



7th January 2018 Feast of the Epiphany



Thank you for your support of the Food Bank over Christmas and indeed throughout the year. We asked you to provide many treats for the neediest in our area and you rose to the occasion! Special thanks to Maurice Ahern who week after week ensures that the food provided in both churches is kept on the move.

What a great time we had at the pantomime at Tynemouth Priory Theatre on Friday. It's only a small theatre but the group from our parishes—over 100 people—played their part in filling the space. It would be great to have a similar response to all of the planned activities throughout the year!!

w/c 8th Jan	St Aidan's	St Bernadette's
Mon		
Tue 10.00am		Greg Lannon
Wed 9.30am	Douglas Thompson	
Thu 10.00am		Rose Clarke
Fri 9.3am	Barbara Blackburn	
Sunday	10.00am Nicholas Cunningham	11.30 am Marina Di Carlo

Up cycling is all about breathing new life into old items – be it furniture, home accessories or, even clothing. Whether you're a seasoned up cycling pro or a complete beginner, you'll be made more than welcome if you choose to join a group in St Aidan's on a Wednesday night at 7pm. The group has come up with loads of ideas and have fun creating something new from old. Why not give it a go?



Further reminder to First Communion parents that there is a parents meeting on Tuesday evening at 6pm and the following week there will be a celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation for that group of children. The next Sunday session with the children will be on Sunday 11th February at 2.30pm (not the first Sunday) and the theme will be The Liturgy of the Word. The actual celebration of First Communion for our children will take place on Saturday 26th May.

The annual White Flower Appeal to support the work of the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children will be taken on the 21st January. If you wish to know more about their work then go to <https://www.spuc.org.uk/>

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

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The work of Pax Christi is based on the gospel and inspired by faith. Their vision is of a world where people can live in peace, without fear of violence in all its forms. Rooted in Catholic Christianity, they work with all who share their values to abolish war and create communities of peace and justice. Please support the work of this organisation through the special collection which will be taken as you leave the church **next** Sunday.



Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

The octave for Christian Unity is 18th—25th January. The theme this year is "That All May be Free" Praying for the unity of the Church involves a recognition not only of the brokenness of Christian relationships but also how injustice in the world at large rends asunder Christian communities and impedes our participation in God's mission. History too plays a part, casting a shadow over how we live our lives together in community. More information on services in our area will follow.

It would be great if the singing group at St Aidan's would support the singing on the last Sunday of every month. To make this possible could we meet to run through the hymns for the last Sunday of January? In this way, we stand the chance of introducing some new hymns throughout the year. The first practice will be on Wednesday 17th January at 7pm.

Eucharistic Pilgrimage and Congress "Adoremus" - Liverpool 2018 - The Bishops of England and Wales will hold a National Eucharistic Pilgrimage and Congress in Liverpool on **Sept 8th 2018**. All parishioners, especially Eucharistic Ministers, are welcome to attend. Please let Fr John know if you are interested.

NEW ROTAS St Aidan's: I would like to thank the parishioners of St Aidan's for their response to the appeal for more people to come forward and volunteer their time so that the work of the parish does not fall on the few. This is only the start. Once we find the rotas kicking in and working effectively we can then move on to the next stage. In the meantime, if you're not involved in the life of the parish over and above Mass on a weekend and find you could gift us with some of your time, please let me know. We would really value your involvement.

The current figures for the De Paul Christmas collection which will be sent off this week is as follows: St Aidan's: £1330 and for St Bernadette's: £580. Thank you so much for remembering the neediest at Christmas time and for the support that you give to similar charities throughout the year. We'll keep you up to date with the way in which the money is spent in the local community