

Annual Parishioners' Christmas Lunch - St John's ask us to join them on Tuesday 19 December from 11.45 to 2 pm for Christmas lunch. This event is free of charge, however they are raising funds to support the Pilgrimage to Lourdes so any donations will be gratefully received. **RSVP by 11 December on 03188 603246.** Please see poster at back of church.

Bishop Auckland Baptist Church are offering free food and festive fun on Christmas Day from 12 noon until 3pm. To book a place please call **01388 450838 before 3pm on Thursday 14 December.** Please see poster at the back of church for more details.

From Darkness to Light - on Advent Sunday, 3rd December at 4.30pm in St Wilfrid's we will celebrate what has traditionally been known as the Lucernarium, when we use music, readings and prayers to reflect on the coming of Jesus Christ as light into a dark world. All are welcome, and refreshments will be served afterwards (contributions gratefully received!)

St. Mary's Piety Shop now has Christmas cards, Advent Calendars, Chocolate and Small Christmas items for sale.

The Foodbank - A huge thank you for the donations received last week. **The following items are needed this week, tinned spaghetti, hot dogs, pasta sauce, UHT milk and good quality bags for life. 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 fuel costs 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. Autumn temperatures will drop. Thank you.

World Peace—please have a space in your personal prayer for peace in the war zones of the world and for the plight of innocent children and civilians. Thank you.

Pope Francis' brilliant document on caring for creation (Laudato Si) is now 8 years old! Not enough has happened over this time so he has written a further document called Laudate Deum (meaning 'Praise God') about the climate crisis. We have some copies at £4.95 at the back of church.

Please pray for the health of:

*Irene Welford
Mrs Aitken
Joan Lightfoot
Michael Nicholson
Adam Hudspeth
Christopher Browne
Tyler Quinn
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
Eileen Kelly
Senara Wilton
Joan Vasey
Patrick Fogarty*



Scripture Readings for this week's Masses:

Sun	Ezekiel 34: 11-12, 15-17	Ps 22	1 Corinthians 15: 20-26, 28	Matthew 25: 31-46
Mon	Daniel 1: 1-6, 8-20	Daniel 3: 52-56	Luke 21: 1-4	
Tues	Daniel 2: 31-45	Daniel 3: 57-61	Luke 21: 5-11	
Wed	Daniel 5: 1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28	Daniel 3: 62-67	Luke 21: 12-19	
Thurs	Romans 10: 9-18	Ps 18	Matthew 4: 18-22	
Fri	Daniel 7: 2-14	Daniel 3: 75-81	Luke 21: 29-33	
Sat	Daniel 7: 15-27	Daniel 3: 82-87	Luke 21: 34-36	
Sun	Isaiah 63: 16-17, 64:1, 3-8	Ps 79	1 Corinthians 1: 3-9	Matthew 13: 33-37

Advent Extra copies are now available at £2.00—great value at a great price.

St. Mary's November Church Cleaning - The Nevin Family.

Marie Curie Nursing - have gladly arranged an evening in St Mary's when we'll enjoy the music of Durham Police Brass Band on Friday 8 December at 7.30pm. Seasonal refreshments will be provided. If you're ready for a night out, come and join us. Adults £7.50, children £1 and it's pay on the door.

CHRISTMAS QUIZ NIGHT with a bottle stall on 7 December. Please pencil the date in your diary. Can we also ask if you have any spare bottles for the stall could you bring them to either St Mary's or St Wilfrid's. Many thanks.

Bible Alive— November's copies are available at the back of church. Please collect yours if you ordered a monthly copy. Tick against your name on the list for November. £1.50. Thank you.

The Faith Museum — is the stunning new building at Auckland Castle. It has opened now. This new asset to Bishop Auckland will explore the many ways faith has shaped lives and communities across Britain. There are four galleries with displays and changing exhibitions. It houses over 250 objects from across the UK, some national treasures and personal mementos. The museum's story begins 6000 years ago, taking visitors on a journey through time, considering the ways faith has shaped our lives throughout history and continues to do so. Plan to visit sometime in the Autumn. Tickets can be booked in advance. We hope to arrange a guided tour.

SVP Club - November winning numbers are 76 and 57. No winners here. Many thanks.

This week

	Services & meetings
Saturday 25 November	10.00 am Mass: 5.30 pm Vigil Mass: <i>Elizabeth Beatrice, Dennis Benedict, Stanley Chrisanth, Rowland Benedict, Dennister Leopold</i>
Sunday 26 November <i>CHRIST THE KING</i>	09.30 am Mass at St Wilfrid's: <i>Thanksgiving for 90th birthday</i> 11.00 am Mass at St Mary's: <i>Helena and Andrzej Zapotoczny</i>
Monday 27 November	No Mass 10.00 am Eucharistic Service at St Wilfrid's 1.00 pm <i>Craft Club at St Mary's</i>
Tuesday 28 November	10.00 am Mass: <i>Special Intention (P)</i>
Wednesday 29 November	10.00 am Mass: <i>Holy Souls</i>
Thursday 30 November	10.00 am Mass: <i>Fr Paddy O'Connell</i>
Friday 1 December	8.15 am Mass in St John's School Chapel 10.00 am Mass: <i>Alice Cahill</i>
Saturday 2 December	10.00 am Mass: <i>Sheila Stobbs</i> 5.30 pm Vigil Mass: <i>People of the parish</i>
Sunday 3 December <i>1st Sunday of Advent</i>	09.30 am Mass at St Wilfrid's: <i>Eileen Relton</i> 11.00 am Mass at St Mary's: <i>Gosia and Jan Kucharski</i>

Quote:

"They were all looking for a king to slay their foes and lift them high; thou cam'st, a little baby thing that made a woman cry."

- George MacDonald

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 November, 2023**

CHRIST THE KING

CHRIST THE KING

More than a King?

In Lloyd Douglas' book *The Robe*, the slave Demetrius pushed his way through the crowd on Palm Sunday, trying to see who was the centre of attraction. He got close enough to look upon the face of Jesus.

Later another slave asked, 'See him—close up?' Demetrius nodded.

'Crazy?'

Demetrius shook his head emphatically.

'King!'

'No' muttered Demetrius, 'not a king'.

'What is he then?' demanded the other slave.

'I don't know,' mumbled Demetrius, 'but he is something more than a king.'

- Lloyd Douglas



Confession Times

St Mary's

By request and by simple arrangement.