

**MASS INTENTIONS:** w/c 17th May 2026

Sat 16th (St Mary's)	5.30pm	Audrey Southeran
Sun 17th (St Aidan's)	9.15am	Edith Latimer
Sun 17th (St Mary's)	11.00am	Chakkoria Anthoy
Mon 18th	** NO MASS **	
Tues 19th (St Mary's)	10.00am	Joe Bradford
Wed 20th (St Aidan's)	10.00am	Priest's Intentions
Thurs 21st (St Aidan's)	10.00am	Priest's Intentions
Fri 22nd (St Mary's)	10.00am	Requiem Mass - A Southeran
* Sat 23rd (St Mary's)	11.00am	CONFESSION
Sat 23rd (St Mary's)	5.30pm	Brian Wilson
Sun 24th (St Aidan's)	9.15am	People of the Parish
Sun 24th (St Mary's)	11.00am	Michael & Jean Bell

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

“My son, hear the instruction of your father,

And do not forsake the law of your mother;” Proverbs 1:8

International Day of Families 15th May 2026

**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.

**PREPARATION FOR NEXT WEEK:** 24th May / Pentecost

“Every one of us contributes something different and valuable in our own way.” Second Reading (1 Corinthians 12:3-7. 12-13)

**CHILDREN'S PRAYER:** God of all, you sent your Spirit to be with the disciples, filling them with joy, peace and courage. May we also be filled with your Spirit, be brave and share your peace in our world. Amen.

**SAFEGUARDING:** We look to ensure our churches are safe spaces where we support each other, signpost external services & walk together on our life journeys. If you have questions, speak to Fr Sean, our safeguarding reps: St Aidan's - Ms B Lamb / St Mary's - Mrs A Parry or visit [www.diocesehn.org.uk/services/safeguarding](http://www.diocesehn.org.uk/services/safeguarding) for information & support.

**KEEP IN TOUCH:** [NE12Catholic@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:NE12Catholic@diocesehn.org.uk) or 0191 268 4222.

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

**Parish Newsletter:**

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

**Rev. Sean Hall**

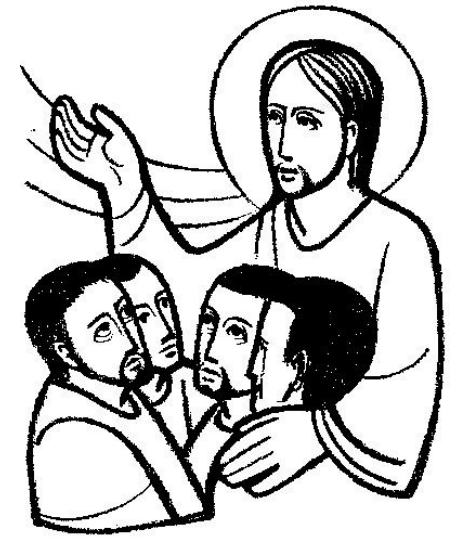
**Deacon Alison Rebello**

**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](mailto:NE12Catholic@diocesehn.org.uk)*



**Sunday 17th May 2026:**

**Seventh Sunday of Easter**

After listening to today's Gospel, The Highly Priestly Prayer of Jesus (John 17: 1-11), consider this reflection by Fr Henry Wansbrough:

The discourse of Jesus given by John after the Last Supper is of a special literary genre. It was a convention that the final instructions of a great leader for his future community should be gathered together in the context of a final meal.

Jesus' life and purpose is summed up in this great prayer. The discourse is shot through with the warmth of the relationship of Jesus to his Father and with the fact that Jesus came to do the will of the Father.

But most striking of all is the stress on the glorification of Jesus.

The earliest kerygma about the Resurrection, as we have it in Paul's writings, is not about the empty tomb, but is about the glory of the risen Christ, that Christ is lifted up to his full participation in the divine glory of the Father.

The hymn in Colossians puts him as first-born in creation and now first-born from the dead, so that he can be first in every way.

Philippians declares that he must receive the homage of bending the knee in the worship due only to God. This is not blasphemy, for it is 'to the glory of the Father' that the Risen Christ should share in this glory. In a way this gospel reading is a meditation on the effects of the culmination of the Ascension for the Risen Christ.

*What do we mean by 'the Glory of Christ'?*

**REQUIESCAT IN PACE:** The Requiem Mass for Audrey Southeran will take place at St Mary's on Friday 22nd May at 10am.

*Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let Your perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace. Amen.*

**ST AIDAN'S SPRING PLANT & FOOD BRING AND BUY SALE:**

Thank you to all who joined us last weekend and supported our fundraising efforts by either buying or selling (or both!) £440 was raised for our Justice and Peace Appeal.

**COLUMBAN MISSION:** Thank you to all who generously donated to Fr Pat's Appeal. Over £800.00 has already been counted from our Parishes. Total amounts will be shared next week once all donation and envelopes have been collected.

**LAUDATO SI' MASS FOR THE CARE OF CREATION**

To be celebrated at 10.00am on Sat 23rd May at St Augustine's Church, 30 Coniscliffe Road, Darlington DL3 7RG. All are welcome.

**MUSIC MATTERS** - A DAY OF REFLECTION

The Diocesan Church Music Association (DCMA) is hosting an event on Saturday 27th June at Ushaw College, Durham. All parish musicians are invited to reflect the liturgy and the role of music in the Mass, and it will be an opportunity to meet fellow musicians from across the Diocese. The day will be led by Fr Adrian Dixon (Diocesan Liturgy team), Philip Robinson (Diocesan Choir) and Alison McLean (DCMA). There is a £7.50 charge for the day, to book a place please email [dcma@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:dcma@diocesehn.org.uk)

**COLLECTIONS:** 10th May 2026

St Aidan's: Loose Plate: £72.00 / Envelopes: £72.00 / Hall Hire: £34.00

April Standing Order Donations: £686.00

St Mary's: Loose Plate: £259.70 / Envelopes: £33.00

Friday Coffee Morning: £112.00 (Lourdes Appeal)

April Standing Order Donations: £1,839.00

Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

For details about standing orders, offertory envelopes or Gift Aid, please email [NE12Catholic@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:NE12Catholic@diocesehn.org.uk)

**WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY**

Sunday, 17 May 2026

The theme of this year's World Communications Day is 'Preserving Human Voices and Faces.'

In his message for the 60th World Day of Social Communications, Pope Leo XIV highlights the importance of ensuring that technological innovation, particularly artificial intelligence, serves the human person rather than replacing or diminishing human dignity.

*"Faces and voices are sacred. God, who created us in his image and likeness, gave them to us when he called us to life through the Word he addressed to us. This Word resounded down the centuries through the voices of the prophets, and then became flesh in the fullness of time. We too have heard and seen this Word (cf. 1 Jn 1:1-3) — in which God communicates his very self to us — because it has been made known to us in the voice and face of Jesus, the Son of God."*

You can read the full Papal Message on [www.cbcew.org.uk](http://www.cbcew.org.uk)

**Communications Prayer**

O God,

whose word is truth

and in whose light we see light,

guide those who tell the story of our times through word and image.

Make them seekers after truth

and advocates of human dignity.

Grant discernment to all who rely on their labours,

and, as we confront the pain and promise of this world,

awaken in us a sense of wonder at your presence

and of longing for your peace.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,

who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

God for ever and ever.

Amen

Communicate with us—always in person or via our website or Facebook.

Share your communications via [NE12Catholic@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:NE12Catholic@diocesehn.org.uk)