

MASS INTENTIONS: w/c 5th January 2025

Sat 4th (St. Mary's)	5:30pm	John Kennedy
Sun 5th (St. Aidan's)	9:15am	People of the Parish
Sun 5th (St. Mary's)	11:00am	People of the Parish
* Mon 6th (St. Aidan's)	6:00pm	Eucharistic Adoration
Tues 7th - Thurs 9th	*** NO MASSES ***	
Fri 10th (St. Mary's)	10:00am	Priest's Intention
* Sat 11th (St. Mary's)	11.00am	Confession
Sat 11th (St. Mary's)	5:30pm	Keith and Alan Nesbitt
Sun 12th (St. Aidan's)	9:15am	Priest's Intentions
Sun 12th (St. Mary's)	11:00am	D'cd members Richards Family

For Mass Intentions, please see envelopes in our churches

"You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream."

C.S. Lewis

MON 13th JANUARY: Requiem Mass for Philip Burke, 10am at St Aidan's.

THURSDAY 16th JANUARY: St Stephen's Primary School will be joining us for mass at St Aidan's, 10am. All are very welcome.

PREPARATION FOR NEXT WEEK: 12th January - Baptism of the Lord
"Jesus baptism is the model of your and my baptism." (Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7)

CHILDREN'S PRAYER: God of heaven and earth, you sent your Son Jesus to lead us to you. Send your Holy Spirit into our hearts so that we may have faith and courage to follow Jesus in all that we do. Amen.

WE ASK THAT YOU PRAY FOR: Those who have died recently. Those in our parishes who are sick or who may need our thoughts and prayers. And those of our parishes whose anniversary occurs at this time.

KEEP IN TOUCH:

Email NE12Catholic@diocesehn.org.uk or telephone 0191 268 4222.
Weekend mass live on YouTube, search St Mary of the Rosary
Newsletters & Homilies can be viewed on our 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. Mary's & St. Aidan's Churches

Rev. Sean Hall

Tel. 0191 268 4222

www.stmarysforesthall.co.uk

www.staidansbenton.yolasite.com

Join us on Facebook: NE12Catholic

For Baptisms, First Holy Communions and Confirmations, please email

NE12Catholic@diocesehn.org.uk



Sunday 5th January 2025: The Epiphany

After listening to today's Gospel, The Coming of the Magi (Matt 2:1-12), consider this reflection.

The contrast is overwhelming: Herod, the King of the Jews, the nation prepared since all ages to welcome the coming of God to set all things right, fails to recognise the coming of the Lord.

Herod is so blind as even to make every attempt to liquidate this child who heralds the completion of history and of Jewish hopes.

By contrast the trio of wise men from the East, the traditional home of natural wisdom, show their conviction that the turning-point of history has arrived by journeying over desert and mountain to welcome and pay homage to the Lord.

The evangelist is clear that this is the fulfilment of Isaiah's prophecy of the coming of peoples from the East to worship the Lord.

Especially in eastern Christianity, the festival of the Epiphany (rather than the birthday of Jesus) is regarded as a celebration of the manifestation of Christ to the world.

'Manifestation' is the meaning of the Greek word 'Epiphany': it was first used of the public 'manifestation' of the Roman emperor on a state visit, for he was regarded as a deity to whom worship and adoration were due.

What are we celebrating on this Feast of the Epiphany?

Why is Epiphany a high point during the season of Christmas?

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

NEWS FROM OUR CHURCHES

HAPPY NEW YEAR: Wishing you all a happy and blessed 2025.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Monday 6th January, 6pm at St Aidan's.

CONFESSION: Saturday 11th January, 11am at St. Mary's.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION: Sunday 12th January
We welcome our families back for their next session at 10am before Mass.

NEWMAN TYNESIDE CIRCLE: 14th January, 2:30pm at Holy Name Jesmond
All invited to hear John Murray speak about Mgr Kevin Nichols; A priest of the diocese for over 50 years, Kevin Nichols was born in Wallsend and studied at Cambridge under the tutorage of CS Lewis. He is best known as the author of several hymns, including 'In Bread We Bring'.

PILGRIMAGE: HEARTS IN SEARCH OF GOD – Webinar
An online Year of Jubilee formation opportunity based on pilgrimage.
DATE: Wednesday 15th January, 7:00pm - 8:00pm
Guest speaker Dr Phil McCarthy will share his wisdom and experience based on the history, significance and spirituality of pilgrimage.
Register via adminfaith.mission@diocesehn.org.uk or 0191 243 3316

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR SERIES: January / February 2025
Led by our Deacon, Alison Rebello, the Life in the Spirit seminars are an introduction to a life lived in the power of the Holy Spirit.
All sessions are at St Aidan's from 7.00 - 8.30pm, with special guest speaker.
16th January: God's Love – Andy Drozdziak
23rd January: Salvation – Amy Cameron
30th January: The New Life – John Wheeler
6th February: Receiving God's Gifts – Pat Kennedy
13th February: Baptism in the Holy Spirit – Fr Shaun O'Neill
20th February: Growth – Deacon Frank O'Neill
27th February: Transformation – Bishop Stephen Wright
Please book your place via <https://bit.ly/LifeInTheSpiritBenton>

CAFOD: A Year of Hope
An online session on Saturday 18th January, 10:30am - 12:00pm providing an introduction to the Jubilee Year. Register via www.cafod.org.uk

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL EVENING 2025 - For a Better Future
Guest Speakers Mr David Gold & Mr Smajo Bešo OBE will be marking the 80th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau (1945-2025) and the 30th anniversary of the Bosnian Genocide (1995-2025)
DATE: Wednesday 22 January at 7pm
VENUE: St Mary's Catholic Comprehensive School, Benton Park Road
BOOKING ESSENTIAL: interreligious.relations@diocesehn.org.uk or by calling 0191 243 3316.

MARRIAGE MASS: 8th February 2025
Bishop Stephen will celebrate Mass at St Mary's Cathedral to give thanks for the Sacrament of Marriage and Family Life. Anyone celebrating a significant anniversary in 2025 has the opportunity to be presented by Bishop Stephen with a certificate of celebration during the Mass. Please speak to Faith and Mission admin team on 0191 243 3316.

COLLECTIONS: 15th December 2024
St Aidan's - Loose Plate: £210.00 / Envelopes: £72.00
22nd December 2024
St. Aidan's - Loose Plate: £257.80 / Envelopes: £77.00 / Hall Hire: £77.20
Advent Alms: £100.00 / Christmas Raffle: 136.00
St. Mary's - Loose Plate: £342.55 / Envelopes: £43.00 / Donations: £25.00
Christmas Flowers: £16.00 / Fri Coffee Morning: £85.00 (People's Kitchen)
Christmas Raffle: £316.60 (Advent Alms)
24th / 25th December 2024
St. Aidan's - Loose Plate: £740.00 / Envelopes: £50.00
St. Mary's - Loose Plate: £1,165.60 / Envelopes: £59.00 / Donations: £20.00
Candles: £65.33
29th December 2024
St. Aidan's - Loose Plate: £111.00 / Envelopes: £97.00 / Papers: £12.00
Candles: £58.25 / December Coffee Morning: £141.75 (Heart NE)
St. Mary's - Loose Plate: £287.70 / Envelopes: £18.00 / Donations: £60.00
Friday Coffee Morning: £88.00 (People's Kitchen)
For details about Gift Aid or donating via standing order, please email NE12Catholic@diocesehn.org.uk *Thank you for your continued support.*