

MASS INTENTIONS: w/c 26th April 2026

Sat 25th (St Mary's)	5.30pm	Peter Lundgren
Sun 26th (St Aidan's)	9.15am	Teresa Ball
Sun 26th (St Mary's)	11.00am	Priest's Intentions
Mon 27th	** NO MASS **	
Tues 28th (St Mary's)	10.00am	People of the Parish
Wed 29th (St Aidan's)	10.00am	People of the Parish
Thurs 30th (St Aidan's)	10.00am	Phil Burke
Fri 1st May (St Mary's)	10.00am	Our friends and families
Sat 2nd (St Aidan's)	11.00am	Confession
Sat 2nd (St Mary's)	5.30pm	Priest's Intention
Sun 3rd (St Aidan's)	9.15am	Freya Elizabeth Amis
Sun 3rd (St Mary's)	11.00am	Joan & Neville Peppiatt

For Mass Intentions, please use envelopes in our churches.

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: 3rd May / 5th Sunday of Easter

"The people of God is a house built of living stones."

Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:4-9

CHILDREN'S PRAYER: Christ Jesus, open our hearts to trust in you, so that we may never be afraid to answer your call to love one another, and so that through you we may come closer to God. 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 for information & support.

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

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 26th April 2026:

Fourth Sunday of Easter

After listening to today's Gospel, The Good Shepherd (John 10: 1-10), consider this reflection by Fr Henry Wansbrough:

In each year of the three-year cycle of readings this fourth Sunday of Easter is designated Good Shepherd Sunday, with readings from the parable given in John 10. In the first two Sundays after Easter the meetings with the Risen Lord are described, but after that the most important truth about the Risen Lord which the Church puts before us is that this Jesus whom we encounter is the Good Shepherd.

In the Old Testament God is the Shepherd of Israel, and indeed in the neighbouring pastoral nations too the protective deity of the nation is commonly called their 'Shepherd'. As the pastoral ancient world well knew, the duty of shepherds is to care devotedly for the sheep, with no regard to the personal cost to themselves. Ezekiel repeatedly castigates the recent leaders of Israel for their failure to care for the sheep and for managing the flock for their own personal advantage. It is especially striking that in all four gospels the divine title of Shepherd is transferred from God to Jesus himself, at least implying not only that Jesus is the perfect shepherd, but also that he is the incarnation of that divine Shepherd, fulfilling the duties which had hitherto been credited to the God of Israel alone.

By his selfless generosity Jesus is the model for all rulers and leaders of nations. *What does it mean to you to describe Jesus as the Good Shepherd? Who is your special guide in life and why?*

VOCATIONS SUNDAY: A message from Bishop Stephen:

“I invite us all to pray for vocations this Sunday. Please pray particularly for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life. Please pray every day that people will respond to the Lord’s call to serve Him in ordained and consecrated life. They are intimate adventures in God’s love. In our parishes and churches and schools and chaplaincies, please offer regular time in prayer for vocations. Pope Leo encourages us to offer time for Eucharistic adoration and to meditate faithfully on the Word of God. Prayer leads to vocations. This is not a last resort; it is the essential first resort.” Please see www.diocesehn.org.uk for more details

NE12 CATHOLIC BOOK CLUB: Wed 29th April, St Mary’s Church Hall
We reach the final chapters of our book God of Surprises by G W Hughes.

PARISH DISCERNMENT

“Thank you to all parishes who have completed and returned their reflections as part of our diocesan pastoral strategy.
I, together with others, look forward to reading and praying through your discernments in the Spirit. We next move to a second phase as we invite local parishes to discern together in their partnerships, or with others in their neighbouring area. Information and updates will be shared on our website. Please keep this discernment in your prayers as we seek to respond to the Lord’s call to worship Him and serve our communities in a flourishing and sustainable manner.” Bishop Stephen

COLLECTIONS: 19th April 2026

St Aidan’s: Loose Plate: £250.00 / Envelopes: £102.00 / Candles: £65.00
Hall Hire: £38.00

St Mary’s: Loose Plate: £204.16 / Envelopes: £30.00 / Candles: £20.70
Donations: £40.00 / Friday Coffee Morning: £136.00 (SMILE TRAIN)

Thank you for your continued support and generosity. Details re standing orders, offertory envelopes or Gift Aid via NE12Catholic@diocesehn.org.uk

DONA CARD DONATION POINT: If you already donate via Standing Order this is not a replacement or new process to adopt. The donation points are there to assist one off donations or those who may have traditionally donated via cash but now tend to carry cards or pay via mobile.
Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

WHOLE SCHOOL MASS: Friday 1st May

St Mary’s Primary School will be joining us for 10am Mass. All are welcome.

COLUMBAN MISSIONARIES: 9th and 10th May

Fr Patrick O’Beirne will give the Annual Mission Appeal on behalf of the Columban Missionaries at our weekend Masses.

The principal purpose of the visit is to raise awareness of the missionary vocation; to encourage people to be more involved in the missionary work of the church; to thank loyal supporters and to seek greater support for mission magazine, “The Far East”. Thank you for your support.

LOURDES RACE NIGHT: Fri 15th May, 7pm - 1030pm

This year marks the 100th anniversary of Hexham and Newcastle Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes and as part of the celebrations St Teresa’s church is hosting the “Kellet Cup Race Night” to raise funds for Lourdes Hospitalité, in memory of Fr Denis Kellet. All funds raised will support sick and disabled pilgrims from throughout the diocese to travel to Lourdes.

For further information, sponsorship, horses and tickets please contact Pat Henzell: 07803727799 or chris.henzell@gmail.com

Many thanks for your support. The Lourdes Hospitalité, the volunteer nurses and all future pilgrims are most grateful.

AUSTEN IVEREIGH IN DISCUSSION

Watch Catholic writer Austen Ivereigh speak on the importance of Parish Council’s in a webinar titled “*Making choices that serve others: Discernment, Decision-making & Decision-taking.*” Search Events on diocesehn.org.uk

REMINDER ST MARY’S CATHEDRAL: Mon 13th April - Fri 29th May

Cathedral Masses have moved to city centre churches during refurbishment - full details are available via www.diocesehn.org.uk.

Pauline Bookshop & Cloisters Café continue to operate as per their usual opening times. Mary’s Place also remain opens on a Monday 10am – 1pm.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO ROME AND ASSISI: 22nd – 29th October 2027

Led by Bishop Stephen. £1,725.00 per person

Places are limited to 50 pilgrims and places are allocated on a first come first served basis with payment of the deposit securing your place. The itinerary and booking details can be found on the diocesan website (www.diocesehn.org.uk) or alternatively speak to your parish office.