

This week

	Services & meetings
Saturday 27 November	10.00 am Mass: <i>People of the parish</i> 5.30 pm Vigil Mass: <i>Deceased of Anita Walsh's Family</i>
Sunday 28 November <i>1st Sunday of Advent</i>	9.30 am Mass at St Wilfrid's: <i>Eileen Relton</i> 11.00 am Mass at St Mary's: <i>Holy Souls</i>
Monday 29 November <i>St Cecilia</i>	No Mass 10.00 am <i>Eucharistic Service at St Wilfrid's</i> 11-1 pm <i>St Mary's open for private prayer</i>
Tuesday 30 November <i>St Andrew Apostle</i>	10.00 am Mass: <i>Holy Souls</i>
Wednesday 1 December	10.00 am Mass: <i>Philip White</i>
Thursday 2 December	10.00 am Mass: <i>Sheila Stobbs</i>
Friday 3 December	8.15 am Mass in St John's School 10.00 am Mass: <i>Diocesan priests</i> 7.00 pm <i>Durham Police Brass Band at St Mary's</i>
Saturday 4 December	10.00 am Mass: <i>Kristoph Stencel</i> 5.30 pm Vigil Mass: <i>For the health of parishioners</i>
Sunday 5 December <i>2nd Sunday of Advent</i>	9.30 am Mass at St Wilfrid's: <i>Deceased of Quang's Family</i> 11.00 am Mass at St Mary's: <i>People of the parish</i>

Quote:

"God bless thee; and put meekness in thy mind, love, charity, obedience and true duty!"

- William Shakespeare

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 **28 November 2021**

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Advent is a new start

Help us Lord, to be generous with the gift of time which you have given us.

May we show on our faces that we do have time for others.... time to listen, time to share the burden, time to celebrate their joy.

Help us to leave behind the self-centred routine which has taken us away from family and neighbours.

Help us to be generous in our emotions. May all our feelings and reactions be warmed by love.

When we fell like reacting in self-importance, show us how to be humble.

When we are stung and seek revenge, help us to reach out in forgiveness.

When we are fired to anger, help us to be patient and gentle. When we are full of prejudice and intolerance, show us how we might allow the other person to be different.

O God of all giving, overwhelm us with a sense of your love, so that all we have is for you, all we do is with you, and all we are is in you.

- Fr Silvester O'Flynn

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.

Our Advent Service of Forgiveness and Reconciliation will be on Sunday 12 December at 6pm at St. Mary's. Everyone is most welcome. Come and receive the Lord's forgiveness and blessing.

Advent Extra your colourful companion magazine to accompany you through the weeks of Advent is available at the back of church. Don't get killed in the rush - this is a snip at £1.50 and gives you reflections for every day of the Advent season and much else besides.

Thank You - to all who have sent in suggestions and ideas to help in our Care for our Common Home - the Earth. Please continue to send in any suggestions you may have for looking after our ecology and reducing our carbon footprint. Others may be helped by your suggestions. Many thanks.

Readers - As we return to attending Mass, could I ask our readers to indicate their willingness to join a rota for reading the Word of God to us at weekends - and during the week if you're here?

Eucharistic Ministers can we likewise set a new rota for our weekend Masses? Thank you.

The work of Marie Curie nurses will be supported by a concert of music from Durham Police Band on Friday 3 December at 7pm at St Mary's. Most of us enjoy brass bands. Come for a lovely evening and support a brilliant cause. You may find yourself calling on Marie Curie nurses' services one day. Do please help. Admission: Adults £7.50 and children £1. Seasonal refreshments are included.

Sunday Mass obligation - Our Bishops intend to restore the Sunday Mass obligation from this coming Advent - the end of November onwards. Many have got out of our Sunday (or Saturday vigil) Mass habit, and, sadly many no longer give it the seriousness which it has never lost. To give God an hour or so of worship once a week is not asking much for most people and should be considered as a basic requirement. Streaming of Masses has been a great help for many and will continue, but it's no substitute for expressing Communion with the Lord and communion with the living community of the Church and the parish. I mention the restart of the obligation now so that we can begin to prepare for attending Mass again. Vaccinations have helped greatly but have not dismissed the possibility of infection. The layout of our churches may change again and we'll let you know. I'll give you more information when we have it. In the meantime, let's give thought to what Communion and community means as we prepare carefully to celebrate more together again - as safely as possible. Covid has affected us all and we'll have to live with it wisely and carefully from here onwards. I'll keep you posted.

Memorial Register - we are compiling a register of those whose funerals took place from the parish from the beginning of 2020 until the present and it will open for you to add names of others

Please pray for the health of:

*Irene Welford
Michael Dowson
Mrs Aitken
Val Mundell
Joan Lightfoot
Michael Nicholson
Adam Hudspeth
Christopher Browne
Tyler Quinn
Maureen Nicholson
Norah Hutchinson
Robin Davis
Angela Graham
Stephen Gregory
Frank Ridley
Jacob Thomas
Charlotte Thomas
Teresa Brown
Joan Hannon
Christina Marsh
Kathy Lloyd
Roman Banks
Jane Hardy (Kirby)
Margaret Pattenden
Brian Gilpatrick*

Please pray for
MONICA FULLER (86)
who has died.
May she rest in peace



Scripture Readings for this week's Masses:

Sun	Jeremiah 33: 14-16	Ps 24	1 Thessalonians 3: 12-4: 2	Luke 21: 25-28,34-36
Mon	Isaiah 2: 1-5	Ps 121	Matthew 8: 5-11	
Tues	Wisdom 3: 1-9	Ps 30	Romans 10: 9-18	Matthew 4: 18-22
Wed	Isaiah 25: 6-10	Ps 22	Matthew 15: 29-37	
Thurs	Isaiah 26: 1-6	Ps 117	Matthew 7: 21, 24-27	
Fri	Isaiah 29: 17-24	Ps 26	Matthew 9: 27-31	
Sat	Isaiah 30: 19-21, 23-26	Ps 146	Matthew 9: 35-10: 1, 6-8	
Sun	Baruch 5: 1-9	Ps 125	Philippians 1: 3-6, 8-11	Luke 3: 1-6

from family and friends. **November envelopes** are available for your personal and family lists. Any money in these envelopes will support Holy Souls intentions. Specific individual Mass intentions should be in a different envelope. Thank you.

The Foodbank has been gifted with a lot of food very recently and for the moment needs only long-life milk (semi-skimmed or full fat), coffee, sugar, packet mash, toothpaste, shower gel and shampoo. **No tinned beans, spaghetti, soup or dried pasta please.** Money to help people have some warmth, light and the wherewithal to cook or heat up food. Your help, no matter how small, becomes part of a great tide of selfless initiatives that keep individuals and families alive with a meaningful quality of life and with a dignity to match. Thank you for your help. Opening hours are now Monday to Thursday 9-5 and Friday 9-12.30.

SVP Christmas Appeal - We provide Christmas hampers/gifts and support, for local families and individuals who are enduring real poverty. Your weekly contributions made this possible until COVID impacted on all our lives. We asked for your support last year and your response was overwhelming. You will appreciate that COVID and increased poverty is still a real concern as the unprecedented events continue to increase the needs of many. If you are financially able, we would appreciate if you could put a donation in an envelope with 'SVP Christmas Appeal' written on it, and either post it in Fr. Dennis's letterbox or put it in one of the white collection boxes at the back of either Church, **by 28th November 2021.** We are **not** asking for gifts or food. Members of the SVP will purchase what is needed, depending on the composition of the families and individual needs. We hope you can help us, to help the vulnerable members of our community. Thank you.

Clothing And Toiletries - Our local community hospitals have many elderly patients. Visiting is very limited at the moment, and many of these patients' visitors are also elderly and are unable to bring clothes or toiletries for their relatives. Some patients do not have anyone who can bring items in for them. The hospitals are running out of loungewear/nightwear/bed jackets for patients to wear during the day. It is better for patients to wear these, rather than hospital issued nightwear during the day. Once a patient has been given some clothing, it belongs to them and is not taken from them when they leave hospital. It would be great if you could donate any clothing that you no longer want. Also, any toiletries, especially shower gel, would be most welcome. Thank you.

Ushaw Illuminations - (events@ushaw.org) On the first 3 weekends in December Ushaw will be lit up with many exciting features and trails. Booking is essential via the website above.