parishioners are:

11 July at St Bede's Church Hall, Bedlington. NE22 5TZ

12 July at St Michael's Church Hall, Houghton le Spring, DH5 8NF

13 July at English Martyrs Church, Stockton. TS19 9BY

The meetings start at 7pm prompt and finish at 8.30pm. Please attend one of these if you would like to contribute or to share in the listening exercise. Thank you.

Marie Curie Group - are holding a Garden Tea Party on Sunday 30 July at Woodside House, Witton Park from 1pm to 5pm. Admission £5. See poster at back of church.

Plant Swap - WOW - what a generous Parish we have. Plants for swapping keep coming - please help yourselves. But please NO MORE PLANT POTS. Storage is overflowing. Thank you all very much.

The Family Contact Centre provides contact with children for separated parents/grand parents. It takes place on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month. Volunteers only attend for 8 Saturdays across the year. This takes place at the Methodist Church Hall. We are looking for volunteers. Please contact Joanne Walton on 07887 954943.

As the year moves on could we be thinking about social and spiritual events and services to express what we want to say to God and to each other. If you don't say, we don't know!

The Big Cafod Walk - This year Cafod has set the challenge of a walk, 200km over 40 days, to raise money to fight global poverty. As a parish we are frequently asking for support for local causes and other urgent needs of people. We appreciate the generosity of everyone, but if you feel you could support this appeal with whatever you could manage that would be great.

The Foodbank - A huge thank you for the donations received last week. **The following items are needed this week, tea,**

Please pray for the health of:

*Irene Welford
Mrs Aitken
Val Mundell
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
Patrick Fogarty*



Scripture Readings for this week's Masses:

Sun	Zechariah 9: 9-10	Ps 144	Romans 8: 9, 11-13	Matthew 11: 25-30
Mon:	Genesis 28: 10-22	Ps 90	Matthew 9: 18-26	
Tues	Proverbs 2: 1-9	Ps 33	Matthew 19: 27-29	
Wed	Genesis 41: 55-57, 42: 5-7, 17-24	Ps 32	Matthew 10: 1-7	
Thurs	Genesis 44: 18-21, 23-29, 45: 1-5	Ps 104	Matthew 10: 7-15	
Fri	Genesis 46: 1-7, 28-30	Ps 36	Matthew 10: 16-23	
Sat	Genesis 49: 29-33, 50: 15-26	Ps 104	Matthew 10: 24-38	
Sun	Isaiah 55: 10-11	Ps 64	Romans 8: 18-23	Matthew 13: 1-23

tinned vegetables, rice pudding, pasta sauce and tinned fruit. 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. Thank you.

Quiz Night - Thursday 13 July in St Mary's meeting room. Doors open at 7 pm quiz starts at 7.30 pm.

SVP Summer Raffle - tickets for the SVP Summer Raffle are now on sale. Tickets are £1 each or £5 for a book of 5. Prizes are £5,000, £1000 and 15 prizes of £100, so plenty to be won. Ann Carney will be dealing with this at St Mary's. We hope to have some books to sell at St Wilfrid's. This to be arranged.

Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies (CCRS) 2023-2024

The Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies is managed and awarded by the Board of Religious Studies on behalf of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. The programme seeks to ensure that participants have a basic understanding of the central beliefs of the Catholic faith. This programme is available for catechists, lay leaders and other adults wishing to deepen their understanding of the Catholic faith and Catholic education, serving teachers in Catholic and other schools, and teachers in training preparing to take up posts in Catholic schools. The CCRS course programme is now available for 2023-2024 on the Diocesan website: <https://diocesehn.org.uk/education/continuing-professional-development-and-formation/#ccrs>

If anyone would like further information, they can contact Eamonn Diffley at the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle, Department for Education on 0191 243 3313 or email education@diocesehn.org.uk

This week

	Services & meetings
Saturday 8 July	No morning Mass 5.30 pm Vigil Mass: <i>Holy Souls</i>
Sunday 9 July <i>14th Sunday of the year</i>	09.30 am Mass at St Wilfrid's: <i>Thanksgiving (B)</i> 11.00 am Mass St Mary's: <i>Fresh start intention</i>
Monday 10 July	No Mass 10.00 am <i>Eucharistic Service at St Wilfrid's</i> 1.00 pm <i>Craft Club</i>
Tuesday 11 July <i>ST BENEDICT</i>	No Mass 2.00 pm <i>Holy Hour at St Wilfrid's</i>
Wednesday 12 July	No Mass
Thursday 13 July	No Mass 7pm for 7.30 pm <i>Quiz Night</i>
Friday 14 July	No Mass
Saturday 15 July <i>St Bonaventure</i>	No morning Mass 5.30 pm Vigil Mass: <i>Eric Walsh</i>
Sunday 16 July <i>14th Sunday of the year</i>	09.30 am Mass at St Wilfrid's: <i>Arthur Oldfield</i> 11.00 am (Family Mass) Mass St Mary's: <i>People of the parish</i>

Quote:

*"You know you're getting old when people tell you how well you look",
- Alan King*

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 [9 July, 2023](#)

14th SUNDAY of the YEAR

Be still and know

During the years that we call his 'public' life, Jesus was a very busy man. Great crowds followed him, pushing and shoving to get closer to him, hoping for healing or a word of wisdom. He and his disciples did not even have time to eat, Mark tells us. They would try to get away to a quiet place to rest a while, but the crowds would follow them and, in his usual caring manner, Jesus would give them his attention once again. And yet, Jesus seems to have experienced *a profound need for silence and solitude*.

If we wish to follow Jesus, we need to follow him first and foremost into the desert. There is no way that you and I today can enter into the spirit of Jesus' Way without creating some space in our lives for silence and solitude. Opportunities for doing this will vary from person to person.

All the world's geniuses and truly wise men and women benefit from lengthy periods of solitude. To reflect, to discover ourselves and to search for God, we need to spend some time alone.

In today's world of incessant noise we need *silence*. We need to find a way of sometimes disconnecting from the relentless flow of words, sounds, and images that bombard us day and night. More important still, we need an inner silence that switches off the inner stream of thoughts, images, and feelings. Without this, authentic spirituality and spiritual transformation would not be possible.

- **Albert Nolan**



Confession Times **St Mary's**

By request and by simple arrangement.