

## **MASS INTENTIONS: w/c 28th April 2024**

Sat. 27th (St Mary's)	5.30pm	George, Nell & Evelyn Candlish
Sun. 28th (St Aidan's)	9.15am	Freya Elizabeth Amis
Sun. 28th (St Mary's)	11.00am	Peg and Harry Allen
Mon. 29th	*** NO MASS ***	
Tues. 30th (St. Mary's)	10.00am	John Hawthorn
Wed. 1st May (St. Aidan's)	10.00am	George Todhunter and family
Thurs. 2nd (St Aidan's)	10.00am	Fr Patrick Kennedy
Fri. 3rd (St Mary's)	10.00am	Edward 'Ted' Duffy
Sat. 4th (St Aidan's)	11.00am	Confession
Sat. 4th (St Mary's)	5.30pm	Private Intentions of R and G U.
Sun. 5th (St Aidan's)	9.15am	Teresa Ball
Sun. 5th (St Mary's)	11.00am	People of the Parish

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

### **Following Fr Hall's visit to Paris, thank you to Margaret H for sharing the Our Father in French.....**

Notre Père qui es aux cieux, que ton nom soit sanctifié,  
que ton règne vienne, que ta volonté soit faite sur la terre comme au ciel.  
Donne-nous aujourd'hui notre pain de ce jour.  
Pardonne-nous nos offenses,  
comme nous pardonnons aussi à ceux qui nous ont offensés.  
Et ne nous laisse pas entrer en tentation,  
mais délivre nous du Mal. Amen.

### **PREPARATION FOR NEXT WEEK: 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER - 5th May 2024**

"God is love itself." Second Reading: (1 John 4:7-10).

**CHILDREN'S PRAYER:** *Dear Lord, you are the vine, we are the branches. Help us to bear your fruit and follow your word. Amen*

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

**KEEP IN TOUCH:** Contact us [parishsecretary@mail.com](mailto:parishsecretary@mail.com) / 0191 268 4222

Access weekend mass live via YouTube, search St Mary of the Rosary / Newsletters & Homilies can be viewed on [www.stmarysforesthall.co.uk](http://www.stmarysforesthall.co.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)

**Welcome to our Parish Newsletter:  
St. Mary's & St. Aidan's R.C Churches  
Rev. Sean Hall  
Tel. 0191 268 4222**

**[www.stmarysforesthall.co.uk](http://www.stmarysforesthall.co.uk)**

**[www.staidansbenton.yolasite.com](http://www.staidansbenton.yolasite.com)**

**Join us on Facebook - NE12Catholic**

*To arrange Baptisms, First Holy Communions  
and Confirmations, please email  
[parishsecretary@mail.com](mailto:parishsecretary@mail.com)*

### **Fifth Sunday of Easter - 28th April 2024**

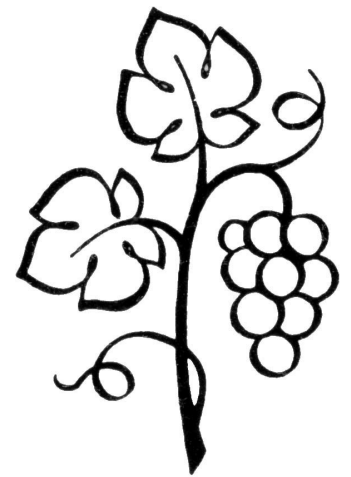
After listening to today's Gospel, The True Vine (John 15:1-8) consider, did any words stand out? If they did, ponder or discuss them before proceeding with the reflection:-

A vine is an extraordinary plant. It can grow to a huge size, spreading over a wide area, a whole garden wall or trelliswork, from one single root, and producing a rich sap which yields grapes at the end of countless little branches. And then there is the business of pruning: cut it back thoroughly on all its many shoots and tendrils, and it seems only more determined to grow thick and strong.

So the vine was the symbol of Israel, drawing from the Lord a sap which penetrated to all its shoots, and lovingly pruned by the gardener in a way which best encouraged its growth. The image was taken over by Jesus for his own community, the new Israel. Pairing with last week's picture of the good shepherd, it is one of the greatest of Jesus' images. It perfectly sums up the two emphases of this Sunday's other two readings. The only source of fruitful energy for the Christian is union with and dependence on the life flowing from Christ. Without that, the branches wither and die; a trimming cut off from a vine no longer has any chance of life. The vine itself at pruning season looks stark, rough and suffering. It is in fact bursting with new life.

***What bits of your life need to be pruned away now?***

***What more can you do to express the flow of Christ's life within you?***



Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

## NEWS FROM OUR CHURCHES

**BIRTHDAY THANKS:** Fr Hall would like to thank everyone for the best wishes, cards, parish gifts & charitable donations given to mark his milestone birthday last week. Over £1,700 has been raised for the St Vincent de Paul Centre in Newcastle which helps, supports and feeds some of the most vulnerable people in our community. Your kindness and generosity is very much appreciated.

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:** Join Deacon Alison Rebello at St Aidan's on Monday 6th May at 6pm.

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS:** New members welcome.  
St Aidan's - Wednesday 1st May at 7pm in the church hall  
St Mary's - Tuesday 14th May at 7pm in the church hall.

**ASCENSION OF THE LORD:** Thursday 9th May  
10am Mass at St Mary's // 7pm Mass at St Aidan's

### **COLLECTIONS: 21st April 2024**

St Aidan's - Loose Plate: £124.00 / Envelopes: £62.00 / Hall Hire: £144.00  
Donation: £1,000.00

St Mary's - Loose Plate: £324.56 / Envelopes: £31.00 / Donations: £105.00  
Sick & Retired Priests: £29.60 / Fri Coffee Morn: £106.00 (People's Kitchen).  
For details about Gift Aid or donating via standing order, please email  
parishsecretary@mail.com

***Thank you for your continued support.***

**CONFESSION:** Saturday 4th May, 11am at St. Aidan's  
*The first and third Saturday of the month at St Aidan's 11am - 11.30am*  
*The second and fourth Saturday of the month at St Mary's 11am - 11.30am*

**TAIZE SERVICE:** All welcome on Sun 5th May, 5.30pm at St Gabriel's Church, Heaton. A simple, contemplative service of song, silence, prayer readings. See Vince or Sue at St Mary's or email Parish Secretary for more information.

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2024:** This year's service raised £244.00. Donations collected from across the UK will be allocated by the WDP National Committee and published in 2026 Together in Prayer Yearly Edition. A few past Yearly Editions of services from around the world are available in the church hall at St Mary's. Please take one & leave a donation in the box.

## NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE

**PARISH SAFEGUARDING:** Our Parishes operate in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency( CSSA) and Diocese's policies and procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives are:

St Aidan's - Bernie Lamb

St Mary's - Anna Parry

or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding Team can be contacted on 0191 2433305 or at [safeguarding@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@diocesehn.org.uk)

**SURVIVORS MASS:** At St Mary's Cathedral on Tues 30th April at 12.05pm, the date nominated by Catholic Bishops Conference of England and Wales as the National day of Prayer for Victims and Survivors of Abuse.

**PUBLIC LECTURE:** Prof Eamon Duffy will visit the Holy Name in Jesmond, on Saturday 4th May at 11.30am to give his lecture - *"Celebrity Priest: Robert Hugh Monsignor Benson and the End of the World"*. Professor Duffy will discuss Fr Benson's life and work, and that of his father the Archbishop of Canterbury. All are welcome for this non-ticketed event.

**CDSC PENTECOST MASS 2024:** On Sat 11th May 2024, The Charismatic Diocesan Service of Communion for Hexham and Newcastle (CDSC) will be hosting their annual Mass for Pentecost at the Cathedral Church of St Mary on the theme of *'Renewed in the Holy Spirit'*. Praise and Worship begins at 1.00pm, with Mass at 1.20pm. At the end of Mass members of the CDSC team will offer a Pentecost Blessing. All are very welcome. Please email: [charis@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:charis@diocesehn.org.uk) for more details.

### **VACANCIES**

The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle has the following job vacancies:

- Cleaner, St Cuthbert, Chester le Street– part-time. Closing date: 1 May
- IT Field Engineer (two posts) Diocesan Offices, Newcastle – full-time, 9-month fixed term contract. Closing date: 6 May

Visit [www.diocesehn.org.uk](http://www.diocesehn.org.uk) for full details or contact 0191 243 3301.

**LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR APPEAL:** You can contribute by sending cheques made payable to 'Little Sisters of the Poor' to St Joseph's Home, Newcastle, NE4 7QA or via [www.littlesistersofthepoor.co.uk/donate-here](http://www.littlesistersofthepoor.co.uk/donate-here)  
Thank you.