

# This week

	Services & meetings
<b>Saturday 24 July</b> MARTYRS of the DIOCESE	<b>10.00 am Mass:</b> <i>Kathleen &amp; Dorothy Greenhead-James</i> <b>5.30 pm Vigil Mass:</b> <i>Joe Kearney</i>
<b>Sunday 25 July</b> 17th Sunday of the Year	<b>9.30 am Mass at St Wilfrid's:</b> <i>Catherine Fitzpatrick</i> <b>11.00 am Mass at St Mary's:</b> <i>Waldemar Madej</i>
<b>Monday 26 July</b> SS Joachim and Anne	<b>10.00 am Mass:</b> for <i>Kath Emmerson</i> <b>10.00 am Eucharistic Service at St Wilfrid's</b> <b>11.00 - 1.00 - St Mary's open for private prayer</b>
<b>Tuesday 27 July</b>	<b>10.00am Mass:</b> <i>People of the parish</i>
<b>Wednesday 28 July</b>	<b>No Mass</b> <b>11.00 - 1.00 - St Mary's open for private prayer</b> <b>8 pm: Our Common home meeting</b> - St Mary's meeting room
<b>Thursday 29 July</b> St Martha	<b>No Mass</b>
<b>Friday 30 July</b>	<b>10.30 am Funeral Service for MICK DEGNAN at Wear Valley Crematorium</b> <b>11.00 - 1.00 - St Mary's open for private prayer</b>
<b>Saturday 31 July</b>	<b>No Morning Mass</b> <b>No Vigil Mass</b>
<b>Sunday 1 August</b> 18th Sunday of the Year	<b>9.30 am Eucharistic Service at St Wilfrid's</b> <b>11.00 am Eucharistic Service at St Mary's</b>

## Quote:

"When you pray, move your feet!"  
- African proverb

## 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 July 2021](#)

## SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY of the YEAR

### Doing nothing is not an option

When we yield to helplessness, we strengthen the hand of those who would destroy. When we choose indifference, we betray our world. Yet the world is not decided by action alone. It is decided more by consciousness and spirit; they are the secret sources of all action and behaviour. The spirit of a time is an incredibly subtle, yet hugely powerful force. And it is comprised of the mentality and spirit of all individuals together.

Therefore, the way you look at things is not simply a private matter. Your outlook actually and concretely affects what goes on. When you give in to helplessness, you collude with despair and add to it. When you take back your power and choose to see the possibilities for healing and transformation, your creativity awakens and flows to become an active force of renewal and encouragement in the world. In this way, even in your own hidden life you can become a powerful agent of transformation in a broken, darkened world. There is a huge force-field that opens when intention focuses and directs itself towards transformation.

- John O'Donohue

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.

**COVID arrangements in church** - You will be alarmed, as we all are, that the virus is increasingly active in our part of the north east and may get worse before it gets better. Even though the Government has removed restrictions, we must continue the arrangements and requirements we had before last weekend. Bishop Robert asks that they remain in place until the end of August at least and then they'll be reviewed. The Government's Health & Safety at Work Act requires organisations to be sensitive to their unique circumstances. Remember we are in a confined space and therefore we will maintain sanitising on entry and exit, wearing masks, keeping social distancing and continuing the cleaning routines we have after each Mass. Choirs are allowed but need to keep the required distance. Congregations are allowed to sing but must wear masks!! We'll leave that one out for a while yet. What a mad idea. In time, a number of changes may be feasible and will be phased in gently. Thank you for your patience and for helping to keep yourself and others safe.

**Our Common Home** - please note that the next meeting of those coming together to discuss and take forward our care for the Earth will be this Wednesday at 7pm in the meeting room or church at St Mary's. Do please come and bring someone else too. Thank you.

**One World and our eating habits** for those with access to computers, check out the Creature Kind website this week; <https://www.creaturekind.org>

Creature Kind provides information, prompts and discussions, shares stories and offers recommendations for flourishing as human creatures without denying the flourishing of animal creatures. Consider adopting a DefaultVeg diet - where plant based foods are chosen over meat based. Creature Kind says when we begin to rely on plant foods, we drastically reduce our ecological footprint. Decreasing demand for animal products improves food and water security, reduces the problem of growing antibiotic resistance and reduces the risk of diseases such as swine and bird flu.

#### **Keep helping the Earth**

- ◇ Organise a litter-picking walk
- ◇ Use charity shops
- ◇ Cook with leftovers
- ◇ Reduce water wastage
- ◇ Buy locally sourced food
- ◇ Insulate the loft
- ◇ Plant trees
- ◇ Boil only as much water as you need
- ◇ Use low energy light bulbs

**Plastic Free August** - You are invited to join millions of people reducing their plastic waste. This is a global movement that helps millions of people to be part of the solution to plastic pollution so we can have cleaner streets, oceans, and beautiful communities. Will you be part of Plastic Free August by choosing to refuse single use plastics?

This movement has inspired an estimated 326 million participants in 177 countries. You making a small change will collectively make a

#### **Please pray for the health of:**

*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  
Jacob Thomas  
Charlotte Thomas  
John Boyle  
Teresa Brown  
Joan Hannon  
Christina Marsh  
Kathy Lloyd  
Roman Banks  
Jane Hardy (Kirby)  
Margaret Pattenden*

**Please pray for  
SHEILA CAMPBELL (83)  
and  
MICHAEL DEGNAN (83)  
who have died.  
May they rest in peace.**



#### **Scripture Readings for this week's Masses:**

Sun	2 Kings 4: 42-44	Ps 144	Ephesians 4: 1-6	John 6: 1-15
Mon	Exodus 32: 15-24, 30-34	Ps 105	Matthew 13: 31-35	
Tues	Exodus 33: 7-11, 34: 5-9, 28	Ps 102	Matthew 13: 36-43	
Wed	Exodus 34: 29-35	Ps 98	Matthew 13: 44-46	
Thurs	Exodus 40: 16-21, 34-38	Ps 83	Matthew 13: 47-53	
Fri	Leviticus 23: 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34-37	Ps 80	Matthew 13: 54-58	
Sat	Leviticus 25: 1, 8-17	Ps 66	Matthew 14: 1-12	
Sun	Exodus 16: 2-4, 12-15	Ps 77	Ephesians 4: 17, 20-24	John 6: 24-35

massive difference to our communities. You can choose to refuse single use plastic this August and beyond and this can help you to find great alternatives that can become new habits forever? Think about it. Why would you make something that you are going to use for a few minutes out of a material that you are just going to throw away and that basically can last forever. It's up to us. Please tell someone else as well.

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

**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. **UNUSUALLY, DUE TO CONTRIBUTIONS FROM SUPERMARKETS, A LACK OF STORAGE SPACE AND TEMPORARY LOWER DEMAND, WE HAVE A LOT OF FOOD AND DON'T NEED MORE FOR THE MOMENT. In the meantime, 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.

**Parish finances** - Please remember to use your green 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** July edition is available now at the bargain price of £1.50. Do make sure you get yours to keep informed. Thank you.

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

**PLEASE KEEP SAFE AND SAVE LIVES.**