

This week

| | Services & meetings |
|---|---|
| Saturday 20 November <i>St Edmund</i> | No Morning Mass 5.30 pm Vigil Mass: <i>Laura Rea</i> |
| Sunday 21 November CHRIST THE KING | 9.30 am Mass at St Wilfrid's : <i>People of the parish</i> 11.00 am Mass at St Mary's : <i>Kevin Donohue</i> |
| Monday 22 November <i>St Cecilia</i> | No Mass 10.00 am <i>Eucharistic Service at St Wilfrid's</i> 11-1 pm <i>St Mary's open for private prayer</i> |
| Tuesday 23 November | No Mass |
| Wednesday 24 November <i>Vietnamese Martyrs</i> | No Mass |
| Thursday 25 November | No Mass |
| Friday 26 November | No Mass |
| Saturday 27 November | 10.00 am Mass: <i>People of the parish</i> 5.30 pm Vigil Mass: <i>Deceased of Anita Walsh's Family</i> |
| Sunday 28 November <i>1st Sunday of Advent</i> | 9.30 am Mass at St Wilfrid's : <i>Eileen Relton</i> 11.00 am Mass at St Mary's : <i>Holy Souls</i> |

Quote:

"Character consists of what you do on the third and fourth tries".

- James Mechener

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: (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 **21 November 2021**

CHRIST THE KING

Creative Reflections 4

In the Apollo crew's debrief after landing on the moon they spoke of the beauty of earthrise – like a blue jewel or a marble lit by the sun out in the blackness of space. This is home.

We are made of matter – the same as the planets, moons, galaxies of the universe – we're all stardust.

Out in the countryside we are looking at a small fraction of God's creation, cared for by people whose work stopped and continues to stop nature taking over completely. God gave us the responsibility to care for the earth.

At Mass we say "Blessed are you Lord, God of all creation, through your goodness we've received the bread we offer, which earth has given and human hands have made" – similarly we pray about the wine. We use creation sensibly to grow our food, clothe our bodies, build our buildings and everything else – including Sacraments! Cherish and relish the gift of creation. We rely on it every single second. Our care for creation is a duty and an inherited blessing.

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.

Youth Sunday - Today is World Youth Sunday. Saint Pope John Paul II said "All young people must feel that they are cared for by the Church. Therefore, may the entire Church on a worldwide level be more and more committed to young people." We are very blessed to have our Youth Ministry Team (YMT) providing opportunities for our young people, encouraging them into a relationship with Christ and fully into the life of the Church. Through retreats and formation sessions, local faith in action activities, the John Paul II Awards, Youth Council, the Transcend programme and other opportunities, YMT support and accompany young people on their faith journey. You can Text to Donate (text **Youth10** to **70500** to donate £10 or **Youth20** to donate £20).

Thank You - to all who have sent in suggestions and ideas to help in our Care for our Common Home - the Earth. Please continue to send in any suggestions you may have for looking after our ecology and reducing our carbon footprint. Others may be helped by your suggestions. Many thanks.

Readers - As we return to attending Mass, could I ask our readers to indicate their willingness to join a rota for reading the Word of God to us at weekends - and during the week if you're here?

Eucharistic Ministers can we likewise set a new rota for our weekend Masses? Thank you.

Our Advent Service of Forgiveness and Reconciliation will be on Sunday 12 December at 6pm at St. Mary's. Everyone is most welcome. Come and receive the Lord's forgiveness and blessing.

The work of Marie Curie nurses will be supported by a concert of music from Durham Police Band on Friday 3 December at 7pm at St Mary's. Most of us enjoy brass bands. Come for a lovely evening and support a brilliant cause. You may find yourself calling on Marie Curie nurses' services one day. Do please help. Admission: Adults £7.50 and children £1. Seasonal refreshments are included.

Sunday Mass obligation - Our Bishops intend to restore the Sunday Mass obligation from this coming Advent - the end of November onwards. Many have got out of our Sunday (or Saturday vigil) Mass habit, and, sadly many no longer give it the seriousness which it has never lost. To give God an hour or so of worship once a week is not asking much for most people and should be considered as a basic requirement. Streaming of Masses has been a great help for many and will continue, but it's no substitute for expressing Communion with the Lord and communion with the living community of the Church and the parish. I mention the restart of the obligation now so that we can begin to prepare for attending Mass again. Vaccinations have helped greatly but have not dismissed the possibility of infection. The layout of our churches may change again and we'll let you know. I'll give you more information when we have it. In the meantime, let's give thought to what Communion and community means as we prepare carefully to celebrate more together again - as safely as possible. Covid has affected us all and we'll have to live with it wisely and carefully from here onwards. I'll keep you posted.

Shoe box Appeal - Just a reminder, to drop off shoe boxes at The Well in West Auckland from now until Monday. Thank you.

Please pray for the health of:

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

Please pray for
MONICA FULLER (86)
who has died.
May she rest in peace



Scripture Readings for this week's Masses:

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|-------|---------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
| Sun | Daniel 7: 13-14 | Ps 92 | Apocalypse 1: 5-8 | John 18: 33-37 |
| Mon | Daniel 1: 1-6, 8-20 | Daniel 3: 52-56 | Luke 21: 1-4 | |
| Tues | Daniel 2: 31-45 | Daniel 3: 57-61 | Luke 21: 5-11 | |
| Wed | Daniel 5: 1-6,13-14,16-17 | Daniel 3: 62-67 | Luke 21: 12-19 | |
| Thurs | Daniel 6: 12-28 | Daniel 3: 68-74 | Luke 21: 20-28 | |
| Fri | Daniel 7: 2-14 | Daniel 3: 75-81 | Luke 21: 29-33 | |
| Sat | Daniel 7: 15-27 | Daniel 3: 82-87 | Luke 21: 34-36 | |
| Sun | Jeremiah 33: 14-16 | Ps 24 | 1 Thessalonians 3: 12-4: 2 | Luke 21: 25-28,34-36 |

Memorial Register - we are compiling a register of those whose funerals took place from the parish from the beginning of 2020 until the present and it will open for you to add names of others from family and friends. **November envelopes** are available for your personal and family lists. Any money in these envelopes will support Holy Souls intentions. Specific individual Mass intentions should be in a different envelope. Thank you.

The Foodbank has been gifted with a lot of food very recently and for the moment needs only long-life milk (semi-skimmed or full fat), coffee, sugar, packet mash, toothpaste, shower gel and shampoo. **No tinned beans, spaghetti, soup or dried pasta please.** Money to help people have some warmth, light and the wherewithal to cook or heat up food. Your help, no matter how small, becomes part of a great tide of selfless initiatives that keep individuals and families alive with a meaningful quality of life and with a dignity to match. Thank you for your help. Opening hours are now Monday to Thursday 9-5 and Friday 9-12.30.

SVP Christmas Appeal - We provide Christmas hampers/gifts and support, for local families and individuals who are enduring real poverty. Your weekly contributions made this possible until COVID impacted on all our lives. We asked for your support last year and your response was overwhelming. You will appreciate that COVID and increased poverty is still a real concern as the unprecedented events continue to increase the needs of many. If you are financially able, we would appreciate if you could put a donation in an envelope with 'SVP Christmas Appeal' written on it, and either post it in Fr. Dennis's letterbox or put it in one of the white collection boxes at the back of either Church, **by 28th November 2021.** We are not asking for gifts or food. Members of the SVP will purchase what is needed, depending on the composition of the families and individual needs. We hope you can help us, to help the vulnerable members of our community. Thank you.

Clothing And Toiletries - Our local community hospitals have many elderly patients. Visiting is very limited at the moment, and many of these patients' visitors are also elderly and are unable to bring clothes or toiletries for their relatives. Some patients do not have anyone who can bring items in for them. The hospitals are running out of loungewear/nightwear/bed jackets for patients to wear during the day. It is better for patients to wear these, rather than hospital issued nightwear during the day. Once a patient has been given some clothing, it belongs to them and is not taken from them when they leave hospital. It would be great if you could donate any clothing that you no longer want. Also, any toiletries, especially shower gel, would be most welcome. Thank you.

Ushaw Illuminations - (events@ushaw.org) On the first 3 weekends in December Ushaw will be lit up with many exciting features and trails. Booking is essential via the website above.