

**Masses this week** - we will not be able to have any morning Masses this week I'm afraid, but next Saturday evening we will be able to welcome Fr Paul Tully and then next Sunday morning Fr Gordon Ryan.

**St John's Secondary School** - on Friday morning during term time we usually have a Mass at St John's School at 8.15 am. This is for staff, but also for any parishioners who might like to attend. You may wish to park in the school's main (staff) car park and then, inside the door, sign in at the reception desk. The school chapel is nearby. However, having said this, there will not be a Mass in school this coming Friday (20th) or on Friday 27th September. All welcome on 4th October, the Feast of St Francis of Assisi.

**Foodbank** - a huge thank you for the donations received last week. **The following items are needed this week, tea 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.

**Quiz** - the next quiz will take place on **Thursday 3rd October at 7pm** in St Mary's meeting room. All are very welcome.

**Laudato Si** - A big THANK YOU to everyone who completed our annual environmental survey. We had a good response this year. Thank you to Tom Bowman who has again collated the results and put them into a display available in both churches. If anyone has any comments they would like to give us, we would be very happy to receive alongside any suggestions for ways we can help with care of our environment.

Care of Creation will be celebrated in September and we are hoping to have a parish event of displays. Anyone interested would be most welcome to get involved, more information to follow.

**The Recycling Talk** - At our most recent Laudato Si meeting Kieran from Durham CC waste department briefly outlined the biggest problems with recycling, a rundown of the whole process from collection to extracting energy, proposed local schemes and the Government's future plans. Anyone wanting to read the hugely informative minutes from the meeting can text 07864807529 and they will be sent out to you. It is thoroughly recommended for anyone serious about helping the planet. Or you can contact Kieran directly with specific questions at [Atwasteaware@durham.gov.uk](mailto:Atwasteaware@durham.gov.uk). Briefly the biggest problems are nappies, food waste and black bin bags in recycling bins and the danger of batteries and vapes which actually do cause fires in collecting vehicles. Please help yourselves to the freebies and information sheets left at the back of the church.

**SVP Membership** - At our last meeting, our long serving member Marion Bartley has retired from St Mary conference after more than 30 years. We are all sorry to see her leave but most grateful for her help over these years visiting and helping those in need. We thank her for her great

Please pray for the health of:

*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  
John Green  
Lynette Stott  
Mary Oldfield*



Scripture Readings for this week's Masses:

Sun	Wisdom 2: 17-20	Ps 53	James 3: 16, 5-3	Mark 9: 30-37
Mon	Proverbs 3: 27-34	Ps 14	Luke 8: 16-18	
Tues	Proverbs 21: 1-6, 10-13	Ps 118	Luke 8: 19-21	
Wed	Proverbs 30: 5-9	Ps 118	Luke 9: 1-6	
Thurs	Ecclesiastes 1: 2-11	Ps 89	Luke 9: 7-9	
Fri	Ecclesiastes 3: 1-11	Ps 143	Luke 9: 18-22	
Sat	Ecclesiastes 11: 9, 12-8	Ps 89	Luke 9: 43-45	
Sun	Numbers 11: 25-29	Ps 18	James 5: 1-6	Mark 9: 38-43, 45, 47-48

contribution over these years to our community. If any of our parishioners would like to see what we do in the SVP, just have a word with one of our members. As the Lord said, "The harvest is rich but the labourers are few". If we don't have the members we can't do the work.

**SVP Summer Raffle** - the Summer Raffle tickets that were on sale recently have all been sold. The stubs and funds raised sent to the Raffle Team and the prizes will be draw later in the month. Many thanks to all who purchased tickets and also to the people who helped sell the tickets at both churches. We can look forward to the prizes list some time later. It would be nice if we managed to pick up a winner. We can always hope.

**St Wilfrid's Social Evening** - Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October, the eve of St Wilfrid's Day - a chance to get together with quizzes, bingo and a raffle. Tickets (still only £1!) available at the back of each church. Come and join the fun! Offers of food and raffle prizes will be very welcome.

**FLAME 2025** - Flame 2025 takes place on **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March**. The theme is '**UNSTOPPABLE. FAN THE FLAME OF HOPE**'. It is open to anyone from school year 9 to University/young adult age. Under 18s must be part of an organised group. Please talk with your school chaplain, catechist or parish priest if you would like to come along. Two years ago, over 700 young people from our Diocese travelled to Wembley Arena for this national Catholic youth gathering. Once again YMT is hoping to take a large number of young people (up to 1,000 including accompanying adults). **COST: £45** per person (includes return rail travel, Wembley ticket and London travel card). The cost has been generously subsidised by Significance, the charity founded by Fr Dermott Donnelly. For further information contact [mary.hughes@ymt.org](mailto:mary.hughes@ymt.org)

**Life in the Spirit Seminars** - An introduction to a life lived in the power of the Holy Spirit, an opportunity for people to find out more about that life, and to be helped in taking the first steps of a new relationship with the Lord. To be held at St Mary's, Newton Aycliffe - **please see poster at the back of churches**. It is not necessary to book onto these sessions in advance, although it would be helpful in managing the numbers. Refreshments will be served from 6.30 - 7.00 pm before the start of the seminar each Monday evening. Please book your place via <https://bit.ly/CDSCLifeInTheSpirit> or scan the QR code on the poster.

**Tea/coffee** - remember we have tea and coffee after 9.30am Mass each Sunday at St. Wilfrid's. All are very welcome.

# This week

	Services & meetings
<b>Saturday 21 September</b>	<b>No Mass</b> <b>5.30 pm Vigil Mass:</b> <i>People of the parish</i>
<b>Sunday 22 September</b> <i>25th Sunday of the Year</i>	<b>09.30 am Mass at St Wilfrid's:</b> <i>Eileen Stockton</i> <b>11.00 am Mass at St Mary's:</b> <i>Vasey, Hogg and Cruddace Families</i>
<b>Monday 23 September</b>	<b>No Mass today</b> <b>10.00 am</b> <i>Eucharistic Service at St Wilfrid's</i> <b>1.00 pm</b> <i>Craft Club at St Mary's</i>
<b>Tuesday 24 September</b>	<b>No Mass today</b>
<b>Wednesday 25 September</b>	<b>No Mass today</b>
<b>Thursday 26 September</b>	<b>No Mass today</b>
<b>Friday 27 September</b>	<b>No Mass today</b>
<b>Saturday 28 September</b>	<b>No Mass</b> <b>5.30 pm Vigil Mass:</b> <i>For those coping with addiction and healing</i>
<b>Sunday 29 September</b> <i>26th Sunday of the Year</i>	<b>09.30 am Mass at St Wilfrid's:</b> <i>People of the parish</i> <b>11.00 am Mass at St Mary's:</b> <i>Bridie Clinton</i>

## 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 **22 September 2024**

## 25th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

### "The God-less"

The Book of Wisdom was written a few years before the birth of Jesus. Two thousand years ago. Yet human nature doesn't change too much. Some of the attitudes we see today were displayed then too. Some of the daily concerns people voiced at that time are expressed by ourselves today. Among those of us who believe in God, for example, can be a feeling that we are being ridiculed by others, considered naïve or downright stupid for believing in any 'God.'

Yet those who are atheist or similarly feel disrespected when so much of our culture is underpinned by Christian traditions. And so, the believers in today's first reading suspect that the atheists of their day are increasingly irritated by those who believe in God, thinking that the believer "*annoys us and opposes our way of life. Let us see what kind of end he himself will have. If the virtuous man is God's son, then God will take his part and save him from his enemies. Let us explore this gentleness of his and put his endurance to the proof, since he will be looked after – we have his word for it*".

This same tension can exist today between those whose motives are prompted by their faith as opposed to those whose motives are prompted by a conviction that there cannot be a God.

**David Coxon**



#### **Confession Times**

**St Mary's**

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

**St Wilfrid's**

**before  
Sunday  
Mass**