

This week

	Services & meetings
Saturday 24 April	10.30 am First Communion (Group II) Mass 5.30 pm Vigil Mass: <i>Denis Jackson</i>
Sunday 25 April 4th Sunday of Easter	9.30 am Mass at St Wilfrid's: <i>For Exam Success</i> 11.00 am Mass at St Mary's: <i>People of the parish</i>
Monday 26 April	No Mass: 11.00 - 1.00 - St Mary's open for private prayer
Tuesday 27 April	10.00 am Mass: <i>Gerard Coleman's Health</i>
Wednesday 28 April	10.00 am Mass: <i>Fr Tom Cunningham</i> 11.00 - 1.00 - St Mary's open for private prayer
Thursday 29 April ST CATHERINE OF SIENA	10.00am Mass: <i>Frank Carney</i>
Friday 30 April St George	10.00 am Mass: <i>Joan Banks</i> 11.00 - 1.00 - St Mary's open for private prayer 3.30 pm Funeral Service for CAROL HUTCHFIELD at Wear Valley Crematorium
Saturday 1 May St Joseph the Worker	10.30 am Mass: <i>Una Butler's recovery</i> 5.30 pm Vigil Mass: <i>Holy Souls</i>
Sunday 2 May 5th Sunday of Easter	9.30 am Mass at St Wilfrid's: <i>People of the parish</i> 11.00 am Mass at St Mary's: <i>Eilish and Derek Eagers</i>

Quote:

"Do not put off till tomorrow the good you can do today"
- St John Bosco

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 [25 April 2021](#)

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

TALKING TO GOD

Prayer is everywhere. The Hebrew word for Bible, properly means "calling out" - the calling out of God to us. We become ourselves as we answer, sometimes angrily disputing with him about how he rules the world, sometimes humbling ourselves before him in grateful trust. Prayer is language used to respond to the most that has been said to us, with the potential for saying all that is in us.

Prayer is the development of speech into maturity, the language that is adequate to answering the one who has spoken comprehensively to us. Prayer is not a narrow use of language for speciality occasions, but embracing the totality of everything and everyone everywhere. This conversation is both bold and devout - the utterly inferior responding to the utterly superior. The entire life of faith is dialogue. By means of the Psalms we can find our voice in the dialogue. In prayer we do not merely speak our feelings, we speak our answers. If we truly answer God there is nothing that we may not say to him.

- Eugene Peterson

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

By request and by simple arrangement.

Eastertide - how's it going for you? Being pleased Lent is over is very natural, but can we see these Easter weeks as a time to get to grips with what Easter has to teach us?

The Scriptures give the impression that the change in the Apostles was immediate. It simplifies the enduring process they had of re-writing their personal understanding. Absorbing something of the horror of the crucifixion and their new task of teaching about new life and forgiveness took time. For us too, it takes time.

We know the stories - it's a good start. Time spent with the stories and what they mean to us personally is time well spent. Try seeing yourself as teaching someone else about it. They'll have questions if you haven't. Stay with the questions - the Apostles had to, and they did. Greater appreciation won't happen overnight. Be patient with yourself and try not to give up easily. The Lord is teaching us in these weeks and it'd be a shame and a lost opportunity if we missed what this time is offering us. You may wish to check out the Scripture references for the readings we're using at Mass. They're at the top of the opposite page here. Any questions? Just ask. Thank you.

This Sunday - is World Day of Prayer for Vocations.

Parish Weekly Envelopes are available at the back of each church. Please collect yours or perhaps arrange for us to deliver. Could all who helpfully donate by standing order please collect your box of envelopes so that you have the white envelopes for the monthly second collections? Enormous thanks.

CAFOD cheques - if you ever make out a cheque to CAFOD for us to send off on your behalf could you please make it payable to CAFOD St Marys and St Wilfrid because we have a pay-in account with the London Office (CAFOD Romero House, 55 Westminster Bridge Road, London SE1 7JB). We can still take completed Gift Aid forms for money already paid in. Thank you. The total so far raised from our Walk for Water scheme during Lent is now £4700. Well done everyone. What a team!

CAFOD Gift Aid forms are available in church for all who can gift aid their CAFOD donations. Sponsor money can be gift aided too.

Found - a ring was found last weekend in St Mary's car park. Please phone the presbytery if it's yours or you know who may have lost it. Thanks.

The Foodbank - is a direct answer to the Lord's command to feed the hungry and care for those in any kind of need. The difference it makes helps people get through the week. **Opening hours are 9.00 am to 3 pm Monday to Thursday.** The Centre will not be operating on Fridays or across weekends. I keep emergency supplies at St. Mary's. **Could we request the following for the foodbank please: biscuits, mugshots/pot noodles, toothpaste, shower gel, tooth brushes, shampoo, tinned meat pies, rice pudding and packet soup. We have sufficient beans and soup at the moment. In the meantime,**

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
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)
Kathy Lloyd
Roman Banks
Jane Hardy (Kirby)
Margaret Pattenden
Dave Fleming*

*Please pray for
CAROL HUTCHFIELD (75)
and
JOSEPH MOUNSEY (85)
who have died. May they
rest in peace*



Scripture Readings for this week's Masses:

Sun	Acts 4: 8-12	Ps 117	1 John 3: 1-2	John 10: 11-18
Mon	Acts 11: 1-18	Ps 41	John 10: 1-10	
Tues	Acts 11: 19-26	Ps 86	John 10: 22-30	
Wed	Acts 12: 24-13:5	Ps 66	John 12 44-50	
1 John	1 John 1:5-2:2	Ps 102	Matthew 11: 25-30	
Fri	Acts 13: 26-33	Ps 2	John 14: 1-6	
Sat	Acts 13: 44-52	Ps 97	John 14: 7-14	
Sun	Acts 9: 26-31	Ps 21	1 John 3: 18-24	John 15: 1-8

any money to help with gas and electric needs continues to be invaluable. You can put anything in an envelope marked Foodbank or Crisis and post it through the letterbox at St Mary's and we'll pass it on.

Jeannie and Mike Hardy have been participating in the Global Catholic Movement addressing the environmental crisis affecting the whole world. Have a word with them about it. Lets see if we can start a parish group. More information later.

Parish finances - Please remember to use your yellow envelopes, not forgetting the white second collection envelope also. 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 copies in the plastic box on the presbytery doorstep. Thank you.

Used stamps - can be brought to church for helping the work of the Little Sisters of the poor. Thanks.

Northern Cross - Pick up your copy of the April issue of the paper, available now.

Woman's Refuge - are only accepting woman's, children's and baby clothes. Unfortunately no toys or games can be accepted at present.

Father Barry Matthews - Some of us will remember from his earlier visits Fr Barry Matthews, who is retiring from his work in South Africa and returning to England. He has a house to go to but it has nothing in it at the moment. If anyone has any spare household items (small enough to go in a car), they would be very welcome - please bring them to church, or phone Michael Broadbent (01388 488569) and he will be happy to collect them.

Please continue to send us your email addresses and telephone numbers. Thank you.

PLEASE KEEP SAFE AND SAVE LIVES.