

Sunday 5th Jan 2020 EPIPHANY OF THE LORD Sat. 6.00 pm Vigil	St. Cecilia's	Sean Jacob (R.I.P)
8.00 am	Convent	Molly & Jim Meekins (R.I.P)
10.30 am	St. Mary's	Eveline & Bob Rodgers (R.I.P)
5.00 pm	St. Mary's	Private Intention (D)
Monday 6 th Jan 9.30 am	Convent	Ints of Sr. M Bede (60)
12.05 pm	St. Mary's	Ints of Liam & Mary Bowler & family
Tuesday 7 th Jan 9.30 am	Convent	Ints of Pat Jackson
12.05 pm	St. Mary's	David Selva (R.I.P)
7.00 pm	St. Cecilia's	Catherine McConville (R.I.P)
Wednesday 8 th Jan 9.30 am	Convent	<i>Convent Liturgy</i>
12.05 pm	St Mary's	Ints of Mandy & Paul Binney
Thursday 9 th Jan 9.30 am	Convent	Sr. M Dolores (R.I.P)
12.05 pm	St. Mary's	Sr. M Dolores (R.I.P)
Friday 10 th Jan 10.00 am	St. Cecilia's	Adoration & Benediction
12.05 pm	St. Mary's	Joyce & Norman Smith
5.30 pm	Convent	Ints of Sr. M Baptist
Saturday 11 th Jan 9.30 am	Convent	Joseph O'Callaghan (R.I.P)
11.00 am	St. Mary's	Holy Souls
Sunday 12 th Jan BAPTISM OF THE LORD 6.00 pm (<i>Saturday Evening</i>)	St. Cecilia's	John McConville (R.I.P)
8.00 am	Convent	Mick Vale (R.I.P)
10.30 am	St Mary's	Peter Brennan (R.I.P)
5.00 pm	St. Mary's	Miriam Barraclough (R.I.P)

Sacrament of Reconciliation: (CONFESSIONS): Saturday: In the Mercy Chapel 10.15 – 10.45am and 11.30am – 12.15pm
Or before Mass at St. Cecilia's. Priest also available before 12.05pm Mass on weekdays.



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*)
Assistant Priest: Bishop Seamus Cunningham (*Retired*)
Parish Deacon: Rev. Eddy Barker
Parish Sister: Sr. Raphael

5th JANUARY 2020 – EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



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, Rebecca Amundsen, Avril Hogg, Margaret Graham, Maureen Walton, Catherine Marshall, Molly South, Nicholas Wilson, Stephen Hall, Eddie Ashburner, Jean Liddle, Ann-Marie Rain, Christopher Browne, Norah Morris, Luca, Peter, Clara, Patrick Barraclough Cecilia Harper; Molly Donkin, Patricia Rutter, Ann Felton, Kathleen Conlon, Dorothy Thompson, Jean Ashurst, Dave the Rave, Hilda, Ronnie Mitchinson, Brian Lathean, Alan Conniffy, , Christine, Peter Sassi, Margaret Spoons, Janice Connaughton, Janet Ann Atkinson Terry Murton & Trish Boggan who are all sick at this time And lately dead Sr. M Aquin. May she rest in peace.

Parish Lottery

THE WINNERS:

First Prize –Caroline Bright, Second Prize –Maura Bowler, Third Prize – Eveline Baker. Congratulations to you all. ☺

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.

Happy Retirement

Parishioner Ken Smithson is retiring! Ken has been at the helm of St. Gregory's Catholic primary school in South Shields for almost 26 years. He announced his retirement in September following a teaching career which has spanned more than 40 year – 31 of those as a head teacher. Please pray for Ken, that he has a happy and long retirement, for his family and friends. Please also pray for the wonderful school he leaves in great shape after his tremendous service.

Bishop Seamus

As you know Bishop Seamus returned home to bury his brother. He was due back this weekend, but very sadly, his sister Tess is now gravely ill. Tess is a nun in Dublin, so Bishop Seamus will remain in Ireland a little longer with family. We keep the Cunningham family in our prayers.

Thank you for being part of this parish community. You are always welcome.

Sister Aquin RIP

More sad news I'm afraid. On New Year's Day, Sister Aquin died at home in the convent. Her funeral will be on January 17th at 1pm in Oaklea.

Congratulations

Happy news! Please pray for Lorcan McCloskey and Elizabeth Nixon. Also for Paul Hughes and Angela McKenna. Both couples got married in St. Mary's on 28th December. May you both enjoy married life. God Bless you!

Thank you

Special word of thanks to the students of Southmoor Academy who have provided Open House with so much food over the Christmas period. It is inspiring to see such great generosity from such wonderful young people. Thank you.

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

CTS Books

Brand new titles of CTS Booklets are available at the back of church. Please do start your collection today, they are a great way to develop your faith.

With Thanks

We have received a letter of thanks from Sunderland Carers Centre for the donation of toys and gifts that kind parishioners offered at our giving service. They say that they are overwhelmed with your generosity and that the gifts have made a massive difference to young people in Sunderland. Thank you.



May 2020 be a year of peace and joy for you and all the people that you love.

The Epiphany Reflection

In the Book of Genesis, we hear these words dramatic words from God, 'Let there be light.' (1.3). In John's gospel, Jesus describes himself with these equally profound words, 'I am the light of the world.' (8.12). Today we celebrate the great festival of light, the Epiphany of the Lord. As the church, we remember and celebrate that Jesus who was born in the darkness of night in an animal shed is the light of and for the world. The word 'epiphany' means to make known or to reveal. The angels made known and revealed to the shepherds the joy of the birth of Jesus. In the same way, the star led these strangers from the East and revealed the same Jesus to them.

Our first reading from the Prophet Isaiah calls us to 'Arise, shine out because our light has come, the glory of the Lord is rising in us, though night still covers the earth and darkness the people. Through the birth of Jesus and today's wonderful feast, we are the people on whom a great light has shone. Traditionally, we believe that the shepherds did not stay at stable after seeing Jesus, Mary and Joseph; they left glorifying and praising God. They left filled with the good news of this wondrous child. Just as the angels had proclaimed the good news to them, the shepherd in their turn shared their good news with others. In the same way, the visitors from the east, after they had

given Jesus their gifts also left the stable. They didn't stay there either. We are only told that they did not back to Herod but went home another way. We can only assume, that they too told everyone what they had seen and heard in that small stable in Bethlehem.

As we look upon the crib, we cannot stay there. Like the shepherds and the magi, we too are called to move away and take the light of Jesus with us. We are asked not only to admire the light, but to be people of light. As Jesus himself tells us, *you are the light of the world and your light must shine.* The light of the Epiphany is given to us as a gift, but we cannot keep it to or for ourselves. Through the quality of our daily lives and how we treat each other, we are called to make our families, homes, parish communities and the wider world a better and brighter place for all people, especially the poor and the marginalised.

May Christ the Light and the Light of Christ fill all our homes, families and our parish communities this day and always.

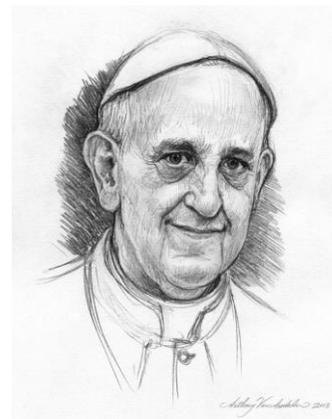


Vacancy Cleaner

The parish of St Hilda, Sunderland requires a part-time cleaner to provide cleaning services in the presbytery. The post holder will have the ability to provide a good standard of cleaning and be able to use their initiative. Knowledge of health and safety, including COSHH, is essential. Salary: £9.00 per hour
Hours of work: 6 per week Working Pattern: Monday and Friday, 12pm – 3pm.
An application pack is available at www.rcdhn.org.uk or contact us on 0191 243 3301 or email human.resources@diocesehn.org.uk
The closing date for applications is 17 January 2020.

Boxing Day Dip

Thank you for your generosity with the Boxing Day Dip. Father Marc raised £1,100 for Sunderland Cancer Care thanks to the parish.



We pray for Pope Francis!

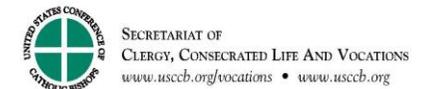
Prayer of Peace for 2020:

O God of peace, who are peace itself and whom a spirit of discord cannot grasp, nor a violent mind receive, grant that those who are one in heart may persevere in what is good and that those in conflict may forget evil and so be healed.

It is **VERY IMPORTANT** that we pray for an increase in Vocations. We need priests in our diocese. Please pray every single day from now on in 2020, for more to respond to God's call in our diocese:

Prayer for Vocations

GOD OUR FATHER, we thank you for calling men and women to serve in your Son's Kingdom as priests, deacons, and consecrated persons. Send your Holy Spirit to help others to respond generously and courageously to your call. May our community of faith support vocations of sacrificial love in our youth and young adults. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.



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We pray also for all our priests in Sunderland, that they will be faithful!