

This week

Day/Date	Services & meetings
Saturday 25 February	No morning Mass 5.30 pm Vigil Mass at St Mary's: <i>Special Intention</i>
Sunday 26 February <i>1st Sunday of Lent</i>	09.30 am Mass at St Wilfrid's: <i>Mary Curry's recovery</i> 11.00 am Mass St Mary's: <i>Maureen Nicholson (90)</i>
Monday 27 February	No Mass 10.00 am <i>Eucharistic Service at St Wilfrid's</i> 1.00 pm <i>Craft Group at St Mary's</i>
Tuesday 28 February	No Mass 2.00 pm <i>Holy Hour at St Wilfrid's</i>
Wednesday 1 March <i>ST DAVID</i>	10.00 am Mass: <i>John Watson Harrop</i> 6.30 pm <i>Parish Council Meeting</i>
Thursday 2 March	10.00 am Mass: <i>Health of Sean & Rosemary Ames</i>
Friday 3 March	No Mass <i>FAMILY FAST DAY. WOMANS DAY OF PRAYER</i> 6.30 pm <i>Stations of the Cross at St Mary's</i>
Saturday 4 March	No morning Mass 5.30 pm Vigil Mass at St Mary's: <i>Princey Senadhira</i>
Sunday 5 March <i>2nd Sunday of Lent</i>	09.30 am Mass at St Wilfrid's: <i>Eileen Stockton</i> 11.00 am Mass St Mary's: <i>People of the parish</i>

Quote

"No one would listen to you talking if they didn't know it was their turn next"
- E. W. Howe (1853-1937)

The Parish of St Mary + St Wilfrid

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To access streamed Masses: St Mary's Bishop Auckland YouTube [26 February, 2023](#)

1st SUNDAY OF LENT

A LOVE POEM

Lord, how do I love thee? Let me count the ways. I love thee to the depth and breadth and height my soul can reach, when feeling out of sight for the ends of being and ideal grace.

I love thee to the level of every day's most quiet need, by sun and candlelight. I love thee freely, as men strive for right; I love thee purely, as they turn from praise.

I love thee with a passion put to use in my old griefs, and with my childhood faith. I love thee with a love I seemed to lose with my lost saints - I love thee with the breath, smiles, tears, of all my life!

And God, if thou dost choose I shall love thee better after death.

- Elizabeth Browning, 1806-1861 (adapted)



Confession Times
St Mary's

By request and by simple arrangement.

Grateful thanks to Frs Paul Tully and Gordon Ryan for looking after our weekend Masses. Any emergencies please contact Fr Tony Cornforth at St Mary's, Newton Aycliffe on 01325 313611.

Lent Extra is available and on sale today at £1.50. A great buy.

Turkey-Syria Earthquake - We're all shocked by the devastation and loss of life, homes and livelihoods in Turkey and Syria through the earthquakes. The issues and needs are enormous and CAFOD's Emergency Response Teams are there assessing needs on the ground. CAFOD has already been working in Syria for years providing humanitarian support to the millions of needy people caught up in the conflict there for the last 12 years. This tragedy adds to an already desperate crisis. If you would like to donate, we'll send on any funds in your name to help with emergency food, water, shelter and winter kits such as blankets and heating materials. Thank you.

Lent - I suggest each of us begins to ponder on how we'd like to spend the weeks of Lent. It's a time to prepare for the events of Holy Week and Easter. We need to choose something that brings us closer to the Lord, that improves our lives and relationships. You'll get a lot out of a slow reading of one of the Gospels and our prayer life should be looked at to see if we want to change anything. We may wish to include more thanks and praise alongside any requests we make. Do ask if you need any help. Thanks.

The Journey of Faith - many people do not join the Church because no one ever asks them. Is there anyone in your family or acquaintances to whom you might raise a question about whether they may be interested in learning more about faith, about God, about the Church? You could be a great help in making an opportunity for the Holy Spirit to enter and initiate a journey of faith in an individual's life. I'm always happy to help and to answer any questions.

The Big Cafod Walk - This year Cafod has set the Lent challenge of a walk, 200km over 40 days, to raise money to fight global poverty. As a parish we are frequently asking for support for local causes and other urgent needs of people. We appreciate the generosity of everyone, but if you feel you could support this appeal with whatever you could manage that would be great.

Easter Eggs - Along with St Wilfrid's we will be selling "The Real Easter Egg" made by The Meaningful Chocolate Company. Supermarkets are not allowing this egg to be sold in any stores this year, so as not to offer other competition to their main suppliers. Around 80 million eggs will be sold in this part of the world - yet this is the only egg that tells the Easter Story. By using Fairtrade chocolate they ensure producers get a fair price allowing them to improve their communities. The chocolate is palm oil free and no plastic used in the packaging. They are more expensive than many you can buy in a supermarket at £3.99

Please pray for the health of:

*Irene Welford
Mrs Aitken
Val Mundell
Joan Lightfoot
Michael Nicholson
Adam Hudspeth
Christopher Browne
Tyler Quinn
Norah Hutchinson
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
Alan Harrison
Eileen Kelly*



Scripture Readings for this week's Masses:

Sun	Genesis 2: 7-9, 3: 1-7	Ps 50	Romans 5: 12-19	Matthew 4: 1-11
Mon	Leviticus 19: 1-2, 11-18	Ps 18	Matthew 25: 31-46	
Tues	Isaiah 55: 10-11	Ps 33	Matthew 6: 7-15	
Wed	Jonah 3: 1-10	Ps 50	Luke 11: 29-32	
Thurs	Esther 4:17	Ps 137	Matthew 7: 7-12	
Fri	Ezekiel 18: 21-28	Ps 129	Matthew 5: 20-26	
Sat	Deuteronomy 26: 16-19	PS 118	Matthew 5: 43-48	
Sun	Genesis 12: 1-4	Ps 32	2 Timothy 1:8-10	Matthew 17: 1-9

each - but in buying them we help others. Stock is limited so if you would like one please ask. Many thanks.

Churches with warm spaces during winter - The Bishop Auckland Fellowship of Christian Churches have made arrangements to have safe and warm places where individuals can come to socialize over a cuppa and biscuits.

Woodhouse Close Church, Proudfoot Drive, DL14 6PD - open Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 9.30 am to 2.30pm.

The Parish Centre, Middlewood Avenue, St Helen's, DL14 9DJ - the lounge is open on Tuesdays from 10am - 3pm and Thursdays from 11am - 2pm.

The Ark - at the back of St Helen's Church DL14 9DN—open on a Wednesday from 10.30am to 4pm.

Bishop Auckland Baptist Church, Cockton Hill Road, DL14 6AH, from week beginning 31st October their Church will be open Tuesdays and Wednesdays 10am - 3pm, Thursdays—Wellbeing Café, from 9.30am including a light lunch from 12.30pm.

St Mary's Catholic Church, Vart Road, DL14 6PQ—Thursdays and Fridays 11am to 2 pm.

Bishop Auckland Methodist Church, Cockton Hill Road, DL14 6DN, Monday and Fridays 10—3 pm.

Coffee morning/Warm Space - Thursdays and Fridays in St Mary's Meeting Room 11am—2pm. Please see the helpers Rota at the back of church. Any problems ring Zita on 01388 604926 or 07722219173.

Holy Hour at St Wilfrid's Will continue on Tuesdays to avoid clashing with the Craft Club. It's a great opportunity to step aside and spend some time with the Lord, present in the Blessed Sacrament - why not join us?

The Foodbank - A huge thank you for the donations received last week. **The following items are needed this week, UHT milk, pasta sauce, hot dogs and pot noodles . 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 heating 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. Thank you.

Quiz - We will be holding a quiz on Wednesday 8 March at 7.30pm, doors open at 7pm in St Mary's meeting room. Look forward to seeing you then.