

**MASS INTENTIONS:** w/c 15th February 2026

Sat 14th (St Mary's)	5.30pm	Audrey Braham
Sun 15th (St Aidan's)	9.15am	Alec Anderson
Sun 15th (St Mary's)	11.00am	Tony Ward (ill)
* Mon 16th	*** NO MASS ***	
Tues 17th (St Mary's)	10.00am	D'cd members of Hutchinson family
Wed 18th (St Mary's)	10.00am	People of the Parish
Wed 18th (St Aidan's)	7.00pm	D'cd members of Peter & Joseph families
Thurs 19th (St Aidan's)	*** NO MASS ***	
Fri 20th (St Mary's)	10.00am	D'cd members of Manning family
* Sat 21st (St Aidan's)	11.00am	Confession
Sat 21st (St Mary's)	5.30pm	Jane Johnson
Sun 22nd (St Aidan's)	9.15am	Paddy & Nan Hayes
Sun 22nd (St Mary's)	11.00am	Michael Cassidy

***For Mass Intentions, please use envelopes in our churches.***

**PREPARATION FOR NEXT WEEK: 22nd Feb / First Sunday in Lent**

"Christ, by his supreme act of loving obedience, turned back the course of human destiny." Second Reading - Romans 5: 12. 17-19

**CHILDREN'S PRAYER:** God of love, you gave your son Jesus strength in the desert. May we also have the strength to do what is right and to stand up for what we believe in. Amen.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:** Those who have died recently. Those in our parishes who are sick or who may need our thoughts & prayers. And those of our parishes whose anniversary occurs at this time.

**KEEP IN TOUCH:** NE12Catholic@diocesehn.org.uk or 0191 268 4222.

Weekend mass live on YouTube, search St Mary of the Rosary.

Newsletters & Homilies can be viewed via Facebook page NE12Catholic

**SAFEGUARDING:** Our safeguarding representatives are:

St Aidan's - Ms B Lamb // St Mary's - Mrs A Parry

If you have any safeguarding questions, please speak to our reps or visit [www.diocesehn.org.uk/services/safeguarding](http://www.diocesehn.org.uk/services/safeguarding) for information & support.

**Parish Newsletter:**

**St. Aidan's & St. Mary's RC Churches**

**Rev. Sean Hall**

**Deacon Alison Rebello**

**Tel. 0191 268 4222**

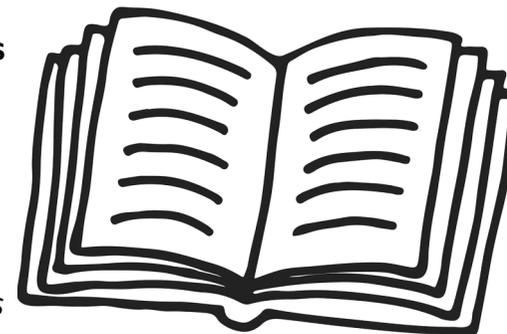
**[www.stmarysforesthall.co.uk](http://www.stmarysforesthall.co.uk)**

**Join us on Facebook: NE12Catholic**

*For Baptisms, First Holy Communions*

*and Confirmations, please email*

*NE12Catholic@diocesehn.org.uk*



**Sunday 15th February 2026:**

**Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

After listening to today's Gospel, Jesus Teaches the True Meaning of the Law (Matthew 5: 20-22. 27-28. 33-34. 37), consider this reflection. Jesus is the completion of the Law of God, given to Israel through Moses. He has come not to sweep it away but to perfect it. In this part of the Sermon on the Mount, Matthew has gathered together six instances (four this week, two in next Sunday's Gospel) of the ways in which Jesus brings the Law to perfection. The first factor to notice, however, is that Jesus does not hesitate to adjust the divine Law on his own authority, for he too has divine authority. Each amendment begins with a statement of the Old Law and boldly goes on, 'But I say this to you...'. Each of the alterations has its own character. The first is about enmity, the sixth about love. About enmity, it is not enough merely to forego violent injury; we must even expel enmity from our hearts, positively seeking reconciliation, whether the offence is our fault or not. About lust, it is similarly not enough to forego acts of lust; we must not even harbour such thoughts in our hearts. About truth, it is not enough to keep a legal oath; we must be people whose every word can be relied upon. These are Jesus' demanding standards. *Have I allowed any enmity to fester? Can I solve it now? Am I a person whose every word can be trusted as true?*

## **NEWS FROM OUR CHURCHES**

### **ASH WEDNESDAY:** 18th February

Mass at St Mary's at 10am

Mass at St Aidan's at 7pm

Genesis 3:19: "For dust you are and to dust you shall return."

### **NO MASS:** Thursday 19th February

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** Deacon Alison Rebello will lead Stations of the Cross every Friday during Lent at St Aidan's from 6.30pm. All are welcome

**CONFESSION:** Saturday 21st February, 11am at St Aidan's.

**IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE DIARY:** Both St Aidan's and St Mary's will be holding Annual General Meetings before Easter and all parishioners are actively encouraged to attend. These meetings are outside our usual Parish Council Meetings so you don't have to be a member and you don't need to commit to attend regularly. It would be helpful to have people from across our parish community - different ages, different backgrounds, those new to the parish, those who have been here a while!

Sessions will be held in our church halls.

**St Mary's AGM - Wednesday 4th March at 7pm**

**St Aidan's AGM - Wednesday 11th March at 7pm**

We look forward to seeing you there.

**ALTAR SERVERS:** Children, or adults, who have made their First Holy Communion and are interested in becoming an altar server at our churches can attend a short training session with Deacon Alison. Please speak to Fr Sean or email [NE12Catholic@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:NE12Catholic@diocesehn.org.uk)

### **COLLECTIONS:** 8th February 2026

St Aidan's: Loose Plate: £252.00 / Envelopes: £92.00 / Hall hire: £46.00

Racial Justice: £30.00

St Mary's: Loose Plate: £304.65 / Envelopes: £66.00 / Donations: £45.00

Friday Coffee Morning: £121.00

*Thank you for your continued support and generosity.*

For information about donating via standing orders, offertory envelopes or signing up for Gift Aid, please email [NE12Catholic@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:NE12Catholic@diocesehn.org.uk)

## **VOLUNTEERING AND SUPPORTING OUR PARISHES**

Volunteers are always needed to help support our parishes; children's liturgy, music and singing, coffee mornings, organising social events, leading fundraising appeals, running the weekend mass decks are all delivered thanks to parishioners.

If you can help or would like to be involved, please speak to Fr Sean or email [NE12Catholic@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:NE12Catholic@diocesehn.org.uk)

## **NEWS FROM OUR DIOCESE**

**LENTEN RESOURCES:** Reflections, readings and prayers are available on [www.diocesehn.org.uk](http://www.diocesehn.org.uk)

### **INTERFAITH PRAYER VIGIL:** Sunday 1st March at 3pm

A monthly prayer vigil has been held outside the barrier to Derwentside Immigration Removal Centre for the last four and a half years. The purpose is to pray for the women who are detained there. To stand in solidarity with them and to witness by our presence that their detention is inhumane, unjust and incompatible with our faith which calls us to recognise the unique dignity of each person in our one human family.

All are welcome to come along to a short prayer service which incorporates a time of silence. If you are unable to join in person, please join in prayer from home at 3.00pm. For more information, contact Liz Archibald at [lizarchibald.justiceandpeace@gmail.com](mailto:lizarchibald.justiceandpeace@gmail.com)

### **A DAY OF RENEWAL:** 28th March 2026, 10am - 4pm

The Emmanuel Charismatic Community in our Diocese invite all to a day of renewal, with guest speaker Michelle Moran titled: 'Holiness in today's world: Life does not have a mission – but is a mission.' Michelle Moran is an internationally renowned speaker, who was personally appointed by Pope Francis in 2016 to help establish CHARIS, and she was President of International Charismatic Renewal Services in the Vatican from 2006 – 2017. Taking place at St Mary's Comprehensive School on Benton Park Road, this is a free event, but please bring a packed lunch. More details via [pat.kennedy42@icloud.com](mailto:pat.kennedy42@icloud.com) or 0754 630 2832.