

# This week

	Services & meetings
<b>Saturday 14 August</b> St Maximilian Kolbe	<b>10 am Mass:</b> <i>People of the Parish</i> <b>12.00 Wedding of REBECCA BLENKINSOPP and LIAM HART</b> <b>5.30 pm Vigil Mass:</b> <i>Jim Arthurs (90th birthday)</i>
<b>Sunday 15 August</b> THE ASSUMPTION of OUR LADY	<b>9.30 am Mass at St Wilfrid's:</b> <i>The Dinsley Family</i> <b>11.00 am Mass at St Mary's:</b> <i>Chris Bartley and Family</i>
<b>Monday 16 August</b>	<b>No Mass</b> <b>10.00 am Eucharistic Service at St Wilfrid's</b> <b>11.00 - 1.00 - St Mary's open for private prayer</b>
<b>Tuesday 17 August</b>	<b>10 am Mass:</b> <i>Joe and Ann Tindall</i>
<b>Wednesday 18 August</b>	<b>10 am Mass:</b> <i>Joyce Pavalaranie Pio</i> <b>11.00 - 1.00 - St Mary's open for private prayer</b>
<b>Thursday 19 August</b> St Oswin	<b>10.00 am Mass:</b> <i>Elaine Miller</i> <b>1.30 pm Funeral service for EDWIN BLANCHARD at St Mary's</b>
<b>Friday 20 August</b>	<b>10.00 am Mass:</b> <i>A family Intention</i> <b>11.00 - 1.00 - St Mary's open for private prayer</b>
<b>Saturday 21 August</b> DEDICATION of ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL	<b>10 am Mass:</b> <i>Laura Rea</i> <b>5.30 pm Vigil Mass:</b> <i>The Ottewell Family</i>
<b>Sunday 22 August</b> 21st Sunday of the Year	<b>9.30 am Mass at St Wilfrid's:</b> <i>Deceased of the Paice &amp; Donovan families</i> <b>11.00 am Mass at St Mary's:</b> <i>Fr Peter Jarrett and Fr Michael Finnigan</i>

## Quote:

"Genius is eternal patience"  
- Michelangelo

## 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 [15 August 2021](#)

# THE ASSUMPTION OF OUR LADY

## Jesus and Women

It is interesting that it is women who were privileged to witness the first evidence of Jesus' resurrection, just as Mary and Elizabeth were witnesses to his arrival in the world. In the history of 2000 years of patriarchal ascendancy, with women being in second place, it is good to be reminded that Jesus had no such predilection for the subordination of women. For him, the sexes were of equal value in love, and so women were the first to herald the great event of the resurrection. They were also the first group to whom Jesus appeared:

*And suddenly, coming to meet them, was Jesus. 'Greetings', he said. And the women came up to him, and clasping his feet, they did him homage. Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers that they must leave for Galilee; there they will see me.'* (Matthew 28:9-10)

Jesus also revealed himself to Mary Magdalen at the tomb.

Once again Jesus reveals himself to a woman, and it is important to note that she recognised him in an exchange of tender love. Mary was seeking someone she loved and whom she had lost. She was heartbroken. She thought the gardener had shifted the body. Even though Jesus was dead, she wanted to find him and she was weeping. Jesus had to say only her name and she recognised him. In this exchange we see the depth of the personal encounter that Jesus could generate. In one word, he could signify a world of love, because in that one word was contained his whole personality of love.

Copies of the weekly bulletin, the Partnership Note and any other handouts are available in a plastic storage box at the door of St Mary's and St Wilfrid's presbyteries. Please take what you need.

Following government advice, and that from our Bishops, church will be open for private prayer and for Mass. See this bulletin for details. We continue to take the safest measures we can. Please do your best to stay safe.

## Confession Times

St Mary's

By request and by simple arrangement.

**New Foodbank note** - the foodbank is now accepting food items once again but we have an excess of some items and a shortage of others. We'd love you to help with: **small tins of meat, long life milk, jars of jam, coffee, bars of chocolate (most supermarkets do their own brand for about 35p perfectly good chocolate!)** Staff holidays at the food bank may cause us some difficulties but food can still be handed in at St Mary's and St Wilfrid's. As always, money to help with gas and electricity need is a godsend. The ending of furlough and the end of the £20 addition to Universal Credit will cause severe problems. Let's see what we can do. Enormous thanks.

**Plastic Free August** - You are invited to join millions of people reducing their plastic waste. This is a global movement that helps millions of people to be part of the solution to plastic pollution so we can have cleaner streets, oceans, and beautiful communities. Will you be part of Plastic Free August by choosing to refuse single use plastics?

Why would you make something that you are going to use for a few minutes out of a material that you are just going to throw away and that basically can last forever. It's up to us. Please tell someone else as well.

**Introducing the Diocesan Environment Group** - Bishop Robert has established a Diocesan Environment Group which has been meeting regularly since February. The group has been formed to support the Diocese in taking concerted action to address the climate and ecological emergency recognising the call by Pope Francis in Laudato Si to care for our common home.

The science informs us that we need concerted action at all levels of society, including within our own diocese to avert catastrophic climate change, which threatens the viability of all life on earth. Reducing our carbon footprint, learning to live sustainably in harmony with the whole of creation is an imperative for each and every one of us in our Diocese. We must learn to live our spiritual and physical lives in recognition that the earth is sacred.

The group is currently developing its own web pages and planning a launch event on the theme 'Caring for our Common Home' a one day conference to be held at the Youth Village Emmaus on Saturday September 18. The event will include keynote speakers (Emma Gardner, Project Lead for the Guardians of Creation Project and Christine Allen, CAFOD Director), achieving sustainability within Catholic Dioceses, presentation and feedback on the draft policy, COP26 and advocacy, workshops on sustainable living (buildings/energy, food, travel, plastic/waste) and a Mass for Creation presided over by Bishop Robert. Programme details and booking information to follow.

**COVID arrangements in church** - You will be alarmed, as we all are, that the virus is increasingly active in our part of the north east and may get worse before it gets better. Even though the

Please pray for the health of:

*Irene Welford  
Michael Dowson  
Mrs Aitken  
Val Mundell  
Joan Lightfoot  
Monica Fuller  
Michael Nicholson  
Adam Hudspeth  
Christopher Browne  
Tyler Quinn  
Maureen Nicholson  
Norah Hutchinson  
Robin Davis  
Angela Graham  
Stephen Gregory  
Frank Ridley  
Jacob Thomas  
Charlotte Thomas  
John Boyle  
Teresa Brown  
Joan Hannon  
Christina Marsh  
Kathy Lloyd  
Roman Banks  
Jane Hardy (Kirby)  
Margaret Pattenden*

*Please pray for  
EDWIN BLANCHARD (89)  
MARGHARITA ELLIOTT (86)  
TONY DOLAN (88)  
who have died.  
May they rest in peace*



Scripture Readings for this week's Masses:

Sun	Apocalypse 11: 19, 12:1-6, 10	Ps 44	1 Corinthians 15: 20-26	Luke 1: 39-56
Mon	Judges 2: 11-19	Ps 105	Matthew 19: 16-22	
Tues	Judges 6: 11-24	Ps 84	Matthew 19: 23-30	
Wed	Judges 9: 6-15	Ps 20	Matthew 20: 1-16	
Thurs	Judges 11: 29-39	Ps 39	Matthew 22: 1-14	
Fri	Ruth 1:1,3-6, 14-16, 22	Ps 145	Matthew 22: 34-40	
Sat	Ruth 2: 1-3, 8-11, 4: 13-17	Ps 127	Matthew 23: 1-12	
Sun	Joshua 24: 1-2, 15-18	Ps 33	Ephesians 5: 21-32	John 6: 60-69

Government has removed restrictions, we must continue the arrangements and requirements we had before last weekend. Bishop Robert asks that they remain in place until the end of August at least and then they'll be reviewed. The Government's Health & Safety at Work Act requires organisations to be sensitive to their unique circumstances. Remember we are in a confined space and therefore we will maintain sanitising on entry and exit, wearing masks, keeping social distancing and continuing the cleaning routines we have after each Mass. Choirs are allowed but need to keep the required distance. Congregations are allowed to sing but must wear masks!! We'll leave that one out for a while yet. What a mad idea. In time, a number of changes may be feasible and will be phased in gently. Thank you for your patience and for helping to keep yourself and others safe.

**CAFOD Gift Aid forms** are available in church for all who can gift aid their CAFOD donations. Sponsor money can be gift aided too. New CAFOD collecting boxes are available.

**Parish finances** - Please remember to use your green envelopes, not forgetting the white second collection envelope also. The envelopes are important as it enables us to identify offerings that are Gift Aided. The tax recovered from HMRC is an important amount which requires us to use the envelopes as part of our recording systems. No envelope, no gift aid reclaimed.

**Payment of Offerings by Bank Transfer** - Any parishioner who wishes to stop paying their offerings in cash, can arrange to pay direct from their bank account into the church account. See copies in the plastic box on the presbytery doorstep. Thank you.

**Used stamps** - can be brought to church for helping the work of the Little Sisters of the poor. Thanks.

**Northern Cross** AUGUST edition is available now at the bargain price of £1.50. Do make sure you get yours to keep informed. Thank you.

**Please continue to send us your email addresses and telephone numbers. Thank you.**

**PLEASE KEEP SAFE AND SAVE LIVES.**