

**MASS INTENTIONS:** w/c 11th January 2026

Sat 10th (St Mary's)	5.30pm	Nicholson Family
Sun 11th (St Aidan's)	9.15am	People of the Parish
Sun 11th (St Mary's)	11.00am	Private Intention
* Mon 12th	*** NO MASS ***	
Tues 13th (St Mary's)	10.00am	Brian Faulconer
Wed 14th (St Aidan's)	10.00am	Priest's Intention
Thurs 15th (St Aidan's)	10.00am	Margaret Atkinson
Fri 16th (St Mary's)	10.00am	Ronnie McCall
* Sat 17th (St Aidan's)	11.00am	Confession
Sat 17th (St Mary's)	5.30pm	Emmett & Tierney families
Sun 18th (St Aidan's)	9.15am	People of the Parish
Sun 18th (St Mary's)	11.00am	People of the Parish

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

**PREPARATION FOR NEXT WEEK: 18th January 2026 - PEACE SUNDAY**

"Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ."

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:1-3

**CHILDREN'S PRAYER:** God of light, you sent the Spirit down upon your Son so that others might know who he was. Send your Spirit upon us, so that we might spread your message of love and peace to others. 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](mailto: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.

**DIOCESE OF HEXHAM AND NEWCASTLE:** News & information about events happening across our diocese can be found via [www.diocesehn.org.uk](http://www.diocesehn.org.uk)

St. Mary's Catholic Primary School [www.stmarysrcprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.stmarysrcprimaryschool.co.uk)

St. Stephen's Catholic Primary School [www.ststephensprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.ststephensprimaryschool.co.uk)

St. Mary's Catholic Comprehensive School [www.stmarysnewcastle.co.uk](http://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](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 11th January 2026:**

**The Baptism of the Lord**

After listening to today's Gospel, The Baptism of Jesus (Matthew 3: 13-17), consider this reflection.

The account of the baptism of Jesus in Mark, the earliest gospel, is also the simplest. In Mark the Voice from heaven is addressed to Jesus himself, and there is no sign that others heard it; it is an experience of Jesus: 'You are my Son'.

In Matthew the Voice is addressed to the bystanders: 'This is my Son'.

This makes the private revelation into a public scene, a declaration that Jesus' work is about to begin. In the same way **our baptism is a public scene**, a declaration that we are committed to Christ in his Church – even if we don't remember it!

Matthew also records the little dialogue of John's unwillingness to baptise Jesus. Why should Jesus enter into the community of repentance which John was forming? He was no sinner! However, it was a gesture that Jesus was entering fully into the condition of all humanity.

He shared fully in human nature, the nature of a humanity which had fallen even though he himself was sinless. At the outset of his ministry Jesus must reveal the fullness of his humanity, for only so could he redeem the fallen human race. Jesus is not merely passive, for he himself joins with John in making the positive step:

'We must do all that righteousness demands'.

A quick review: *what difference has baptism made to my life?*

**Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB**

**NE12 CATHOLIC SOCIAL EVENT:** All parishioners from both our churches are invited to a Fish & Chip Supper on Sat 24th January in St Mary's church hall after Vigil Mass (6:30pm). Last year's event was a lot of fun with the meal, quiz and a good old catch up! The cost is £10 per adult / £5 per child for a choice of fish / sausage / veggie burger / and chips - with mushy peas, bread buns, condiments and soft drinks all provided. (Please bring own alcoholic drinks if preferred). If you would like to join us, complete sign up form or email [NE12Catholic@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:NE12Catholic@diocesehn.org.uk)

**Final numbers and payment needed by Sunday 18th January.**

Details for BACs transfers on sign up sheets. Here's to a great night!

**NEWMAN TYNESIDE CIRCLE:** An invitation to all to hear our very own Fr Sean Hall present '*Does Church Doctrine Change?*' at The Holy Name, Jesmond on Tuesday 13 January 2026, at 7.30pm.

St John Henry Newman wrote, in his Essay on the Development of Doctrine, 'Here below to live is to change and to be perfect is to have changed often'. Regarding in particular the Sacrament of Orders, what changes might be possible? What might not be possible in the future?

**GRATEFUL THANKS:** Our parishes have received a number of very kind anonymous donations in recent weeks. Thank you - your words and support are appreciated.

**COLLECTIONS:** 4th January

St Aidan's: Loose Plate: £141.00 / Envelopes: £107.00

Sunday Coffee Morning: £132.00 (Heart NE)

St Mary's: Loose Plate: £188.89 / Envelopes: £15.10

Candles: £17.90 / Friday Coffee Morning: £171.00 (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](mailto:NE12Catholic@diocesehn.org.uk)

**GIFT AID LETTERS:** We have received individual Gift Aid statements from the Diocese for parishioners at St Aidan's and St Mary's who Gift Aided their donations in 2024/2025. If you require a copy of the letter for your records or individual tax returns, please speak to Gosia at St Aidan's or Veronica at St Mary's or email [NE12Catholic@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:NE12Catholic@diocesehn.org.uk)  
Thank you for your support.

**HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL EVENT:** 21st January

The theme for this year's commemorations 'Bridging Generations', is a call-to-action. A reminder that the responsibility of remembrance doesn't end with the survivors – it lives on through their children, their grandchildren and through all of us. Hear from speakers Professor Yitka Graham and Mr Nicu Ion from 7.00pm at St Mary's Catholic Comprehensive School, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE7 7PE. There is no ticket charge for this event but booking is strongly recommended via [www.diocesehn.org.uk](http://www.diocesehn.org.uk)

**THE GREAT AWAKENING:** 24th January

Anointing Fire Catholic Ministries UK presents this Catholic Healing and Evangelisation Service at Bethel Convention Centre, West Bromwich. Please see posters at entrances to our churches.

**FROM THE DIOCESE**

**NEW YEAR CONGRATULATIONS:** Anita Bath, CEO of Bishop Bewick Catholic Trust was awarded an OBE in the King's New Year's Honours List. The Trust includes St Mary's Primary School, St Stephen's Primary School and St Mary's Comprehensive.

**A JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE:** Bishop Stephen marked the end of the Year of Jubilee by closing the Holy Doors at St Mary's Cathedral in Newcastle and St Joseph's Church in Hartlepool. Parishioners from across the Diocese have shared their Jubilee stories which can be seen on [www.diocesehn.org.uk](http://www.diocesehn.org.uk)  
Take a look - you may recognise a face or two!

**VACANCIES:** EDUCATION BUSINESS MANAGER

The successful candidate will ensure that the Diocesan Education Department is proficient and productive with resources allocated effectively to support schools and Catholic Education Trusts (CETs) in the delivery of a high-quality Catholic education. Based at Diocesan Offices on the West Road in Newcastle, the salary scale is from £35,000 to £37,323.

Those interested are asked to visit [www.diocesehn.org.uk](http://www.diocesehn.org.uk) or email [annie.leaver@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:annie.leaver@diocesehn.org.uk) for an Application Pack. The closing date for applications is 12 noon Sunday 1st February 2026 although the right is reserved to close the post early.

Shortlisting will take place on 13th February 2026, with interviews scheduled for Thursday 19th February 2026.