

**THE PARISHES  
OF ST ANNE AND ST AUGUSTINE  
GATESHEAD**

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**WEEK BEGINNING 7<sup>th</sup> June 2020  
MASS INTENTIONS**

**MOST HOLY TRINITY**

Sunday	For the Parishioners
Monday	Kathleen Derrick
Tuesday	Alan Hall (rec.died)
Wednesday	Ken Storey (rec.died)
Thursday	Jan & Mary Zielinski
Friday	Holy Souls (NAL)
Saturday	Holy Souls (NAL)
Saturday	St Anthony of Padua

**THE BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST**

Sunday	For the Parishioners
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(NAL) = The names in the November Altar Lists 2019, held at both St Anne and St Augustine churches.

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Your charitable prayers are requested for those who have died during the pandemic lock down: Alan Hall, John George Hopkins, James McKenna, Rita McCarthy, Laura Beatrice Robson, Manus Carroll, Ethel Marie Chambers, Elizabeth Forsyth, and Ken Storey, and those whose anniversaries occur about this time. **MAY THEIR SOULS AND THE SOULS OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED, THROUGH THE MERCY OF GOD, REST IN PEACE. AMEN.**

During these times when our churches are closed and masses are being streamed online, the Diocese of Middlesbrough have set up a system to allow people who do not have internet access to listen to Mass over the telephone. If you would like to access, the telephone number to call is **01642 130120**.

**The Holy Spirit and Pentecost**

Mind, on the one hand, is the sum of the receptive, logical, and pragmatic powers of knowing. The Spirit, on the other hand, discovers the values that lie beyond facts, the freedom that lies beyond law, the kind of existence in which justice is given priority over self-interest. Spirit, thus understood, is not the object of calculation and computer storage; it is correlated precisely with what is incalculable. It is a name for an attitude which brings happiness to the self by bursting through the limitations of self-centredness; an attitude, in other words, that requires a decision of the heart, or the whole person ... What is the real Christian message of Pentecost? What is this "Holy Spirit" of which it speaks? ... World history is a struggle between two kinds of love: self-love to the point of hatred of God, and love of God to the point of self-renunciation. This second love brings the redemption of the world and the self. In my opinion it would already be a giant step forward if during the days of Pentecost we were to turn to a reflection on our responsibility; if these days were to become an occasion for moving beyond purely rational thinking, beyond the kind of knowledge that is used in planning and can be stored up, to a discovery of "spirit," of the responsibility truth brings, and of the values of conscience and love .. The Holy Spirit is truly "spirit" in the fullest possible sense of the word. In all probability we must make our stumbling way to him anew from the midst of a world profoundly changed.

**(Dogma and Preaching: Pope Benedict p.68 ff)**



**STARTING OPENING CHURCHES**

The plan is that the five churches listed below, one from each Vicariate, would open as soon as is practicable following all necessary risk assessment and health and safety considerations. Then, hopefully, after a short trial-period others would follow. **This would be for private prayer only.**

- St Aidan's, Ashington
- St Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle
- St Patrick's, Consett
- St Mary's, Sunderland
- St Joseph's, Hartlepool

In his homily for Pentecost Sunday, Cardinal Vincent Nichols questions why churches have not been allowed to open for private prayer, especially when car showrooms and outdoor markets can open on Monday 1 June and non-essential shops from 15 June. He specifically asks why churches have been "excluded from this decision?" The opening of churches, even if only for private prayer, helps nurture faith which is a "vital contribution to our common good" the Cardinal says. He goes onto add that faith is a "motivation for the selfless care of the sick and dying" and will help play a key role in the "rebuilding of our society." Acutely aware of the importance of opening churches safely, the Cardinal stresses that "We are confident that we can do so. We have developed expert guidance. We are ready to follow the Government's guidelines as soon as they are finalised." He questions "the risk to a person who sits quietly in a church which is being thoroughly cleaned, properly supervised and in which social distancing is maintained?"