

Pope Francis recognises 2025 as a year of Jubilee and asks that 2024 be a Year of Prayer leading up to it. Various invitations are under way to provide and suggest ways and routines of praying and there will be others coming from the diocese. You may be interested in accessing an online site from the Jesuits which gives you a prayer time each day. It's called Pray As You Go, designed to go with you wherever you go, to help you pray whenever you find time, but particularly while travelling to and from work, study etc. A new prayer session is produced every day of the working week and one for the weekend. It is not a 'Thought for the Day', a sermon or a bible study, but rather a framework for your own prayer. Lasting 10-13 minutes, it combines music, scripture and some questions for reflections. Download the Pray As You Go app.

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is here now. The Main Service, to which all our local churches are invited, is at St Mary's this 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.

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 are on Saturdays from 10.45 to 11.30am and by request.

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

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)
CATHLEEN RITSON (84) and
LENA FLETCHER*

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



Scripture Readings for this week's Masses:

Sun	Jonah 3: 1-5, 10	Ps 24	1 Corinthians 7: 29-31	Mark 1:14-20
Mon	2 Samuel 5:1-7, 10	Ps 88	Mark 3: 22-30	
Tues	2 Samuel 6: 12-15, 17-19	Ps 23	Mark 3: 31-35	
Wed	2 Samuel 7: 4-17	Ps 88	Mark 4: 1-20	
Thurs	Acts 22: 3-16	Ps 116	Mark 16: 15-18	
Fri	2 Timothy 1: 1-8	Ps 50	Mark 4: 26-34	
Sat	2 Samuel 12: 1-7, 10-17	Ps 50	Mark 4: 35-41	
Sun	Deuteronomy 18: 15-20	Ps 94	1 Corinthians 7: 32-35	Mark 1:21-28

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.

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!

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@diocesahn.org.uk

This week

	Services & meetings
Saturday 20 January	10.00 am Mass: <i>Ned Bowen</i> 5.30 pm Vigil Mass: <i>Fedor Feyczuk</i>
Sunday 21 January <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
Monday 22 January	No Mass 1.00 pm: <i>Craft Group at St Mary's</i>
Tuesday 23 January	10.00 am Mass: <i>Antony Chu Van Xuan & Cecilia Pham thi Hong</i>
Wednesday 24 January <i>St Francis de Sales</i>	No Mass
Thursday 25 January <i>CONVERSION OF ST PAUL</i>	10.00 am Mass: <i>Special Intention</i>
Friday 26 January <i>SS Timothy and Titus</i>	8.15 am Mass in St John's School Chapel 11.15 am Requiem Mass for MARIA SMITH at St Mary's
Saturday 27 January	10.00 am Mass: <i>Jim McClay</i> 5.30 pm Vigil Mass: <i>People of the parish</i>
Sunday 28 January <i>4th Sunday of the Year</i>	09.30 am Mass at St Wilfrid's: <i>Eileen Stockton</i> 11.00 am Mass at St Mary's: <i>Maureen and John Nicholson</i>

Quote:

"When I give food to the poor, they call me a saint. When I ask why they are poor, they call me a Communist"

- Archbishop Helder Camara (1970)

The Parish of St Mary + St Wilfrid

In the Escomb Partnership of the Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle

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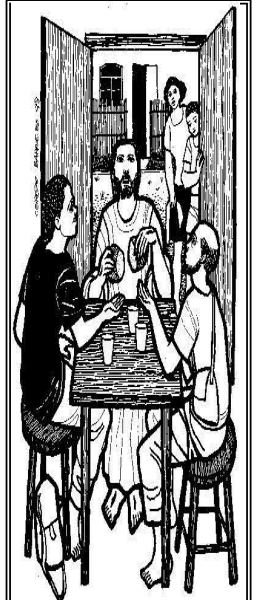
To access streamed Masses: St Mary's Bishop Auckland YouTube **21 January, 2024**

3rd SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

A MUM'S LIFE

*Take your plate into the kitchen, please.
Take it downstairs when you go.
Don't leave it there, take it upstairs.
Is that yours?
Don't hit your brother.
I'm talking to you.
Just a minute, please, can't you see I'm talking?
I said, Don't interrupt.
Did you brush your teeth?
What are you doing out of bed?
Go back to bed.
You can't watch in the afternoon.
What do you mean, there's nothing to do?
Go outside.
Read a book.
Turn it down.
Get off the phone.
Tell your friend you'll call her back. Right now!
Hello. No, she's not home.
Take a jacket. Take a sweater.
Take one anyway.
Someone left his shoes in front of the TV
Get the toys off the stairs.*

(to be continued)



Confession Times

St Mary's

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