

This week

	Services & meetings	
Saturday 6 February <i>St Paul Miki and</i>	10.00 am Mass: <i>Fr Gerard Martin</i> 5.30 pm Vigil Mass: <i>People of the Parish</i>	
Sunday 7 February 5th Sunday of the Year	9.30 am Mass at St Wilfrid's: <i>The Smiles Family</i> 11.00 am Mass at St Mary's: <i>Julia Pattenden</i>	
Monday 8 February	No Mass 11.00 - 1.00 - <i>St Mary's open for private prayer</i>	
Tuesday 9 February	10.00 am Mass: <i>Luke Ottewell's health</i>	
Wednesday 10 February <i>St Scholastica</i>	10.00 am Mass: <i>Fr Stephen Johnson</i> 11.00 - 1.00 - <i>St Mary's open for private prayer</i>	
Thursday 11 February <i>Our Lady of Lourdes</i>	10.00 am Mass: <i>Private Intention</i>	
Friday 12 February	10.00 am Mass: <i>Holy Souls</i> 11.00 - 1.00 - <i>St Mary's open for private prayer</i>	
Saturday 13 February	10.00 am Mass: <i>People of the parish</i> 5.30 pm Vigil Mass: <i>Eric Walsh</i>	
Sunday 14 February 6th Sunday of the Year	9.30 am Mass at St Wilfrid's: <i>Ann Francis</i> 11.00 am Mass at St Mary's: <i>Ian Lloyd</i>	

Quote:

"The people who are crazy enough to think they can change the world are the ones who do" -

Steve Jobs (co-founder of Apple Inc)

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: (01388) 603431

website: Parish of St Mary and St Wilfrid : Bulletin e-mail: office@stmaryandstwilfrid.org.uk

Sunday, 7 February 2021

FIFTH SUNDAY of the YEAR

Among the Poor *- parish workers in East - Harlem, USA*

THEY HAD CAUGHT something from Christ, I thought. Something of who he was and is flickered out through who they were. It is not easy to describe. It was compassion without sentimentality as much as anything else, I think—a lucid, cool, grave compassion. If it had a color, it would be a pale, northern blue. They never seemed to romanticize the junkies and winos and deadbeats and losers they worked among, and they never seemed to let pity or empathy distort the clarity with which they saw them for no more if no less than what they were. Insofar as they were able to approach loving them, I got the impression that they did so not just in spite of everything about them that was neither lovely nor lovable but right in the thick of it. There was a kind of sad gaiety about the way they went about their work. The sadness stemmed, I suppose, from the hopelessness of their task—the problems were so vast, their resources for dealing with them were so meager—and the gaiety from a hope beyond hope that, in the long run if not the short, all would in some holy and unimaginable way be well. If, as I suspect, they looked at me and at the others who worked there only part-time as less committed than they, farther away from where the real battle was being fought, then I can say only that, of course, they were right. But they seemed less to hold the difference against us than simply to mark it and leave it for us to come to terms with as best we could.

- Frederick Buechner

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 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

By request and by simple arrangement. More details very soon.

CAFOD - To walkers, joggers, dog owners, globe trotters and all who like some fresh air including kids - will you help change the world? Cafod works to enable people around the globe to manage for themselves and their families. For many folks water is a scarce resource and becoming more and more scarce as the seasons become drier and hotter. So would you please join **Cafod's Big Walk for Water challenge**.

Cafod's Family Fast Day is on Friday 26 February, but during Lent please help people in Ethiopia like Abdella, a man who walks for 10 hours a day to find water for his family. He's shattered and exhausted. He has no time for anything else. We need to help him and others.

So I'm looking for 10 people to do a 4 mile walk once a week each week of the 6.5 weeks of Lent. It means together we'll cover approximately 250 miles. I have 3 people already. Ring me (Fr D) on 603431 if you're on. We're also looking for sponsorship. Remember the money will help Abdella and others by providing solar -powered water pumps, flowing water to cultivate their land and training in farming techniques. Let's see how much we can raise. Walkers please ring me and see if you can get sponsors for your walking. Be inspired by Captain Sir Tom Moore. We should hopefully raise £1000 to help. Step up and out. Pick up the phone. Thank you.

Lent - begins on Ash Wednesday, 17 February - a week this Wednesday. It's a special time for all of us as we make efforts to apply ourselves more sincerely to aspects of our faith and Gospel teaching.

This year, given the restrictions we live with, could we be more focussed and imaginative about how we choose to spend our Lenten time? One of the big learnings most folks experience is the loss of simple human contact. Although we cannot break the rules about meeting people, it is easily within our ability to make contact by other means - phones, laptops and so on. Writing and posting a card (if you're able) can mean a great deal to the recipient. Contacting 2 or 3 people each day will help a lot.

If you are able to consider helping the foodbank or our crisis fund as a Lenten exercise, this is a direct answer to the Lord's command to feed the hungry and care for those in any kind of need. Believe me, the difference it makes is so obvious I wonder why we don't have more contributions to help people get through the week.

The Foodbank - If you are able to consider helping the foodbank or our crisis fund as a Lenten exercise, this is a direct answer to the Lord's command to feed the hungry and care for those in any kind of need. Believe me, the difference it makes is so obvious I wonder why we don't have more contributions to help people get through the week. The foodbank is now needing your help with food for distribution. Please note the new hours for the foodbank operating back at Woodhouse Close Church Centre. **Opening hours are 9.00 am to 3 pm Monday to Thursday.** The Centre will not be operating on Fridays or across weekends. I keep emergency supplies at St. Mary's. **Could we request the following for the foodbank please, hot dogs, tinned or packet potatoes, tinned carrots and UHT milk and we also need carrier bags. In the**

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
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)
Kathy Lloyd
Roman Banks
Jane Hardy (Kirby)

**Please pray for
WILF TEESDALE (83)
and
FRANK FOSTER (89)
who have died.**

May they rest in peace



Scripture Readings for this week's Masses:

Sun	Job 7: 1-4, 6-7	Ps 146	1 Corinthians 9: 16-19, 22-23	Mark 1: 29-39
Mon	Genesis 1: 1-19	Ps 103	Mark 6: 53-56	
Tues	Genesis 1: 20-2 : 4	Ps 8	Mark 7: 1-13	
Wed	Genesis 2: 4-9, 15-17	Ps 103	Mark 7: 14-23	
Thurs	Genesis 2: 18-25	Ps 127	Mark 7: 24-30	
Fri	Genesis 3: 1-8	Ps 31	Mark 7: 31-37	
Sat	Genesis 3: 9-24	Ps 89	Mark 8: 1-10	
Sun	Leviticus 13: 1-2, 44-46	Ps 31	1 Corinthians 10:31 - 11:1	Mark 1: 40-45

meantime, any money to help with gas and electric needs continues to be invaluable. You can put anything in an envelope marked Foodbank or Crisis and post it through the letterbox at St Mary's and we'll pass it on.

This Sunday's Second Collection - is for the Lay Training Fund of our diocese.

The Global Catholic Movement invites you to "Global Healing" - in 2015, Pope Francis published his ground-breaking letter on the environment *Laudato Si*. Since then, millions of people worldwide have joined the global movement to address the environmental crisis our world is facing. This Lent, we are inviting YOU to join us for a series of reflective evenings with inspiring speakers, prayer and discussion, using the film-based resource "Global Healing". These engaging documentaries will inform and challenge people to respond to Pope Francis' call to Care for Our Common Home. Suitable for all who are concerned about that is happening to our world and who want to take action.

WHEN: Six Thursdays from 18th February - 25 March 2021, 7.30pm - 8.30pm.

HOW TO JOIN? To register please email jane@catholicclimatemovement.global.

St Mary's is open for private prayer Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 11 am to 1pm.

Parish finances - Please remember to use your yellow 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.

Used stamps - can be brought to church for helping the work of the Little Sisters of the poor. Thanks.

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

**INFECTIONS AND DEATHS CONTINUE TO RISE
PLEASE ABIDE BY THE RULES. IT WILL TAKE TIME FOR THE
VACCINE TO BE GIVEN TO US ALL.**