

This week

	Services & meetings	Location
Saturday 20 June <i>Immaculate Heart of</i>	10.00 am Mass: <i>People of the parish</i>	
Sunday 21 June <i>12th Sunday of the Year</i>	10.00 am Mass: <i>Audrey Hartley</i>	
Monday 22 June SS JOHN FISHER & THOMAS MOORE	10.00 am Mass: <i>Private Intention</i>	
Tuesday 23 June St Etheldreda	10.00 am Mass: <i>Lily and Derrick Brown</i>	
Wednesday 24 June BIRTH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST	10.00 am Mass: <i>Mary Harburn</i>	
Thursday 25 June	10.00 am Mass: <i>Dominic Ottewell</i>	
Friday 26 June	10.00 am Mass: <i>Special Intention</i>	
Saturday 27 June	10.00 am Mass: <i>People of the parish</i>	
Sunday 28 June SS PETER & PAUL, APOSTLES	10.00 am Mass: <i>Deceased of the Kell and Nevin Families</i>	

ST MARY'S

Collection: £

Quote:

"There may be times when we are powerless to prevent injustice, but there must never be a time when we fail to protest" -
Elsie Wiesel (Auschwitz survivor)

ST WILFRID'S

Collection: £

In addition to the church collections, we also receive on average £420 per month from direct debits. Enormous thanks.

The Parish of St Mary + St Wilfrid

In the Escomb Partnership of the Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle

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Sunday, 21 June 2020

TWELFTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

JUST NOW

Here's a parable about a newly-crafted clock which was displayed on a shelf between two old clocks. One of the clocks ticked ponderously and a little pompously before speaking to the brand new clock. 'I see you have started out in life and I am sorry for you', he began. 'Just think of what's ahead of you. If you consider how many ticks it takes to tick through a year, you'll never make it. It would have been better if that old man never wound you up and set your pendulum free.'

So the new clock began to count up the ticks. Each second required two ticks which meant 120 ticks per minute. That amounted to 7,200 ticks per hour, 172,800 ticks per day; in a week the little clock would have to make 1,209,600 ticks for 52 weeks which makes a total of 62,899,200 ticks per year. The new clock fainted on the spot and stopped ticking.

When he came to his senses, he could hear the wise old clock on his other side, speaking to him. 'Pay no attention to that old clock', he said. 'Answer me this: how many ticks have to tick at a time?' 'Only one, I guess,' the new clock answered. 'That's not so hard to do is it? Try it along with me. Just one tick at a time.'

Seventy-five years later the clock was ticking perfectly - one tick at a time. No person sinks under the burden of the day. It is only when yesterday's guilt is added to tomorrow's anxiety that our legs buckle and our backs break.

- **Corrie ten Boom (1892-1983)** was a Dutch Christian watchmaker and later a writer who worked with her father, sister and other family members to help many Jews escape the Nazis from the Holocaust during WW II by hiding them in her home. She believed her actions were following the will of God. They were caught, and she was arrested and sent to the Ravensbruck concentration camp. Her most famous book, *The Hiding Place*, is a biography that recounts the story of her family's efforts and how she found hope in God while she was imprisoned at the concentration camp.

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

Following the most recent government advice, and that from our Bishops, church will no longer be open for private prayer. This is an arrangement no one would otherwise welcome but in the unprecedented circumstances we must take the safest measures we can. Please do your best to stay safe.

Confession Times

St Mary

By request and by simple arrangement

Streaming of Mass - takes place from St Mary's each day, including Sunday, at 10 am. To access the streamed Mass via Facebook you'll need to look for The Parish of St Mary and St Wilfrid, Bishop Auckland.

The Foodbank - is receiving greatly reduced numbers of bags of food from our churches because we are not open yet for our usual generous parishioners. We're very grateful for donations of money and for the occasional donations from supermarkets. Could we ask for your help in supporting our local foodbank and, if possible, making it a regular feature? Many, many thanks. The foodbank is open Monday to Friday 10.00 am to 12 noon. Food and other donations can be brought to St Mary's presbytery.

CAFOD News - the response to Cafod's coronavirus appeal is helping to save lives across Africa, the Middle East and also Central and South America. Cafod funded church and community radio stations spread trusted information on health and hygiene and how to access vital supplies. Messages are broadcast in local languages to vulnerable people who are already suffering from the effects of social injustice and climate change. Please go to the Cafod website to see the value of our support or donate on 0303 303 3030. Thank you.

Reopening of churches - At some stage we will be receiving guidance from the Diocese about opening more than the 5 pilot churches for short times of private prayer. To help this happen - and we don't yet know when - we will need some people to monitor the safety of any individuals coming into the church building. Clearly these helpers should not be from vulnerable age or other restricted groups. I have had offers from 5 people so far. If you are able to help, please do let me know. Thank you.

Before a church can open - and not all churches will be open for private prayer - a risk assessment will need to be carried out. Guidance will be given, and those assessing will be from a church other than their own to ensure objectivity. So we can plan ahead, could I ask if in our parish we have a couple of volunteers to help in this so that health and safety arrangements can be carried out in churches of our area? In Bishop Auckland, St Mary's church will be the better of our two churches to open for private prayer. Entrance and exit points and the size of the building suggests this would be the first move here. We don't yet have a time when this move can happen and it will be some time further before Mass and other services will be able to take place. Thanks to everyone for your understanding and patience.

Church offerings - Enormous thanks for all those who have handed in weekly offertory envelopes. It has been a great help in meeting our routine needs. Despite the lockdown and church closure, the parish needs to continue to meet its responsibilities which cover such as light and heat costs, ongoing maintenance and in particular the need to support the number of charity and good causes as determined by the Bishops and which is generally provided for by means of the monthly second collections.

We need to address the hole in our income caused by the closure of our churches which has meant that the influx of funds at regular weekend services has largely ground to a halt.

We know that a number of parishioners have continued to contribute

Please pray for the health of:

*Betty Shoulder
Irene Welford
Michael Dowson
Mrs Aitken
Val Mundell
Joan Lightfoot
Monica Fuller
Michael Nicholson
Adam Hudspeth
Christopher Browne
Kate Johnson
Tyler Quinn
Maureen Nicholson
Norah Hutchinson
Robin Davis
Angela Graham
Stephen Gregory
Frank Ridley
Jack Tobin
Jacob Thomas
Charlotte Thomas
Sheila Campbell
John Boyle
Teresa Brown
Joan Hannon
Christina Marsh (3)
Ian & Kathy Lloyd
Roman Banks
Jane Hardy (Kirby)
Wilf Teasdale*

*Please pray for
JOAN CARR (84)
who has died.
May she rest in peace*



Scripture Readings for this week's Masses:

Sun	Jeremiah 20: 10-13	Ps 68	Romans 5: 12-15	Matthew 10: 26-33
Mon	Maccabees 6: 18,21,24-31	Ps 30	Matthew 24: 4-13	
Tues	2 Kings 19:9-11,14-21,31-36	Ps 47	Matthew 7: 6, 12-14	
Wed	Isaiah 49: 1-6	Ps 138	Acts 13: 22-26	Luke 1: 57-66, 80
Thurs	2 Kings 24: 8-17	Ps 78	Matthew 7: 21-29	
Fri	2 Kings 25: 1-12	Ps 136	Matthew 8: 1-4	
Sat	Lamentations 2:2, 10-14, 18-19	Ps 73	Matthew 8: 5-17	
Sun	Acts 12: 1-11	Ps 33	2 Timothy 4: 6-8, 17-18	Matthew 16: 13-19

by means of regular bank transfers, but what is missing are the cash contributions received at the weekend Masses. If any parishioner has continued to set aside funds in the weekly envelopes but cannot get to church to pass on these funds, it is suggested that you can ring Fr. Dennis who will arrange to get these offerings picked up. Please remember to use your yellow envelopes, not forgetting the white second collection envelope also. It is suggested that instead of putting your offering in each of the weekly envelopes, that you put your 4 weeks of April contents into one April envelope and one envelope for May. 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 either Fr. Dennis or John Stockton for the necessary bank form.

Loss of Weekly Offerings Envelopes - Some parishioners may not have received their boxes of envelopes for the new Tax year starting in April. See John Stockton (St Wilfrid's) or Tony Murphy (St Mary's) or Fr. Dennis. This applies to all, not just those who gift aid.

Northern Cross - is struggling from no back of church sales. This will last for some time but our funds are very limited. It's a digital issue again this month but we're unable to provide it for free. You can get a year's online subscription for £14.40 by bank transfer to **A/C Number 81602292 sort code 40-43-11** using your surname and postcode as a reference (eg Tindall DL14 6PQ). An online standing order would be a lifesaver for us. Or you can send a cheque for £14.40 payable to Northern Cross and post it to 11, The Grove, Hartlepool TS26 9NB (our office in Darlington is currently closed due to the present emergency). Thank you.

Recipes - Six new recipes this week - howay folks - your 3 favourites, please!

Beginning to pray - we all come to prayer with a tangled mass of motives - altruistic and selfish, merciful and hateful - loving and bitter. Frankly, this side of eternity we will never unravel the good from the bad, the loving and bitter. But what I have come to see is that God is big enough to receive us with all our mixture. We do not have to be bright, or pure, or filled with faith, or anything. That is what grace means, and not only are we saved by grace, we live by it as well. And we pray by it.....

We will never have pure enough motives, or be good enough, or know enough in order to pray rightly. We simply must set all these things aside and begin praying. In fact, it is in the very act of prayer itself - the intimate, ongoing interaction with God - that these matters are cared for in due time!