

# Our Lady and St Aidan & St Bernadette's Parish Communities

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St Bernadette's parishioners took the opportunity last Sunday to decide between two Mass times which one they preferred either a Saturday evening Mass or a Mass at 11.30am on the Sunday. 113 of those present voted, resulting in 22 opting for Saturday evening Mass and 91 to keep the Sunday morning Mass at the revised time of 11.30am. This means that at the present time, there are only two parishes retaining an evening Mass on a Saturday: St Cuthbert's North Shields at 5.30pm and Immaculate Heart, Whitley Bay at 5pm. Wallsend Mass times are now as follows: St Columba's, Sunday 9am, St Aidan's 10.00am, St Bernadette's 11.30am, which effectively means that one priest can cover the three Masses in an emergency. All three parishes therefore have been affected as a result of the Mass time changes. The hope has to be that the respective congregations will really pull out the stops and make these changes work.



Now is the time for all of mass goers in both parishes to think carefully about what they are bringing to our faith communities. For so many years in the church it has been acceptable to be a passive Catholic leaving the work of the church to priests and "interested" parishioners. Now we know something new is being asked of us as we plan the future well being of our parishes. How will **you** respond?

Two coaches will leave next weekend for Beamish; one from St Bernadette's and the other from St Aidan's. Both coaches will leave at 9.30am. and return at 3.30pm. On arrival at Beamish we are asked to wait at the entrance until the admission arrangements are sorted with the Beamish staff.

The money for the pantomime is coming in very nicely. When you pay, you will be handed an envelope with your tickets inside. 110 tickets have been sold for that event so it should be a real fun night for all.

Do you support Catholic schools and the right of Catholics to send their children to them? Then we need to make your voice heard.

The Government is making a critical decision on whether to overturn the admission cap which prevents Catholic schools from allowing all Catholic children to attend. They have acknowledged that this policy discriminates against Catholics and promised to abandon it. Now we need to remind the government not to u-turn on their promise to Catholics. Visit <http://catholicnews.org.uk/> or search for "Catholic Education" in your search engine and send an E mail to the Secretary of State registering your concern and asking the Secretary of State to re-think this anti-Catholic policy.

**A REMINDER TO THE PARENTS OF OUR FIRST COMMUNION GROUP: WE WILL MEET AGAIN THIS SUNDAY 3RD DECEMBER AT 2.30PM. ALL CHILDREN IN THE GROUP ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND.**



## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT 3RD DECEMBER 2017



Let's have a big drive to make sure that as many families as possible who ordinarily are in need, find reason to celebrate at Christmas. You and I can make that possible by having the biggest push so far. Why not enter into the spirit of Advent and have a special shop specifically with the neediest in mind? Don't forget the chocolates!!

In thanksgiving for 80 years of YCW in the UK, Mass will be celebrated at St Joseph's, Gateshead next Saturday at 3.30pm. After Mass, there will be time to renew friendships and a share memories over tea and biscuits

w/c 4th Dec	St Aidan's	St Bernadette's
<b>Mon</b>		
<b>Tue 10.00am</b>		<b>Celebrant's Intentions</b>
<b>Wed 9.30am</b>	<b>Special Intention (M&amp;P)</b>	
<b>Thu 10.00am</b>		<b>Celebrant's Intentions</b>
<b>Fri 9.30am</b>	<b>Paul Casson</b>	
<b>Sat 6.30 pm</b>	<b>People of Our Parish Communities</b>	
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>9.30am Jennifer Stopher</b>	<b>11.15 am Joan Williams</b>

Peer Talk Support Group for people living with mental health concerns. The group will meet every Wednesday from 7—8.30pm and begins on the 6th December meeting at 305 Whitley Bay Big Local, 305 Whitley Road, Whitley Bay NE26 2HU. Interested individuals do not need to be referred. They are invited to come along and can share in a safe, confidential space where they will be heard, respected and supported.



### CAFOD WORLD GIFTS

What do you buy the person who has everything? Why not have a look in the latest CAFOD World Gifts catalogue to give a gift that keeps on giving? Whatever you buy from that catalogue will potentially enrich the lives of some of the poorest in our world

