

FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY Sunday 6th Jan Sat. 6.00 pm Vigil	St. Cecilia's	Anthony Mendez (R.I.P)
8.00 am	Convent	Ints of Sr M Enda
10.30 am	St. Mary's	Eveline Rodgers (R.I.P)
5.00 pm	St. Mary's	People of the Parish
Monday 7th 9.30 am	Convent	Ints of Sr. M Fintan
12.05 pm	St. Mary's	Ints of Sr. M Cyril
Tuesday 8th Jan 9.30 am	Convent	Babs Clune (R.I.P)
12.05 pm	St Mary's	Ints of Joan Blythe
7 pm	St. Cecilia's	Ints of Bernadette Lawson
Wednesday 9th Jan 9.30 am	Convent	Hilda Burrell (R.I.P)
12.05 pm	St. Mary's	Ints of Sr. M Scholastica
Thursday 10th Jan 9.30 am	Convent	Molly & Jim Meekins (R.I.P)
12.05 pm	St. Mary's	Funeral of Moira Thompson (R.I.P)
Friday 11th Jan 12.05 pm	St. Mary's	Ints of Mary Hogg. And John Maddison (R.I.P)
5.30 pm	Convent	Ints of Sr. M Calasanctius
Saturday 12th Jan 9.30 am	Convent	<i>Convent Liturgy</i>
11.00 am	St. Mary's	Olive Swales (R.I.P)
Sunday 13th Jan 6.00 pm (<i>Saturday Evening</i>)	St. Cecilia's	Anthony Mendez (R.I.P)
8.00 am	Convent	Oaklea Community Living & Dead
10.30 am	St Mary's	Norah Hewitt (R.I.P)
5.00 pm	St. Mary's	People of the Parish



OUR LADY of MERCY

Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Parish, Sunderland.
Made up of:

St. Mary's Church, 27 Bridge Street, Sunderland, SR1 1TQ
St. Cecilia's and St. Patrick's Church, Ryhope Road, Sunderland, SR2 7TG
St. Anthony's Convent, Tunstall Road, Sunderland, SR2 7JR
Sunderland University Catholic Chaplaincy (Located at St. Mary's)

Telephone: (0191) – 567 5354

Parish Email: stmaryscatholicparish@hotmail.com

Parish Twitter: @St_MarysRC

Parish Website: www.sunderlandcatholic.com

Parish Priest: Father Marc Lyden-Smith
Assistant Priest: Canon A.H. Barrass (*Retired*)
Parish Deacon: Rev. Eddy Barker
Parish Sister: Sr. Raphael

6th JANUARY 2019 – FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY



Sacrament of Reconciliation on Saturdays in the Mercy Chapel
(Confessions): 10.15 – 10.45 am and 11.30 – 12.15 pm
St. Cecilia's confessions: Before Mass, or by appointment.

Part of the Catholic Partnership of Monkwearmouth, Sunderland. In the
Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle.

From both St. Mary's and St. Cecilia's churches: Please remember especially in your prayers....

Pat Lawrence, John Turnbull, Doreen Duffy, Pat Henty, Valerie, Janet Buckland, Jackie Turner, Breda Gleeson, Rebecca Amundsen, Avril Hogg, Simon Nyoike, Margaret Graham, Maureen Walton, Catherine Marshall, Molly South, Nicholas Wilson, Stephen Hall, Eddie Ashburner, Jean Liddle, Ann-Marie Rain, Christopher Browne, Norah Morris, Ann Forster, Luca, Mary White, Peter, Clara, Patrick Barraclough, Bernadette Lawson, Cecilia Harper; Molly Donkin, Patricia Rutter, Hannah O'Neill, Ann Felton, John McConville, Kathleen Conlon, Dorothy Thompson and Jean Ashurst who are all sick at this time.

Parish Lottery

THE WINNERS:

First Prize – Norah Ridley, Second Prize – Paula Gibson, Third Prize – Jean Liddle. Congratulations to you all. ☺
If you would like to join the Parish Lotto for £1 a week, you are very welcome to do so – see Fr. Marc and you could be a winner.

The Parish Office is usually open Monday – Friday, 9.30am – 11.45 am. Sister Raphael will endeavour to assist with all relevant enquiries, including Baptism and Marriage enquiries, Mass Intentions, Planned Giving & Gift Aid donations and any forthcoming events in St Mary's and our Parish centre.

Parish Ceilidh

Our Parish Ceilidh will be held in The Minster on 26th January 2019 at 7.00pm. Tickets are £10 and all profits will go to our 'Sleeping Bag Fund'. Tickets are on sale now by request and will be sold after Mass in the New Year, but please do save the date, it is always a wonderful night.

Race Night

Date for your diaries: After the success of this year's event, and after many requests, we are having another PARISH RACE NIGHT. This will be on Saturday 19th January from 6.30pm in St. Mary's, with all profits going to the student fund. Tickets are £3 and includes pie and peas supper. You can also sponsor a horse for £3 and sponsor a race for £15. Why not have a race named after yourself: For example "The Margaret Spoons Gold Cup". If interested text Mary on 078535815007 or email: sunderlandcathsoc@gmail.com

Come and See Weekend

Faith and discernment: Come and spend the weekend with a monastic community and experience a life of prayer and work. From Friday 15th February – Sunday 17th February, for single men and women in their 20s and 30s. This is in Warton, Lancashire. For more information please email Sister Mary Bernard on: hyningingbookings@yahoo.co.uk
Or Ring: 01524732684

Thank you for being here!

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"I downloaded them from a cloud."

Holocaust Memorial

This year the Holocaust Memorial Evening is being held twice. The first evening is being held on Tuesday 29 January 2019 at 7.00pm at St. Mary's Catholic School, Benton Park Road, Benton, Newcastle upon Tyne NE7 7PE. The second evening is being held on Thursday 31 January 2019 from 7.00pm at St. Michael's Catholic Academy, Beamish Road, Billingham TS23 3DX.

Over 60's

Can I remind you all that we have a wonderful over 60's group operating from St. Mary's Parish centre every Tuesday after the 12.05pm Mass. It is always open to new people coming along, so why not give it a try? You could be enjoying the fun, games, bingo or just a nice chat.

Weight Watchers

Could you do with losing a few pounds? (Then put it in the collection!) But if you would like to lose a little weight this summer, weight watchers runs every Saturday and Sunday morning from 9am in St. Mary's Parish Centre.

Gift Aiding your contributions

The gift aid scheme is open to anyone who is a UK tax payer and offers the opportunity for people to increase the value of their offering by allowing the parish to claim back the tax they have already paid on their donations. In effect it is 'free money' for the Church, all you need to do is sign up and put your offering in an envelope at Mass. Call the office if interested.

The Upper Room

The Upper Room, upstairs in the Parish Centre, is open during the week for Students of Sunderland University. With free Wi-Fi and tea/coffee, study space, and a chill out zone, students are welcome to use this space free of charge. Hope of the Catholic Society, all students welcome.

Can you house a Refugee?

Do you have a spare room? We are looking for people to give short term help to destitute asylum seekers. Your role will be to provide your guest with: 1) A warm, supportive and safe living environment. 2) A bedroom, clean bedding and towels. 3) Laundry and bathroom facilities. 4) A meal on the first night. Hosts will be given constant support and review. Application forms can be found online: www.actionfoundation.org.uk.

You are part of our family of faith!

Who were the Magi?

Many versions of the Bible refer to them as the *Wise Men*. We often forget that these Magi or Wise Men were non-Jews.

Older sources suggest that they were priestly descendants of one of the tribes of the Medes **known for their knowledge of the stars (astronomy) and their ability to interpret dreams.** *What can we learn from the Wise Men? First, the Wise Men began their journey because of their beliefs.*

It was a common belief that when a world leader like a king was born that a special stellar phenomenon would appear in the sky. The Magi saw something that convinced them that they had seen the long-awaited sign. Historians tell us that the Jews, the Romans, and the Persians were all watching the skies about that time, looking for signs of the birth of an extraordinary king. A few years before, around 11 BC, Halley's Comet had been seen. There were other stellar phenomena, including a bright star, Sirius, which appeared brightly in the daytime instead of at night. The Wise Men saw the star and began their journey.

May God give us all inspiration for this year's journey.

Second, the Wise Men were willing to follow what they had seen into unknown territory.

Their journey took them outside their country and their comfort zone. The Wise Men risked the consequences of disobeying Herod, who was known to behave as a madman when provoked and returned to their country by another way.

Third, the Wise Men were committed to the journey -- wherever the star might lead.

The Wise Men set out to find a newborn King by following a star and ended up in finding a baby born to young, relatively poor parents! Not exactly what they expected and not exactly what befit their dignity as priests.

Finally, the Wise Men brought gifts.

They did the thing that people in the East or in Africa or in India would do when visiting royalty. They brought gifts.

Gold was the kind of gift that you brought to a king.

Frankincense was the kind of gift that you would bring to a priest.

Myrrh was given to someone who was about to die. Their greatest gift comes to us in the form of a realization. The Wise Men were the first Gentiles to recognize that Jesus belongs to everyone. Good news is for everyone, not just a select few.

Star of wonder

Star of light

Star with royal beauty bright

Westward leading

Still proceeding

Guide us to thy perfect light.

Amen

Beavers, Cubs and Scouts

Sunderland Scouts is operating from St. Mary's Parish Centre every Thursday evening. They are looking for new members from our parish too. This is a great way to learn life skills, make new friends and have fun

Beavers is for 6-8 year olds and that will run from 5pm -6pm. Cubs is for 8-11 year olds and will run from 6pm – 7.15pm. Scouts is for 11-14 year olds and will also run from 6pm-7.15pm. Parents should just drop off and pick up. This is for boys and girls, and all are welcome. Please do come along

Parish Bank Details

If you would like to set up a STANDING ORDER with your bank and your parish; here are the details: Our HSBC Account, (Newcastle branch), is this:

Sort Code: 40-34-18

Account Number: 84456955



Today we celebrate the “wise men” coming to pay tribute to Jesus.

Thank you

A very big thank you from Fr. Marc and the Canon for all the gifts, cards and good wishes for Christmas. Your generosity to us is simply amazing.

We need to strengthen the conviction that we are one single human family. There are no frontiers or barriers behind which we can hide, still less is there room for the globalization of indifference.

POPE FRANCIS

RD.COM/QUOTES

HAPPY NEW YEAR

STAY COMMITTED
TO YOUR
DECISIONS, BUT
STAY FLEXIBLE
IN YOUR
APPROACH.

—
TONY ROBBINS