

This week

Day/Date	Services & meetings
Saturday 25 March ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD	Morning Mass at 8.30 am: Maureen Nicholson 5.30 pm Vigil Mass at St Mary's: Paul Brown
Sunday 26 March 5th Sunday of Lent	09.30 am Family Mass at St Wilfrid's: Margaret Jane McIntyre 11.00 am Mass St Mary's: Dave Fleming
Monday 27 March	No Mass 10.00 am Eucharistic Service at St Wilfrid's 1.00 pm Craft Group at St Mary's
Tuesday 28 March	9.00 am Mass: Health of Val and John Lampard 10.30 am Funeral Service at St Mary's for MAUREEN COGLAN 2.00 pm Holy Hour at St Wilfrid's
Wednesday 29 March	9.00 am Mass: Holy Souls 10.30 am Funeral Service at St Mary's for JOSEPH McENTEGGART
Thursday 30 March	No Mass 7.00 pm at St Wilfrids: Passover Meal
Friday 31 March	8.15 Mass in St John's School Chapel 10.00 am Mass: Ian Lloyd 6.30 pm Stations of the Cross at St Mary's
Saturday 1 April	10.00 am Mass: Private Intention 10.30 am Bulb and seed planting event at St Mary's 5.30 pm Vigil Mass at St Mary's: Margery Harrop
Sunday 2 April PALM SUNDAY	09.30 am Mass at St Wilfrid's: Maeve Mooney 11.00 am Mass St Mary's: People of the parish

Quote

"Right and justice is not to be sold, or denied, or delayed to anyone".
- Magna Carta 1215

The Parish of St Mary + St Wilfrid

In the Escomb Partnership of the Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle
Fr Dennis Tindall, St Mary's, Vart Road, Bishop Auckland, DL14 6PQ Tel: (01388) 603431
website: Parish of St Mary and St Wilfrid : Bulletin e-mail: office@stmaryandstwilfrid.org.uk
To access streamed Masses: St Mary's Bishop Auckland YouTube [26 March, 2023](#)

5th SUNDAY OF LENT

Maybe we're supposed to Meet the Wrong People

Maybe we are supposed to meet the wrong people before we meet the right one so when they finally arrive we are truly grateful for the gift we have been given.

Maybe it's true that we don't know what we have lost until we lose it but it is also true that we don't know what we're missing until it arrives.

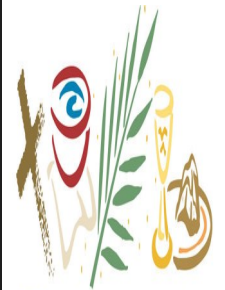
Maybe the happiest of people don't have the best of everything, but make the best of everything that comes their way.

Maybe the best kind of love is the kind where you sit on the sofa together, not saying a word, and walk away feeling like it was the best conversation you ever had.

Maybe once in a lifetime you find someone who not only touches your heart but also your soul, someone who loves you for who you are and not what you could be.

Maybe the art of true love is not about finding the perfect person, but about seeing an imperfect person perfectly.

- Anon



LENT

Confession Times St Mary's

By request and by simple arrangement.

Holy Week times - Palm Sunday, 2nd April: Masses as usual.

Service of Forgiveness and Reconciliation: 6pm at St Mary's

Holy Thursday: Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper 7pm at St Wilfrid's

Good Friday: Solemn Celebration of the Passion 3pm at St Mary's

Holy Saturday: Easter Vigil at 8.30pm at St Mary's

Easter Sunday: Masses as usual

Survey - The investigation continuing into various matters in the Diocese has been commissioned by the Vatican Office (known as Dicastery) for Bishops. A survey has been issued for parishioners to complete. You may wish to access this and choose to respond. This is an anonymous survey, all answers are provided in complete confidence, and you are asked to give your own individual views. The survey will run until Monday 27 March 2023 and can be accessed at <https://forms.gle/wevQ6zrj1t8SCxNq5> or through the Diocesan website. Please complete the survey only once, even if you hold more than one role in the Diocese.

Cost of living - There's shocking new research about Bishop Auckland. Funded by the 38 Degrees community, it reveals how the cost of living crisis is affecting every single constituency in Britain - including ours. From missing rent payments to being unable to afford heating, it tells a bleak story. **Here's how people are struggling in Bishop Auckland: 36% couldn't afford to turn the heating on when cold in the past month, 17% missed a rent payment in the last six months, 31% are worried about having to use a food bank in the next year and 44% of people's mental health has worsened due to the cost of living crisis. This is us. We must continue to help.**

Laudato Si Group - Spring into Action-Bulb and Seed Planting Event - Saturday 1st. April 10.30am at St. Mary's. Loads of fun. No charge! Materials provided, plus free refreshments. Great for novices and families. Experienced gardeners welcome for support and advice. An ideal time to start off our gardens. Courtesy of Laudato Si group.

Passover Meal - We plan to celebrate the Passover Meal again this year at St Wilfrid's on Thursday 30th March, 7.00pm. It's a great way of reminding ourselves of the way In which God has saved us and set us free - a unique mixture of the spiritual and the social. Space is limited, so we need to operate a ticket system - a donation of £6 is asked to cover costs. Tickets are at St Wilfrid's, or phone Michael Broadbent (01388 488569).

St Mary's Church Cleaning - As Easter is quite early this year we have decided to combine the March clean (Group 1 due to clean on 20th) to a joint clean on Monday April 3rd. If anyone not on our regular rota would like to come along and help it would make for much lighter work. We will then have a lovely clean church for the Holy Week ahead of us. All welcome - if your children are off school we have plenty of dusters and benches to polish. Many thanks.

Turkey-Syria Earthquake - 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.

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*

Please pray for

**JOSEPH McENTAGGART (81)
MAUREEN COGLAN (85)
who have died.
May they rest in
peace.**



Scripture Readings for this week's Masses:

Sun	Ezekiel 37: 12-14	Ps 129	Romans 8: 8-11	John 11: 1-45
Mon	Daniel 13: 1-9, 15-17, 19-30 33-62	Ps 22	John 8: 1-11	
Tues	Numbers 21: 4-9	Ps 101	John 8: 21-30	
Wed	Daniel 3: 14-20, 24-25, 28	Daniel 3: 52-56	John 8: 31-42	
Thurs	Genesis 17: 3-9	Ps 104	John 8: 51-59	
Fri	Jeremiah 20: 10-13	Ps 17	John 10: 31-42	
Sat	Ezekiel 37: 21-28	Jeremiah 31: 10-13	John 11: 45-56	
Sun	Isaiah 50: 4-7	Ps 21	Philippians 2: 6-11	Matthew 26: 14-27:66

Let's get together for lunch - come and enjoy a simple meal, in the company of friends, 12 - 1.30 on Wednesday 29 March at St Anne's Church.

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

The Foodbank - A huge thank you for the donations received last week. **The following items are needed this week, UHT milk, pasta sauce and tinned tomatoes. 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.

St. Mary's Easter Windowsills - Would you like to take a windowsill and decorate it using the Easter theme? You could do this on your own or with the family, a friend or a group. You could think of something along the many readings of Lent or theme it over the major Easter celebrations. You can produce your arrangement using recycled goods, hand made items or flowers. There are lots of ideas to be found online. We have sixteen spaces to fill, so put your name down on the list at the back of church. We will open the church 11am - 1pm on Easter Saturday for you to bring your contributions. Give it a try it's fun and makes our church look even more beautiful. Many thanks.