

Passover Meal - we will be sharing the Passover Meal once again on Thursday 21st March at 7.00pm in St Wilfrid's Presbytery. As always, it gives us the opportunity to celebrate all that God has done for us with an occasion which is a unique mixture of the social and the spiritual. Numbers are limited - please get your ticket at St Wilfrid's or give Michael Broadbent a ring on 01388 488569. A contribution of £6.00 is asked to cover the cost of the meal.

St Mary's Easter church cleaning - Tuesday March 26th after morning Mass. Could you please help us with this task and make our beautiful church look its best for Easter. All welcome. Plenty of dusters to clean the benches, bring the children. See you there.

St Mary's and St Wilfrid's - Fairtrade chocolate Easter Eggs on sale. £3.99, yes they are more expensive than many others, however they allow for farmers in developing countries to make a living for their families. All packaging is also recyclable.

Lent Extra - copies of Lent Extra are on sale at the back of church at £2.50 each.

Laudato Si Group: Dates for your diary - Sunday 24th March come and take part in a walk and enjoy refreshments afterwards. Meet at St Wilfrid's church at 2 pm. Route will be fairly flat and suitable for casual walkers. Raise money to support CAFOD. Everyone is welcome. Why not consider taking part in the UK wide 'Big Plastic Count' between 11th-17th March. Sign up to take part via the internet with the Big Plastic Count team by searching 'bigplasticcount'. You will be sent information to take part prior to the week.

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

Quiz night - make a note in your diary - Thursday 18 April for our next quiz night.

The Foodbank - A huge thank you for the donations received last week. **The following items are needed this week, pasta sauce, jam, small tins of meat, tinned potatoes and sugar. Help with funds for assisting with gas and electricity needs.** Anything you can do to help people with food, heating and

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*



Scripture Readings for this week's Masses:

Sun	Jeremiah 31: 31-34	Ps 50	Hebrews 5: 7-9	John 12: 20-30
Mon	Daniel 13:1-9,15-17,19-30,33-62	Ps 22	John 8: 1-11	
Tues	Numbers 21: 4-9	Ps 101	John 8: 21-30	
Wed	Daniel 3: 14-20, 24-25, 28	Daniel 3: 52-56	John 8: 31-42	
Thurs	Genesis 17: 3-9	Ps 104	John 8: 51-59	
Fri	Jeremiah 20: 10-13	Ps 17	John 10: 21-42	
Sat	Ezekiel 37: 21-28	Jeremiah 31: 10-13	John 11: 44-56	
Sun	Isaiah 50: 4-7	Ps 21	Philippians 2: 6-11	Mark 14: 1-55: 47

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.

Age UK - Tunes and Chat Community Café at St John's School next Friday 22 March at 1.30 to 2.30pm and every 4th Friday of each month. Enjoy live music whilst having a cuppa. This is a free event.

Summary of Listening Exercises, Result of Questionnaire and Bishop Stephen's Response

On our diocesan website <https://diocesehn.org.uk/> you will find all the summaries from the various listening exercises that have been running since the summer of 2023, and the results of the Questionnaire for the Dicastery of Bishops Report from March 2023. These are together with Bishop Stephen's response to what has been presented to him. He reflects on the past, present and our future together. The documentation is necessarily lengthy. Too lengthy for a pastoral letter. If you wish to have hard copies of all or parts of the suite of documents, then please contact the parish office.

This week

	Services & meetings
Saturday 16 March	No morning Mass 5.30 pm Vigil Mass: <i>Private Intention</i>
Sunday 17 March <i>5th Sunday of Lent</i>	09.30 am Mass at St Wilfrid's: <i>Family Mass: People of the parish</i> 11.00 am Mass at St Mary's: <i>Michael Gill</i>
Monday 18 March	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 19 March <i>ST JOSEPH</i>	10.00 am Mass: <i>Rita Desai and Frs Joe and Terry Tynan</i>
Wednesday 20 March <i>ST CUTHBERT</i>	9.00 am Mass: <i>Antony Chu Van Xuan and Cecilia Pham Thi Hong</i> 12.00 pm <i>Lent Lunch at St Wilfrid's</i>
Thursday 21 March	10.00 am Mass: <i>Holy Souls</i> 7.00 pm <i>Passover Meal at St Wilfrid's</i>
Friday 22 March	8.15 am Mass in St John's School Chapel 10.00 am Mass: <i>Ian Lloyd</i> 6.30 pm <i>Stations of the Cross at St Helen's Church</i>
Saturday 23 March	10.00 am Mass: <i>Fr Paddy Kennedy</i> 5.30 pm Vigil Mass: <i>Maureen and John Nicholson</i>
Sunday 24 March <i>PALM SUNDAY</i>	09.30 am Mass at St Wilfrid's: <i>People of the parish</i> 11.00 am Mass at St Mary's: <i>Ida Herbert</i> 6.00 pm <i>Service of Forgiveness & Reconciliation at St Mary's</i>

Quote:

"The world always seems brighter when you've just made something that wasn't there before".

- Neil Gaiman

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 **17 March, 2024**

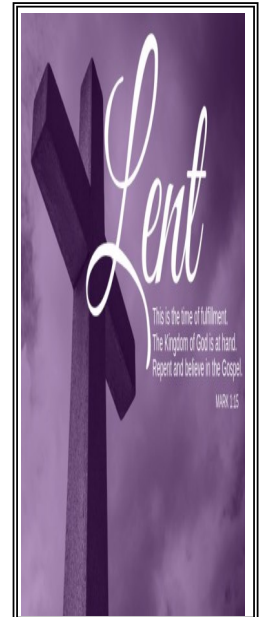
5th SUNDAY OF LENT

Kneeling

Moments of great calm,
kneeling before an altar
of wood in a stone church in Summer,
waiting for the God to speak;
the air a staircase
for silence; the sun's light ringing me,
as though I acted a great role.
And the audiences still;
all that close throng
of spirits waiting, as I,
for the message.

Prompt me God;
But not yet.
When I speak,
though it be you who speak
through me, something is lost.
The meaning is in the waiting.

- R S Thomas



Confession Times

St Mary's

**Saturdays at
10.45-11.30
and by request.**

St Wilfrid's

**before
Sunday
Mass**