

This week

	Services & meetings	Location
Saturday 13 June <i>St Anthony of Padua</i>	10.00 am Mass: <i>People of the parish</i>	
Sunday 14 June <i>CORPUS CHRISTI</i>	10.00 am Mass: <i>Mary Delve</i>	
Monday 15 June	10.00 am Mass: <i>Jennifer McClean</i>	
Tuesday 16 June	10.00 am Mass: <i>Stan Ingham</i>	
Wednesday 17 June	10.00 am Mass: <i>Harry Dawes</i> 11.30 am: Funeral Service for MARY HARBURN at Wear Valley Crematorium	
Thursday 18 June	10.00 am Mass: <i>Margaret Brown</i>	
Friday 19 June <i>SACRED HEART OF JESUS</i>	10.00 am Mass: <i>Anthony Fleming</i> 3.30 pm: Funeral Service for SHIRLEY DEGNAN at Wear Valley Crematorium	
Saturday 20 June <i>Immaculate Heart of Mary</i>	10.00 am Mass: <i>People of the parish</i>	
Sunday 21 June <i>12th Sunday of the Year</i>	10.00 am Mass: <i>Audrey Hartley</i>	

ST MARY'S

Collection: £

Thank you

Quote:

"Music expresses that which cannot be said and on which it is impossible to be silent" -
Victor Hugo

ST WILFRID'S

Collection: £

Thank you

In addition to the church collections, we also receive on average £420 per month from direct debits. Enormous thanks.

The Parish of St Mary + St Wilfrid

In the Escomb Partnership of the Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle

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Sunday, 14 June 2020

CORPUS CHRISTI

The Dead Horse Theory

The tribal wisdom of the Dakoka Indians, passed on from generation to generation, says; 'When you discover that you are riding a dead horse, the best strategy is to dismount.'

However in so many parts of society - government, education, religion etc. - more advanced strategies are often employed, such as:

1. *Buying a stronger whip*
2. *Changing riders*
3. *Appointing a committee to study the horse*
4. *Arranging to visit other countries to see how other cultures ride dead horses*
5. *Lowering the standards so that dead horses can be included*
6. *Reclassifying the dead horse as living-impaired*
7. *Hiring outside contractors to ride the dead horse*
8. *Harnessing several dead horses together to increase speed*
9. *Providing additional funding and/or training to increase the dead horse's performance*
10. *Doing a productivity study to see if lighter riders would improve the dead horse's performance*
11. *Declaring that as the dead horse does not have to be fed, it is less costly, carries lower overheads and therefore contributes substantially more to the economy than some other horses*
12. *Rewriting the expected performance requirements for all horses*

Copies of the weekly bulletin, the Partnership Note and any other handouts will be 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 no longer be open for private prayer. This is an arrangement no one would otherwise welcome but in the unprecedented circumstances we must take the safest measures we can. Please do your best to stay safe.

Confession Times

St Mary

By request and by simple arrangement

Streaming of Mass - takes place from St Mary's each day, including Sunday, at 10 am. To access the streamed Mass via Facebook you'll need to look for The Parish of St Mary and St Wilfrid, Bishop Auckland.

The Foodbank - is receiving greatly reduced numbers of bags of food from our churches because we are not open yet for our usual generous parishioners. We're very grateful for donations of money and for the occasional donations from supermarkets. Could we ask for your help in supporting our local foodbank and, if possible, making it a regular feature? Many, many thanks. The foodbank is open Monday to Friday 10.00 am to 12 noon. Food and other donations can be brought to St Mary's presbytery.

Reopening of churches - At some stage we will be receiving guidance from the Diocese about opening more than the 5 pilot churches for short times of private prayer. To help this happen - and we don't yet know when - we will need some people to monitor the safety of any individuals coming into the church building. Clearly these helpers should not be from vulnerable age or other restricted groups. I have had offers from 3 people so far. If you are able to help, please do let me know. Thank you.

Before a church can open - and not all churches will be open for private prayer - a risk assessment will need to be carried out. Guidance will be given, and those assessing will be from a church other than their own to ensure objectivity. So we can plan ahead, could I ask if in our parish we have a couple of volunteers to help in this so that health and safety arrangements can be carried out in churches of our area? In Bishop Auckland, St Mary's church will be the better of our two churches to open for private prayer. Entrance and exit points and the size of the building suggests this would be the first move here. We don't yet have a time when this move can happen and it will be some time further before Mass and other services will be able to take place. Thanks to everyone for your understanding and patience. Much of the detail on this topic from last week's bulletin you'll find on the back of this week's partnership note. Copies are at the doors of both our presbyteries and the partnership note can be accessed through our parish website.

Patience and safety - The root meaning of the word patience comes from the term for suffering! The mental decisions required for any of us to be patient involve a certain amount of tolerance, biting your tongue, sitting on your hands and any other cautious phrase you can come up with. As restrictions relax in various degrees, the requirements on each of us only increase. The virus is still very active, many people are dying daily and the risks of infection increase as more movement and contact are allowed and social distance requirements change. Patience and the understandable frustrations of closer contact not being anything like it was, can test our peace and tempers as we all know. Please do take the safest course of action. The inability of older people to fend off infection from this virus requires no let up in the arrangements we make. So please take the greatest care. We're not out of the woods yet and it will be some time before we approach anything like real safety. St Paul's famous description of love in his first letter to the Corinthians (chapter 13) begins 'Love is patient!!

Church offerings - Enormous thanks for all those who have handed in weekly offertory envelopes. It has been a great help in meeting our routine needs. Despite the lockdown and church closure, the parish needs to continue to meet its responsibilities which cover such as light and heat costs, ongoing maintenance and in particular the need to support the number of charity and good causes as determined by the Bishops and which is generally provided for by means of the monthly

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
Kate Johnson
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
SHIRLEY DEGNAN (83)
MARY HARBURN(93)
JOAN CARR (84)
who have died.
May they rest in peace*



Scripture Readings for this week's Masses:

Sun	Deuteronomy 8: 2-3,14-16	Ps 147	1 Corinthians 10:16-17	John 6: 51-58
Mon	1 Kings 21: 1-16	Ps 5	Matthew 5: 38-42	
Tues	1 Kings 21: 17-29	Ps 50	Matthew 5: 43-48	
Wed	2 Kings 2:1, 6-14	Ps 30	Matthew 6: 1-6,16-18	
Thurs	Ecclesiasticus 48: 1-14	Ps 96	Matthew 6: 7-15	
Fri	Deuteronomy 7: 6-11	Ps 102	1 John 4: 7-16	Matthew 11: 25-30
Sat	2 Chronicles 24: 17-25	Ps 88	Matthew 6: 24-34	
Sun	Jeremiah 20: 10-13	Ps 68	Romans 5: 12-15	Matthew 10: 26-33

second collections.

We need to address the hole in our income caused by the closure of our churches which has meant that the influx of funds at regular weekend services has largely ground to a halt.

We know that a number of parishioners have continued to contribute by means of regular bank transfers, but what is missing are the cash contributions received at the weekend Masses. If any parishioner has continued to set aside funds in the weekly envelopes but cannot get to church to pass on these funds, it is suggested that you can ring Fr. Dennis who will arrange to get these offerings picked up. Please remember to use your yellow envelopes, not forgetting the white second collection envelope also. It is suggested that instead of putting your offering in each of the weekly envelopes, that you put your 4 weeks of April contents into one April envelope and one envelope for May. 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 either Fr. Dennis or John Stockton for the necessary bank form.

Loss of Weekly Offerings Envelopes - Some parishioners may not have received their boxes of envelopes for the new Tax year starting in April. See John Stockton (St Wilfrid's) or Tony Murphy (St Mary's) or Fr. Dennis. This applies to all, not just those who gift aid.

Northern Cross - is struggling from no back of church sales. This will last for some time but our funds are very limited. It's a digital issue again this month but we're unable to provide it for free. You can get a year's online subscription for £14.40 by bank transfer to **A/C Number 81602292 sort code 40-43-11** using your surname and postcode as a reference (eg Tindall DL14 6PQ). An online standing order would be a lifesaver for us. Or you can send a cheque for £14.40 payable to Northern Cross and post it to 11, The Grove, Hartlepool TS26 9NB (our office in Darlington is currently closed due to the present emergency). Thank you.

CAFOD Appeal Update - As part of Caritas Internationalis CAFOD has a local presence in 165 countries. As one of the largest aid networks in the world, it has substantial knowledge and expertise in WASH - water, hygiene, sanitation and disease control. CAFOD has already used its significant technical expertise in the fight against Ebola and now asks for our help in fighting Covid 19. the effects in refugee camps may be catastrophic for millions already struggling to access healthcare. Please help by donating by post, online or phone - 0303 303 3030.

Recipes - Six new recipes this week - howay folks - your 3 favourites, please!

Prayers - At Woodhouse Close church and with ourselves, we are very conscious that many of the people that come to our doors looking for help and for food need to be supported by the prayers of our church communities. Helping with material needs is only one aspect of the total care that we all need. If you or anyone you know would like us to pray for them please let us know on 01388 603431 or 01388 450838. Thank you.