

MASS INTENTIONS: w/c 25th January 2026

Sat 24th (St Mary's)	5.30pm	People of the Parish
Sun 25th (St Aidan's)	9.15am	Frank Amis
Sun 25th (St Mary's)	11.00am	Sp. Intention - D'cd friends & family
* Mon 26th	*** NO MASS ***	
Tues 27th (St Mary's)	10.00am	Special Intention (AW)
Wed 28th (St Aidan's)	10.00am	People of the Parish
Thurs 29th (St Aidan's)	10.00am	Priest's Intention
Fri 30th (St Mary's)	10.00am	Sp. Intention - baby in special care unit
Sat 31st (St Mary's)	5.30pm	Marion Burnie
Sun 1st Feb (St Aidan's)	9.15am	Jean Sharp
Sun 1st Feb (St Mary's)	11.00am	Dennis Nicholson

For Mass Intentions, please use envelopes in our churches.

*"There was a lass and she was fair, At kirk or market to be seen;
When a' our fairest maids were met, The fairest maid was bonie Jean."
Robert Burns*

PREPARATION FOR NEXT WEEK: 1st Feb / Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Blessed are the poor in spirit." Matthew 5:1-12

CHILDREN'S PRAYER: God of light, shine in our hearts so that we can share joy and hope with other people, especially those who are frightened, sick, lonely or hungry. 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 for information & support.

St. Mary's Catholic Primary School www.stmarysrcprimaryschool.co.uk
St. Stephen's Catholic Primary School www.ststephensprimaryschool.co.uk
St. Mary's Catholic Comprehensive School www.stmarysnewcastle.co.uk

Parish Newsletter:

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

Rev. Sean Hall

Deacon Alison Rebello

Tel. 0191 268 4222

www.stmarysforesthall.co.uk

Join us on Facebook: NE12Catholic

For Baptisms, First Holy Communions and Confirmations, please email NE12Catholic@diocesehn.org.uk

Sunday 25th January 2026:

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

After listening to today's Gospel,

The Call of the First Disciples (Matt 4: 12-23), consider this reflection.

This is the beginning of Jesus' ministry. Matthew first introduces us to Galilee, characteristically quoting the scriptures to show that they are being fulfilled, and in what way. Galilee is called 'Galilee of the gentiles' only in this passage, and the presence of gentiles was not a particularly notable feature of Galilee. Archaeology shows that Jewish observance was strong in the region. Contemporary literature indicates that there was a lively tradition of prayerful charismatic rabbis with a warm devotion to the Lord. Jesus begins his ministry by proclaiming the imminence of the Kingdom of God, and this will be the subject of all his activity. Then he begins to form the new Israel by calling his team together. The Christian imagination tends to combine this scene with the scene of the Baptist in the Jordan Valley in the Gospel of John, which suggests that at least Peter and Andrew among the disciples had already some knowledge of Jesus. But today's narrative must be heard on its own, and the staggering factor is that this is the first time at any rate the sons of Zebedee have set eyes on Jesus. As he passes by, Jesus calls them, and such is the electrifying power of his charismatic personality that they simply drop everything and follow this total stranger – immediately, as the evangelist stresses each time.

Do I ever follow Jesus' call immediately and unconditionally?



Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

FROM OUR CHURCHES

NE12 BOOKCLUB: January's Book Club meeting will take place in St Mary's church hall on Wed 28th January 2026 at 7pm.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Monday 2nd February, 6pm at St Aidan's.

CONFESSION: Saturday 7th February, 11am at St Aidan's.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS: Due to a Partnership Meeting, please note some changes to timings & dates:

St Mary's - Wednesday 4th February at 7.30pm

St Aidan's - To be confirmed

COLLECTIONS: 18th January

St Aidan's: Loose Plate: £255.00 / Envelopes: £82.00/ Hall hire: £54.00

Candles: £74.00

St Mary's: Loose Plate: £378.31 / Envelopes: £58.00 / Donations: £250.00

Candles: £23.66 / Friday Coffee Morning: £82.00 (Mill Hill Sisters)

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

GIFT AID: For the financial year 2024/25 our parishes received additional funding thanks to those parishioners who have signed up for Gift Aid. If you are a UK Tax Payer, gift aid increases every £1 you donate to £1.25p—at no additional cost to you. Information and forms are available at both churches.

St Aidan's Gift Aid Reclaimed: £2,530.25

St Mary's Gift Aid Reclaimed:£3,952.79

Thank you all for your continued support.

ST AIDAN'S CHRISTMAS RAFFLE: Thank you to everyone who supported the raffle, either by donating prizes or buying tickets.

We raised £180.00 for parish funds. The following winning numbers are still unclaimed, so please check your tickets. Pink- 25, 71, 79, 88 and 282.

Green- 86, 89, 123, 128, 235, 276 and 306.

ST MARY'S VOTIVE CANDLES: A request please that adults supervise young children around our votive candles after mass and discourage them playing with sand and spent matches. Thank you.

FROM THE DIOCESE

WINE TASTING AT USHAW: 12th February

All welcome to attend a fundraising wine tasting evening at Ushaw Historic House in Durham. At £38.00pp why not make it a Valentine's gift!

Information via www.ushaw.org/whatson/wine-tasting

MARRIAGE & FAMILY LIFE MASS: Sat 14th February at 12 noon

Bishop Stephen will celebrate Mass at St Mary's Cathedral to give thanks for the Sacrament of Marriage & Family Life. Those marking a special milestone can request a certificate from the Formation & Mission Team.

More information available via www.diocesehn.org.uk

NIGHT FALLS: A new passion play by Paul Birch

At Middlesbrough's St Mary's Cathedral, this new play is set over the four days leading up to the crucifixion and retells the Easter story through two strangers sheltering in Bethany, in the house of Lazarus – where hope, faith, doubt and grief collide, and where the impossible has already occurred.

Thursday 26th February at 7.30pm, tickets are £15.00 each and can be bought via www.ticketsource.co.uk/middlesbroughcathedral

HOLY ISLAND SVP SUMMER CAMPS 2026

Applications are now open for children in school Years 5-7 for Holy Island Summer Camps. The children spend a week on the island over the Summer holidays, with transport from Tyneside and all meals, accommodation and activities included in the cost. For more information please visit www.svp.org.uk/microsite/ozanam-camp

VOLUNTEER ON HOLY ISLAND!

Volunteers needed to support the Summer Camps - working with the children, caretakers, kitchen assistants and cooks. Hard work, but also lots of fun and very worthwhile! No cost, just your time and patience for a very interesting week on this beautiful island. Please see website address above.

VACANCIES: For details please visit www.diocesehn.org.uk

CLEANER - SACRED HEART, NORTH GOSFORTH

5 hours per week with flexibility. Closing date: 30th January 2026.

EDUCATION BUSINESS MANAGER

Based at Diocesan Offices on the West Road in Newcastle.

Closing date: 1st February 2026.