

**Saint Joseph's Catholic Church**  
 High West Street  
 Gateshead  
 NE8 11X



**Our Lady & Saint Wilfrid's Catholic Church**  
 Sunderland Road  
 NE8 3QR

Parishes of the John Ingram Partnership Gateshead

**Parish Priest: Canon Michael Peter Brown**

St Joseph's Presbytery, High West Street, Gateshead, NE81LX

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Parish website: - [www.stjosephscatholicchurchgateshead.org.uk](http://www.stjosephscatholicchurchgateshead.org.uk)

Hall Bookings contact: - [gateshead.stjoseph@rcdhn.org.uk](mailto:gateshead.stjoseph@rcdhn.org.uk) | [shaunadevitt@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:shaunadevitt@yahoo.co.uk)

*Low Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2023*

MASS TIMES, INTENTIONS AND SERVICE TIMES

**SAINT WILFRID'S**

Day	Date	INTENTION	Time
Saturday	April 15 <sup>th</sup>	Kathleen Derrick	5.00pm
Sunday	April 16 <sup>th</sup>		
Monday	April 17 <sup>th</sup>	George Trott	10.00am
Tuesday	April 18 <sup>th</sup>		
Wed	April 19 <sup>th</sup>		
Thursday	April 20 <sup>th</sup>		
Friday	April 21 <sup>st</sup>	Karen Scott (ill)	10.00am
Saturday	April 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Priest's Intention	5.00pm
Sunday	April 23 <sup>rd</sup>		

Confessions: - before Mass on Saturday

Please pray for all those preparing for, or having recently received, the Sacraments of Baptism, First Holy Communion, Marriage, Confirmation, Holy Orders

Would you like to serve at the Altar? Please speak to Canon Michael. We are always looking for new servers.

**SAINT JOSEPH'S**

Day	Date	INTENTION	Time
Saturday	April 15 <sup>th</sup>		
Divine Mercy Sunday	April 16 <sup>th</sup>	People of the Parish Maira Brown <i>Divine Mercy Devotions</i>	10.00am 12.00pm (EF) 3.00pm
Monday	April 17 <sup>th</sup>		
Tuesday	April 18 <sup>th</sup>	Brigit Connolly	12.05
Wed	April 19 <sup>th</sup>	Mr. L.T. Clark	12.05
Thursday	April 20 <sup>th</sup>	Funeral Service David Brown Bernard Wright	10.15 12.05
Friday	April 21 <sup>st</sup>	Priest's Intention	12.05
Saturday	April 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Margaret and Bill Armstrong	11.00am
Sunday	April 23 <sup>rd</sup>	McErlane & Malcolm families People of the Parish	10.00am 12.00pm (EF)

"E F" = EXTRAORDINARY FORM OF THE MASS IN LATIN ACCORDING TO 1962 ROMAN MISSAL

Confessions: - Saturday 12-12.30 and Wednesday after Mass

Exposition every Wednesday morning 11.00 – 11.55

African community Mass last Sunday of the Month 2.00pm

First Saturday Devotions every month

## St Joseph's

### BOOK of REMEMBRANCE

If you would like to have the name of a deceased relative or friend placed in the book of remembrance please put the **name** and **death anniversary date** along with a **donation** into an envelope and hand it into the office or place on the collection plate.

### 50/50 Draw – See Angela Gallagher

In order to make this a viable initiative we need more participants. Please consider joining. Half of the money raised goes towards parish funds; the other half is put into a prize pot which is then distributed each month to the winning person. It costs only £10 for the chance to win something every month for ten months!! **Sign up at the back of church**

### Tuesday Club

Straight after 12.05 Mass in the hall.

### Piety Stall

**Will be open on 14<sup>th</sup> May**

If there is something you need/want in the meantime please speak to Shauna Devitt and she will be able to open the stall for your purchase.

### Income 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2023

Loose Plate: £431.10 Gift Aid Envelopes: £283  
Holy Places: £164

Thank You

## BOOK CLUB

Next meeting Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> April 7.30pm to discuss The Shoes of the Fisherman by Morris West All welcome.

### The Good Shepherd

This wonderful, child centred Catechesis programme will begin in September, led by Peter Armstrong.

Do you have a child aged 3-7yrs? Would like them to develop a personal relationship with Jesus through interactive, hands on, gentle and joyful, child-centred teaching?

Please take a registration form, complete it and return it to the parish office as soon as possible.

**Spaces are limited.**

**PLEASE NOTE** the sessions will NOT be on a Sunday during Mass.

### Next Confirmation Class Sunday April 16<sup>th</sup> at 6.00pm

Theme: - 'The Power of Prayer'

Please bring your folder and 'YOUCAT'.

Please come to front door on High West Street

Tea and coffee is available for parents/carers as they wait in another room

## SPUC

The Gateshead branch meets **every second Wednesday** of the **Month at 7,00pm** in the John Ingram Room @ St Joseph's, access through the office via presbytery back door, behind church.

## St Wilfrid's

### First Holy Communion

Please keep in your prayers all the children who will be making their first Holy Communion this year

### Heating Fund

Remains open, please continue to give generously

### Piety Stall

Open at rear of church

### Income 9<sup>th</sup> April 2023

Not Available

Thank You

## EXTRA COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND

### “Serving those who have served us well”

The Diocesan **Sick and Retired Priests' Collection** will be taken on the weekend of **15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> April 2023**, and the Fund will remain open until 5<sup>th</sup> May for anyone who might like to make further or individual donations. This collection goes to support our Sick and Retired Priests who have served our diocese over many years and we wish to make sure that this Fund is also there for future retired priests. Recent years have been very difficult and income has drastically dropped. If people were to give a suggested minimum of £5 or £10 per person in recognition of all the priests who have served their parishes over many years, it would be a great gesture as we “serve those who have served us well”.

For further information on Gift Aid, one-off larger donations, or a bequest in your Will, please do not hesitate to contact us on 0191 586 4319

**Please would everyone remember that the sacristy, although not technically a sacred space, is supposed to be a quiet, peaceful area in which the Priest and Servers can ready themselves for Mass. It is not a corridor, nor a gathering place. Nobody ought to be in the sacristy at all unless authorised to be there by Canon Michael, and nobody other than servers ought to be in the sacristy within the fifteen minutes prior to the beginning of Mass.**

**Divine Mercy Sunday is on 16th April 2023 at St Joseph Church, Gateshead**

**Devotional Programme:**

- **Holy Hour of Mercy at 3pm**
- **Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**
- **Silent Adoration**
- **Talks on Divine Mercy**
- **Chaplet of Divine Mercy**
- **Confession**
- **Veneration**
- **Benediction**

**All are welcome.**

Please do not leave any leaflets or literature at the back of church without gaining permission from Canon Michael, anything left without permission will be removed and disposed of.

The photocopier in the office is not available for parishioners to use as they please, again express permission is to be sought and granted before you enter the office.

Toilets are available in the hall; please do not use the toilet beside the office on a Sunday.

The church doors will be opened thirty minutes before each Mass, if you arrive early please be patient and wait, do not ring the presbytery doorbell.

**Summer Magazine**

If you wish to submit anything for the summer magazine please email it to [shaunadevitt@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:shaunadevitt@yahoo.co.uk) or place your contribution into an envelope and put it on the collection plate or pop it through St Joseph's Presbytery door.

**Deadlines for submissions – JUNE 4th**

Perhaps a family member has been Baptised, Received First Holy Communion, been Confirmed, or married in one of our churches this past year and you would like to share some of the experience, perhaps you have joined in with one of the groups and have a reflection on this?

All contributions which you feel may of interest to our parish readers are encouraged and welcomed in almost any form: - prose, poetry, commentary, song!

**Church Car Park**

Please be aware that this week somebody removed and stole the registration plates from a car parked in the car park.

The church cannot be held responsible for any damage done to cars parked here.

If you wish to park during the week on a regular basis please give your registration number in at the office and consider making a small donation towards parking costs.

We are hoping to increase the security in and around Church premises but it is proving very costly.

**Diocesan Vacancies**

- Administrator, Vicariate for Faith and Mission (maternity cover) – full-time. Closing date: 18th April 2023.
  - Senior Administrator, Dept for Education, Diocesan Offices, Newcastle – full-time. Closing date: 18th April
  - Parish Secretary and Cleaner (2 roles) – St Patrick's, Langley Moor, Durham – part-time. Closing date: 12th April
- Please visit [www.diocesehn.org.uk](http://www.diocesehn.org.uk) for full details or contact them on: - 0191 243 3301

**Vocations to the Priesthood**

**Discernment Evenings**

Tuesday 27th June, Tuesday 3rd October and Tuesday 5th December. These will be held at the Cloister Café - St Mary's Cathedral Clayton Street West, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 5HH from 6pm - 8pm. There will be a time of Prayer, talk/discussion, followed by a meal together.

Please contact Fr Shaun Purdy to book a place or for more information:

Email: - [vocationspromoter@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:vocationspromoter@diocesehn.org.uk) Telephone: - 01670 812 200.

Please take this Newsletter home with you, so that you know what's happening in your parish this week or sign up for it to be emailed to you.

Please look at the Diocesan website for the latest news about events and courses in and around the Diocese  
[News - Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle \(diocesehn.org.uk\)](http://www.diocesehn.org.uk)

## Helped by a doubting apostle

The expression “Doubting Thomas” comes from this remarkable Easter story. The apostle Thomas, one of Jesus’ inner circle, was slow to believe in the resurrection. He demanded concrete evidence before he could believe that the risen Jesus had appeared to his fellow apostles. His story offers some comfort to those of us who are always nagged by doubts. With the memory of our Lord’s crucifixion fresh in their hearts, the nervous disciples had locked the doors of their meeting room.

They had locked themselves for fear of Jewish reprisals. They were afraid that what was done to Jesus could be done to them. The turning point came when Jesus appeared among them and breathed the Holy Spirit into them, filling them with new purpose. “As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.” In the power of the Spirit they left their self-imposed prison, to go out and spread the message of Jesus. In today’s reading from ‘Acts’, St Luke shows them witnessing to the resurrection both in word and by the quality of their living.

Some people who cannot believe profess to envy those who do. They would like to experience the certainty of believers and share the faith of their parents. And indeed, most ordinary mortals have moments of doubt during our spiritual journey. Thomas’ recovery from his doubts offers a valuable insight into God’s mercy and kindness.

Are we sometimes like those disciples, indecisive, inactive, and unwilling to promote the faith? The “slings and arrows of outrageous fortune” have dented our confidence. Are we tempted to abandon our faith journey, unable to see a way forward? Our past failures make us hesitant to try again. Today’s gospel offers a solution. The Lord himself has power to revive our courage and our faith. No locked doors, nor even locked hearts, can keep him out.

At first, Thomas refused to believe that the others had seen him. He demanded definite and demonstrable, tangible proof. Jesus gave him the proof he needed. “Put your finger here,” he said, “and feel my wounds.” He forgives our fears and doubts too, and offers us a fresh start. We need to say in our turn, “My Lord and my God.

Today we meet with the risen Christ, just as St Thomas did. Sharing in the Eucharist is our statement of loyalty, our act of personal and shared faith. In praying the Eucharist together we help each other’s faith and strengthen our Christian community. It was because the members of the early Church in Jerusalem met in public for prayer and seemed such a joyful little community that so many others came to believe and the church grew steadily in those early, Spirit-filled days.

No-one else can do our believing for us. Eventually Thomas came to believe in the resurrection, when he saw the risen Jesus with his own eyes. The story ends with a message for all who have received the gift of faith: ‘Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.’ Our faith is a gift from God. But it is not an inert gift that can we lock away like some precious heirloom. It is a living gift that needs nurturing, to grow and mature. Like other life-forms, faith can wither from neglect. We need to pray about it, think about it, and express it in actions arising from love. This does not mean that we will never have any doubts. But if like Thomas we continue seeking, we too will come into the presence of Jesus and say “My Lord and my God!”