

# This week

	Services & meetings	Location
Saturday 24 October	10.00 am Mass: <i>Private Intention</i> 5.30 pm Vigil Mass: <i>Eileen Relton</i>	
Sunday 25 October <i>30th Sunday of the Year</i>	10.00 am Mass: <i>People of the parish</i>	
Monday 26 October SS Chad & Cedd	No Mass: 11.00 - 1.00 - <i>St Mary's open for private prayer</i>	
Tuesday 27 October	10 am Mass: <i>Kenneth Clarkson</i> 2.30 pm Funeral Service for <b>MORRIS BROMLEY</b> at <i>Wear Valley Crematorium</i>	
Wednesday 28 October SS Simon & Jude <i>apostles</i>	10.00 am Mass: <i>Fr Tony Duffy</i> 11.00 - 1.00 - <i>St Mary's open for private prayer</i> 3.30 pm Requiem Mass for <b>PAMELA HARROP</b>	
Thursday 29 October	10.00 am Mass: <i>Health of Sr. Maria of the Holy Spirit</i>	
Friday 30 October <i>The Martyrs of Douai</i> <i>College</i>	10.00 am Mass: <i>Christine Bestford and Jim Arthurs</i> 11.00 - 1.00 - <i>St Mary's open for private prayer</i>	
Saturday 31 October	10.00 am Mass: <i>Special Intention</i> 5.30 pm Vigil Mass: <i>Shirley Degnan</i>	
Sunday 1 November <b>ALL SAINTS DAY</b>	10.00 am Mass: <i>People of the parish</i>	

## ST MARY'S

Collection: £

Thank you

## Quote:

"I should be sorry if I only entertained them: I wish to make them better" -  
**George Frideric Handel**

## ST WILFRID'S

Collection: £

Thank you

**In addition to the church collections, we also now receive on average £883 per month from standing orders. Enormous thanks.**

## The Parish of St Mary + St Wilfrid

In the Escomb Partnership of the Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle

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Sunday, 25 October 2020

# THIRTIETH SUNDAY of the YEAR

## Humanity - or Love your enemies

In 1941, Mama took me back to Moscow. There I saw our enemy for the first time. If my memory is right, nearly 20,000 German war prisoners were to be marched in a single column through the streets of Moscow.

The pavements swarmed with onlookers, cordoned off by soldiers and police. The crowd were mostly women. Russian women with hands roughened by hard work, lips untouched by lipstick and thin hunched shoulders which had borne half the burden of the war. Every one of them must have had a father or a husband or brother or a son killed by the Germans.

They gazed with hatred in the direction from which the column was to appear. At last we saw it.

The generals marched at the head, massive chins stuck out, lips folded disdainfully, their whole demeanour meant to show superiority over their plebeian victors . . .

The women were clenching their fists. The soldiers and policemen had all they could do to hold them back.

All at once something happened to them.

They saw German soldiers, thin, unshaven, wearing dirty blood-stained bandages, hobbling on crutches or leaning on the shoulders of their comrades; the soldiers walked with their heads down.

The street became dead silent – the only sound was the shuffling of boots and the thumping of crutches.

Then I saw an elderly woman in broken-down boots push herself forward and touch a policeman's shoulder, saying, 'Let me through.' There must have been something about her that made him step aside.

She went up to the column, took from inside her coat something wrapped in a colourful handkerchief and unfolded it. It was a crust of black bread. She pushed it awkwardly into the pocket of a soldier, so exhausted that he was tottering on his feet. And now suddenly from every side women were running towards the soldiers, pushing into their hands bread, cigarettes, whatever they had.

The soldiers were no longer enemies. They were people.

*Yevtushenko*

**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 the most recent government advice, and that from our Bishops, church will be open for Mass and private prayer. See the note inside 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.

**The Foodbank** - has been increasingly busy over the last few months and as work prospects change, we foresee greater demand when redundancies become more likely. If you can help at all, we'd love your support. **At present the Foodbank would be helped by jam, packet potatoes, coffee, soap, toothpaste and tooth brushes and any other nutritious foodstuffs you are able to offer.** Donations of money have been generous and we hope that will continue. Bringing the actual goods is a direct help as it saves a further task of someone having to go and source the items needed. Thank you in advance. **Please note the hours for the food bank are now 10am - 2.30pm Monday to Thursday.**

**The Shoebox Appeal** - is not happening this year. It would be unsafe in the present situation to provide items as we've done previously. You can help the scheme by putting any money donation in the single shoebox provided at the back of the church. This will help with next years transporting arrangements. Thank you.

#### **Church opening - where we are**

- As of now, facemasks are required in church
- We are open at St Mary's on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 11am to 1pm for private prayer
- Tune into our streamed daily Mass at 10am on YouTube. To access this, go to St Marys Bishop Auckland YouTube or [HTTP://bit.ly/St Mary YouTube](http://bit.ly/StMaryYouTube)
- Vigil Mass with a congregation is on Saturday evenings at 5.30pm and booking in advance with a contact number is essential. Places are limited to 50 with social distancing. **Please book in for each time. You are also welcome to join us physically in St Mary's for any of our 10 am streamed Masses, including Sundays. Ring to book in or sign in at the back of church. Thank you.**
- Arrangements can now be made to use St Mary's for funerals, baptisms and weddings, limited to 30 people. Contact should be made with Fr Dennis as a first requirement

**Current Financial Situation** - church collections after 6 months of this financial year end are running at 76% of the previous year. This is a reduction of just over £5000. In addition, other income i.e. papers, piety and candles show reductions, this is only to be expected, of approximately £2000 over previous years. Our financial accounts to end of September show a deficit of £9574. This compares with our budget forecast of a deficit of £11596. Costs this year include capital costs of £6076, being costs of CCTV instalment at both church properties and streaming equipment at St Mary's. There will be further streaming costs of approximately £3000 in the 3rd quarter. Many thanks to our parishioners who continue to support the parish with your offerings.

**Parish finances** - Please remember to use your yellow

#### **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  
Sheila Campbell  
John Boyle  
Teresa Brown  
Joan Hannon  
Christina Marsh (3)  
Ian & Kathy Lloyd  
Roman Banks  
Jane Hardy (Kirby)  
Wilf Teesdale*

**Please pray for  
MORRIS BROMLEY (86)  
and PAMELA HARROP (67)  
who have died.  
May they rest in peace**



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

Sun	Exodus 22: 20-26	Ps 17	1 Thessalonians 1: 5-10	Matthew 22: 24-40
Mon	Ephesians 4: 32-5:8	Ps 1	Luke 13: 10-17	
Tues	Ephesians 5: 21-33	Ps 127	Luke 13: 18-21	
Wed	Ephesians 2: 19-22	Ps 18	Luke 6: 12-19	
Thurs	Ephesians 6: 10-20	Ps 143	Luke 13: 31-35	
Fri	Philippians 1: 1-11	Ps 110	Luke 14: 1-6	
Sat	Philippians 1: 18-26	Ps 41	Luke 14: 1, 7-11	
Sun	Apocalypse 7: 2-4, 9-14	Ps 23	1 John 3: 1-3	Matthew 5: 1-12

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.

Are you or anyone you know, **thinking of becoming a Catholic?** If you are new to the Catholic faith and would like to know more, you are invited to join a weekly online programme arranged by the Diocese. It's called RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) and registration is now open - Tuesday evenings 6.30 to 7.30 pm. The hour-long online meetings will enable you to meet others who are also beginning the programme. You can also get in touch, please, with Father Dennis. To register or find out more, email: [adminfaith.mission@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:adminfaith.mission@diocesehn.org.uk). Thanks.

**Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible** - is a free online course of 8 sessions on Monday evenings 7.30 to 8.30pm on 2nd, 9th, 16th and 23rd November 2020 and 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd February 2021. To register or for more information email the address above.

**Northern Cross** - is struggling from no back of church sales. This will last for some time but our funds are very limited. It's a digital issue again this month but we're unable to provide it for free. You can get a year's online subscription or postal subscription 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. Please check out the blue form in the bulletin box at the presbytery door. Thanks.

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

**THE VIRUS IS STILL VERY ACTIVE PLEASE STAY SAFE**