

**The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** begins on Thursday. The Main Service, to which all our local churches are invited, is at St Mary's next Sunday afternoon at 3pm. The special speaker is Bishop Paul Butler, the Bishop of Durham, who retires in February this year. This is one of his last engagements. I hope many of our parishioners will attend and continue to pray for the unity of all believing Christians and their churches.

**This weekend** there will be an opportunity to support the White Flower annual appeal. This helps the work done by the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children who defend the sacredness of life before birth and in old age.

**Confession times** Amongst many other things, COVID changed our arrangements for individual confession. You may wish to note that at St Mary's confession times will re-commence on Saturdays from 10.45 to 11.30am and, as always, by request.

**The Foodbank** - A huge thank you for the donations received last week. **The following items are needed this week, tinned tomatoes, bars of soap, pasta sauce and tinned spaghetti. 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.

**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.

**Pope Francis'** brilliant document on caring for creation (Laudato Si) is now 8 years old! Not enough has happened over this time so he has written a further document called Laudate Deum (meaning 'Praise God') about the climate crisis. We have some copies at £4.95 at the back of church.

**Laudato Si** - Please watch out for the entertaining and informative 'quick water quiz' which the Laudato Si team has prepared to increase our appreciation of water. The leaflets will be handed out and spare copies left at the back of the churches. Any comments text Ernie on 07864807529.

Please pray for the health of:

*Irene Welford  
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  
Senara Wilton  
Joan Vasey  
Patrick Fogarty  
John Green*

**Please pray for**

**MARIA SMITH (89) and  
CATHLEEN RITSON  
(84)**

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



Scripture Readings for this week's Masses:

Sun	1 Samuel 3: 3-10, 19	Ps 39	1 Corinthians 6: 13-15, 17-20	John1: 35-42
Mon	1 Samuel 15:16-23	Ps 49	Mark 2: 18-22	
Tues	1 Samuel 16: 1-13	Ps 88	Mark 2: 23-28	
Wed	1 Samuel 17: 32-33, 37, 40-51	Ps 143	Mark 3: 1-6	
Thurs	1 Samuel 18: 6-9, 19: 1-7	Ps 55	Mark 3: 7-12	
Fri	1 Samuel 24: 3-21	Ps 56	Mark 3: 13-19	
Sat	2 Samuel 1: 1-4,11-12,17,19,23-27	Ps 79	Mark 3: 20-21	
Sun	Jonah 3: 1-5, 10	Ps 24	1 Corinthians 7: 29-31	Mark 1:14-20

**Dates for your diary** - Firstly Big Garden Birdwatch, 26th - 28th January. Please consider taking part in this important annual survey. Information is provided at the back of each church in the parish. Secondly, Cafod have now advertised a Big Lent Walk. Individuals or groups can undertake 200km (5km per day over 40 days) and raise sponsor money for Cafod, and thirdly there will be a Bulb planting and coffee morning, this is planned for Saturday 9th March. More info to follow.

**Bible Alive** – January's copies are available at the back of church. Please collect yours if you ordered a monthly copy. Tick against your name on the list. £1.50. Thank you.

**The Faith Museum visit** - this has now been arranged for Thursday 7th March and will consist of a talk from the Curator, lunch in the library and then exploration of the museum. Details later, but it will cost less for those who have an annual pass from the Auckland Project, so you might think of getting one. Save the date!

**SVP Club** - if you are a member your £12 subscription (for one number for the year) is now due for 2024. If you would like to join as a new member you are very welcome. For more details of the club please see the poster on the left side notice board as you enter church. Please give your money to Zita or leave it in an envelope clearly marked. Many thanks.

**Vocations Alert** - "*Jesus said to his disciples: "Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come."*

Is the Lord awakening you or anyone you know to consider a vocation to the priesthood? Speak to your Parish Priest or contact the Vocations Promoter: 01207 299012 or [vocationspromoter@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:vocationspromoter@diocesehn.org.uk)

**The Northern Cross** - January's Northern Cross is here today.

**St. Mary's Church Cleaning** - January Group 2 - The Nevin Family. Any problems please see Zita.

# This week

	Services & meetings
<b>Saturday 13 January</b>	10.00 am Mass: <i>People of the parish</i> 5.30 pm Vigil Mass: <i>Eric Walsh</i>
<b>Sunday 14 January</b> <i>2nd Sunday of the Year</i>	09.30 am Mass at St Wilfrid's: <i>Thanksgiving (B)</i> 11.00 am Mass at St Mary's: <i>Bridie Clinton</i>
<b>Monday 15 January</b>	No Mass 1.00 pm: <i>Craft Group at St Mary's</i>
<b>Tuesday 16 January</b>	No Mass
<b>Wednesday 17 January</b> <i>St Anthony of Egypt</i>	10.00 am Mass: <i>Special Intention</i>
<b>Thursday 18 January</b>	10.00 am Mass: <i>Brian Donlan</i>
<b>Friday 19 January</b>	8.15 am Mass in St John's School Chapel 10.00 am Mass: <i>Anne Phelan</i>
<b>Saturday 20 January</b>	10.00 am Mass: <i>Ned Bowen</i> 5.30 pm Vigil Mass: <i>Fedor Feyczuk</i>
<b>Sunday 21 January</b> <i>3rd 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>Tommy Cairns</i> 3.00 pm Christian Unity Service at St Mary's

**Quote:**

*"Hypocrite: the man who murdered both his parents and pleaded for mercy on the grounds that he was an orphan"*  
- **Abraham Lincoln**

## 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 **14 January, 2024**

# 2nd SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

### It's PEACE SUNDAY 2024

### PRAYER

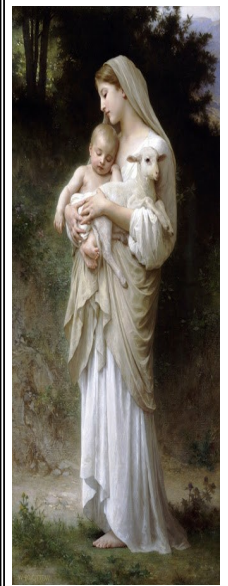
*God, you created us and you sustain us, we thank you for the gifts of creativity you have given us, for the ability to explore science and understand your creation.*

*We ask your forgiveness for the times we have used science for evil and not for good, for war and not for peace.*

*Make us vigilant as we develop technology, that violence and discrimination may not take root, that injustice and inequality will not be fuelled, that the poor and vulnerable will not pay the cost.*

*May all that we create contribute to peace and justice.*

**AMEN**



**Confession Times**  
St Mary's

Saturdays at  
10.45-11.30  
and by request.