

This week

	Services & meetings	Location
Saturday 23 May	10.00 am Mass: <i>Fiona Bentley's birthday</i>	
Sunday 24 May 7th Sunday of Easter	10.00 am Mass: <i>People of the parish</i>	
Monday 25 May ST BEDE	10.00 am Mass: <i>George and Rose Wallis</i>	
Tuesday 26 May St Philip Neri	10.00 am Mass: <i>Ann and Joe Tindall</i>	
Wednesday 27 May ST AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY	10.0 am Mass: <i>For the care and love of all</i>	
Thursday 28 May	10.00 am Mass: <i>Peter and Agnes Hall</i>	
Friday 29 May St Paul VI Pope	10.00 am Mass: <i>Stephen Ottewell's birthday</i>	
Saturday 30 May	10.00 am Mass: <i>Holy Souls</i>	
Sunday 31 May PENTECOST SUNDAY	10.00 am Mass: <i>People of the parish</i>	

ST MARY'S

Collection: £

Quote:

"Sometimes it is the people
no one can imagine anything
of who do the things no one
can imagine" -
Alan Turing

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, 24 May 2020

Seventh Sunday of Easter

A PERSPECTIVE

- ◆ *There are no bombs raining on our heads*
- ◆ *I am not a prisoner held in solitary confinement, as millions are*
- ◆ *I am not a refugee trying to escape with my life*
- ◆ *I am not standing in line waiting to fill a pot of water*
- ◆ *I have access to fresh food and I'm not starving*
- ◆ *I have hot running water*
- ◆ *My country has not been ruined by years of war*
- ◆ *I can reach my friends by phone and check in on them*
- ◆ *My friends check in on me because they care about me*
- ◆ *Any whiplash I feel about this strange turn of events is itself a sign of privilege*
- ◆ *More than half of the world would gladly trade their everyday problems for the modest inconveniences I am experiencing*
- ◆ *I may have anxious dreams but I'm dreaming them on a proper bed and I'm not sleeping on the pavement*
- ◆ *By staying at home, I'm helping the planet rest*
- ◆ *As long as I have my mind I can create, imagine, dream and not be lonely*
- ◆ *This global crisis connects me to people around the world and reminds me of our common humanity. This is a good thing*
- ◆ *When something tragic happens to another country next time, I will respond to it not with superiority, but humility and recognition*
- ◆ *I will fight for positive changes and economically just policies in my own country*
- ◆ *I am surrounded by books*
- ◆ *I am surrounded by love*
- ◆ *The trees have already begun to bloom* - Fr Eamon Graham

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

Saturday
10.45 - 11.30 am,

Also by request and
any other time 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 now open each day **Monday to Friday 10 am to 12 noon** and operates from Woodhouse Close Church Centre as the distribution point for the food you generously bring to St Wilfrid's and St Mary's. A smaller amount is usually kept at St Mary's to help individuals outside of the hours the foodbank is open. **We still need tinned potatoes and tomatoes, rice pudding and spaghetti.** If you are able to donate food or money, these can be taken direct to Woodhouse Close Church Centre during the times above or brought to St Mary's presbytery.

Church offerings - 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 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.

CAFOD - **Coronavirus Emergency Appeal** - our help is urgently needed. Coronavirus has spread to many of the countries where CAFOD works. Vulnerable communities are lacking clean water and reliable food supplies. CAFOD's experts, working through

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
Marie Robinson
Sheila Campbell
John Boyle
Teresa Brown
Shirley Degnan
Margaret Brown
Joan Hannon
Christina Marsh (3)
Kathy Lloyd
Roman Banks
Jane Hardy (Kirby)



Scripture Readings for this week's Masses:

Sun	Acts 1: 12-14	Ps 26	1 Peter 4: 13-16	John 17:1-11
Mon	Ecclesiasticus 39:6-10	Ps 36	Matthew 5: 13-16	
Tues	Acts 20: 17-27	Ps 67	John 17: 1-11	
Wed	1Thessalonians 2: 2-8	Ps 116	Luke 10: 1-9	
Thurs	Acts 22: 30,23:6-11	Ps 15	John 17: 20-26	
Fri	Acts 25: 13-21	Ps 102	John 21: 15-19	
Sat	Acts 28: 16-20, 30-31	Ps 10	John 21: 20-25	
Sun	Acts 2: 1-11	Ps 103	1 Corinthians 12:3-7,12-13	John 20:19-23

local churches, are helping to limit the spread of the virus through prevention messages health advice and providing water, soap and toilets. We are unable to collect your CAFOD boxes at the moment but donations can be made online at - cafod.org.uk or by telephone on 08085858885. The crisis will require a long-term response so please keep putting your change in the boxes and we will deal with it as soon as we can. Thank you so much.

Help available - as part of the pastoral care of parishioners and others during this COVID-19 lockdown, a number of qualified counsellors and listeners have generously made themselves available to anyone who may be troubled by the negative effects of the situation. These counsellors and listeners can be contacted through the St Mary's Cathedral Listening Service on 0191 232 6953 and the Northumberland Listening Service on 07732980740.

Northern Cross - is a digital issue again this month but we're unable to provide it for free. You can get a years 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 - Eighteen recipes in so far to begin a simple parish cookbook. Give us your three favourite recipes and ask someone else to do the same. Thank you. We could have this ready in simple form by Christmas if you're interested. Do put your name on the recipes for us please. Thanks

Church opening - much discussion is taking place at national and diocesan level. We'll let you know when we have news. Initially, some churches are likely to be open for limited hours for private prayer. There will be conditions about safety and not all churches will be open to begin with. Masses and other services are likely to be in a second phase. In the meantime, pray we don't have a new spike of the virus. Thank you.

Please pray for those who have died from our parish and for their families. Please also include Veronica Simpson, Fiona Ewing's mother who passed away recently. May they rest in peace.

This Sunday is World Communications Sunday. Find a place in your prayers please for integrity in news and other media and in the ways we relate to each other. Thank you..