

# This week

| Day/Date                                     | Services & meetings   |
|--|---|
| Saturday 11 March                            | 10.00 am Mass: <i>For our young people</i><br>5.30 pm Vigil Mass at St Mary's: <i>Paul Mary Chu Sinh</i>  |
| Sunday 12 March<br><i>3rd Sunday of Lent</i> | 09.30 am Mass at St Wilfrid's: <i>Mary Curry's recovery</i><br>11.00 am Mass St Mary's: <i>People of the parish</i>                                   |
| Monday 13 March                              | No Mass<br>10.00 am <i>Eucharistic Service at St Wilfrid's</i><br>1.00 pm <i>Craft Group at St Mary's</i>   |
| Tuesday 14 March                             | 10.00 am Mass: <i>Special Intention (P)</i><br>2.00 pm <i>Holy Hour at St Wilfrid's</i>   |
| Wednesday 15 March                           | 10.00 am Mass: <i>Eric Walsh</i><br>6.30 pm <i>Laudato Si Meeting at St Mary's</i>  |
| Thursday 16 March                            | 10.00 am Mass: <i>Antony Chu Van Xuan &amp; Cecilia Pham Thi Hong</i>   |
| Friday 17 March<br><i>ST PATRICK</i>         | 8.15 Mass in St John's School Chapel<br>10.00 am Mass: <i>Holy Souls</i><br>6.30 pm <i>Stations of the Cross at St Wilfrid's</i>                      |
| Saturday 18 March<br><i>ST JOSEPH</i>        | Morning Mass at 8.30 am: <i>Holy Souls</i><br>9.30 and 10.30 am: <b>First Confessions</b><br>5.30 pm Vigil Mass at St Mary's: <i>Fr Paddy McMahon</i> |
| Sunday 19 March<br><i>4th Sunday of Lent</i> | 09.30 am Mass at St Wilfrid's: <i>People of the parish</i><br>11.00 am Mass St Mary's: <i>Margery Harrop</i>  |

## Quote

*"Any fool can know. The point is to understand".*  
- **Albert Einstein**

## 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 [12 March, 2023](#)

# 3rd SUNDAY OF LENT

## Another Prayer for Lent

You, Lord Jesus, knew great power, to heal, to transform, to proclaim the reign of God. So you met great temptations.

The wrong way, glittering and impossible, was open; you could rule if you chose, in majesty and wonder, more victorious than Alexander, more imperial than Caesar. But you said No, simply, decisively, for ever, for us.

We pray for the Church, tempted like its Head. When the Church seeks political power, *Jesus, stay with us.* When the Church longs to become wealthy, *Jesus, stay with us.*

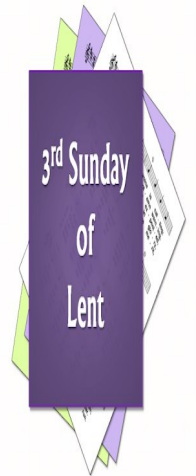
When the Church strives to impress with splendour, *Jesus, give us simplicity.*

When the Church wanders from the way of sacrifice, *Jesus, hold us.*

When the Church listens to the call for cheap grace, *Jesus, keep us always in your way.*

Holy Spirit of God, enable us to respond to temptation with the strength of your Word within us, so that we may hold firm to the calling and take your better way in faithfulness.

- **Bernard Thorogood**



## Confession Times St Mary's

By request and by simple arrangement.

**Cost of living** - There's shocking new research about Bishop Auckland. Funded by the 38 Degrees community, it reveals how the cost of living crisis is affecting every single constituency in Britain - including ours. From missing rent payments to being unable to afford heating, it tells a bleak story. **Here's how people are struggling in Bishop Auckland: 36% couldn't afford to turn the heating on when cold in the past month, 17% missed a rent payment in the last six months, 31% are worried about having to use a food bank in the next year and 44% of people's mental health has worsened due to the cost of living crisis. This is us. We must continue to help.**

**Passover Meal** - We plan to celebrate the Passover Meal again this year at St Wilfrid's on Thursday 30th March, 7.00pm. It's a great way of reminding ourselves of the way in which God has saved us and set us free - a unique mixture of the spiritual and the social. Space is limited, so we need to operate a ticket system - a donation of £6 is asked to cover costs. Tickets are at St Wilfrid's, or phone Michael Broadbent (01388 488569).

**St Mary's Church Cleaning** - As Easter is quite early this year we have decided to combine the March clean ( Group 1 due to clean on 20th ) to a joint clean on Monday April 3rd. If anyone not on our regular rota would like to come along and help it would make for much lighter work. We will then have a lovely clean church for the Holy Week ahead of us. All welcome - if your children are off school we have plenty of dusters and benches to polish. Many thanks.

**Turkey-Syria Earthquake** - We're all shocked by the devastation and loss of life, homes and livelihoods in Turkey and Syria through the earthquakes. The issues and needs are enormous and CAFOD's Emergency Response Teams are there assessing needs on the ground. CAFOD has already been working in Syria for years providing humanitarian support to the millions of needy people caught up in the conflict there for the last 12 years. This tragedy adds to an already desperate crisis. If you would like to donate, we'll send on any funds in your name to help with emergency food, water, shelter and winter kits such as blankets and heating materials. Thank you.

**Let's get together for lunch** - come and enjoy a simple meal, in the company of friends, every Wednesday 12 - 1.30 on:

Wednesday 15 March at Bishop Auckland Methodist Church DL4 6EN

Wednesday 22 March at Dene Valley Methodist Church DL14 8UB

Wednesday 29 March at St Anne's Anglican Church DL14 7NJ

**The Journey of Faith** - many people do not join the Church because no one ever asks them. Is there anyone in your family or acquaintances to whom you might raise a question about whether they may be interested in learning more about faith, about God, about the Church? You could be a great help in making an opportunity for the Holy Spirit to enter and initiate a journey of faith in an individual's life. I'm always happy to help and to answer any questions.

**The Big Cafod Walk** - This year Cafod has set the Lent 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

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  
Eileen Kelly*

Please pray for  
**JOHN DUNN (85)**  
who has died.  
May he rest in  
peace.



Scripture Readings for this week's Masses:

|       |                            |        |                         |                          |
|-------|----------------------------|--------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Sun   | Genesis 12: 1-4            | Ps 32  | 2 Timothy 1:8-10        | Matthew 17: 1-9          |
| Mon   | 2 Kings 5: 1-15            | Ps 41  | Luke 4: 24-30           |                          |
| Tues  | Daniel 3: 25, 34-43        | Ps 24  | Matthew 18: 21-35       |                          |
| Wed   | Deuteronomy 4: 1, 5-9      | Ps 147 | Matthew 5: 17-19        |                          |
| Thurs | Jeremiah 7: 23-28          | Ps 94  | Luke 11: 14-23          |                          |
| Fri   | Jeremiah 1: 4-9            | Ps 116 | Acts 13: 46-49          | Luke 10: 1-12, 17-20     |
| Sat   | 2 Samuel 7: 4-5, 12-14, 16 | Ps 88  | Romans 4: 13, 16-18, 22 | Matthew 1: 16, 18-21, 24 |
| Sun   | 1 Samuel 16: 6-7, 10-13    | Ps 22  | Ephesians 5: 8-14       | John 9: 1-41             |

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.

**Easter Eggs** - Along with St Wilfrid's we will be selling "The Real Easter Egg" made by The Meaningful Chocolate Company. Supermarkets are not allowing this egg to be sold in any stores this year, so as not to offer other competition to their main suppliers. Around 80 million eggs will be sold in this part of the world - yet this is the only egg that tells the Easter Story. By using Fairtrade chocolate they ensure producers get a fair price allowing them to improve their communities. The chocolate is palm oil free and no plastic used in the packaging. They are more expensive than many you can buy in a supermarket at £3.99 each - but in buying them we help others. Stock is limited so if you would like one please ask. Many thanks.

**The Foodbank** - A huge thank you for the donations received last week. **The following items are needed this week, UHT milk, pasta sauce, hot dogs and pot noodles . 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.

**Quiz Night** - Just to say a BIG Thank you to everyone again for a great night. Thank you as always for helping set up, clean up, prize donations, tea making duties, Quiz Master extraordinaire. We raised £137.

**Laudato Si** - We have our next Laudato Si meeting on Wednesday 15th March at 6:30pm, in St Mary's Meeting room everyone is welcome. Mark Maughan from CAFOD will join us.

**St. Mary's Easter Windowsills** - Would you like to take a windowsill and decorate it using the Easter theme? You could do this on your own or with the family, a friend or a group. You could think of something along the many readings of Lent or theme it over the major Easter celebrations. You can produce your arrangement using recycled goods, hand made items or flowers. There are lots of ideas to be found online. We have sixteen spaces to fill, so put your name down on the list at the back of church. We will open the church 11am - 1pm on Easter Saturday for you to bring your contributions. Give it a try it's fun and makes our church look even more beautiful. Many thanks.