

**+THE PARISHES OF SAINT JOSEPH AND SAINT WILFRID+
GATESHEAD**

A PARISH OF THE DIOCESE OF HEXHAM & NEWCASTLE REGISTERED CHARITY NO.1143450

PARISH PRIEST: VERY REV DR MICHAEL BROWN

PRESBYTERY: ST JOSEPH'S HIGH WEST STREET GATESHEAD NE8 1LX

TELEPHONE NOS.:

ST JOSEPH'S 477 1631

ST WILFRID'S 477 1631

<http://www.stjosephscatholicchurchgateshead.org.uk/>

BOOKINGS FOR ST JOSEPH'S HALL: 07989 734644

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MASS TIMES, INTENTIONS AND SERVICE TIMES

	DEC		SAINT WILFRID'S		SAINT JOSEPH'S
Saturday	15			3pm-8pm	<i>El Shaddai prayer group</i>
		5.00pm			
Sunday	16			10.00am	Anne Southern
		11.00am	<i>Polish Mass</i>	12 noon (EF)	People of the Parish
Monday	17	10.00am	Margaret Jenkins		
Tuesday	18			12.05pm	Janet Fawcett
Wednesday	19			12.05pm	Brown and Henderson families
Thursday	20			12.05pm	Joseph Varghese
Friday	21	10.00am	No Intention	12.05pm	In thanksgiving DR
Saturday	22			11.00am(EF)	Discerment of Vocation (JK)
		5.00pm	People of the Parish	3pm-8pm	<i>El Shaddai prayer group</i>
Sunday	23			10.00am	John Patrick Murphy
		11.00am	<i>Polish Mass</i>	12 noon (EF) African Mass	Linda di Castro

EF = EXTRAORDINARY FORM OF THE MASS IN LATIN ACCORDING TO 1962 ROMAN MISSAL

CONFESSIONS: AFTER MASS ON WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY 12-12.30PM

ST WILFRID'S BEFORE 5.00PM MASS SATURDAY

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT AFTER MASS TO 1.30PM AT ST JOSEPH'S ON THURSDAY.4.30-5.00PM AT ST WILFRID'S

COLLECTIONS 9.12.18 St Joseph's Total £511.48

Midweek £51.60

St Wilfrid's Collection £136.04 Donation £200 Bonus Ball £84

Please remember our sick parishioners in your prayers, especially Pat Palmer, Bernadette Hand, Albert Hanley, Jeanette Brenkley, Eva Barnwell, Mona Richardson Mary Grieves, Fr Martin Wheaton and Sheila Gibertson.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES Christmas vigil Mass at St Joseph's and at St Wilfrid's will be at 5pm on Christmas Eve preceded by carols from 4.30pm. There will be a Latin Midnight Mass and Mass at 10am on Christmas Day at St Joseph's. Polish Mass at St Wilfrid's on Christmas Eve at 9pm and 10.30pm and Christmas Day at 10am and 11.30am.

PRIEST'S SICK COMMUNIONS: This Friday morning Fr Brown will take Holy Communion to housebound parishioners in Sunderland Road area.

THE CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD for 3-6 YEAR OLDS will take place this Friday 5-6.30pm at St Joseph's. The classes will resume in January. Contact Fr Brown or Peter Armstrong for more information.

READING GROUP. Thanks to all who took part on Monday. The next book is: *The Radiance of Her Face: A Triptych in Honour of Mary Immaculate* by Dom Xavier Perrin, abbot of Quarr. Available from Amazon for £10.50. Proposed date of next meeting January 28th at 7.30pm

NORTHERN CATHOLIC CALENDARS FOR 2019 are available from the back of church. £3 or £3.50 for ring-bound.

PARISH YOUTH CO-ORDINATOR. Many thanks to Jack Kilday who has volunteered to be the Youth Activity co-ordinator for St Joseph's and St Wilfrid's. We look forward to Jack getting started in the New Year

ST JOSEPH'S

YOUTH MISSION TEAM Today at the 12 o'clock Mass we welcome the diocesan Youth Mission Team led by Philip Salkeld. Mulled wine and mince pies in the John Ingram room after Mass for the team and parishioners who would like to meet them.

CHRISTMAS TREE BLESSING. Many thanks to all who took part in the service on Saturday afternoon and special thanks to Theresa Dewhurst for the idea and enthusiasm which made it happen.

VOLUNTEER. Is there anyone who would be willing to get the tea lights from IKEA every few months which we use as votive lights? Many thanks to Alan and Verina who have been doing this up to now.

ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL CAROL SERVICE will take place in church on Monday 17th at 6pm

ST WILFRID'S

2018 RAFFLE Many thanks to all those who bought and sold tickets and to those who donated the prizes. It has been a fantastic effort by all. Prizes unclaimed: 2nd Prize, Bottle of Whisky-2866-Carla Shannon; 14th Prize; Small Hamper-0650-Ben.

ST WILFRID'S SCHOOL: There will be a Carol Service with Nativity Tableau on Friday 21st December at St. Wilfrid's School beginning at 9am. Tea and cakes will be served afterwards. All welcome.

POINSETTIA PLANT: You are more than welcome to bring one of these lovely plants into Church to remember loved ones who have died. All the local supermarkets sell them and they really enhance the decorations in Church and look beautiful.

BOXING DAY. There will be the usual joint Mass for the Polish and English – speaking communities on Boxing Day at 10am

VACANCIES AT ST WILFRID'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Foundation Governor: 2 Foundation Governors are required for the governing body of St Wilfrids RC Primary School.

The role is varied but some duties would be to monitor the curriculum, finance, personnel and premises to ensure that the school functions efficiently. If you are interested in either of the above positions please contact Mrs E Wright at stwilfridsrcprimaryschool.gov.uk or Tel: 0191 4771909

Parishes of Saint Joseph & Saint Wilfrid, Gateshead

Third Sunday of Advent: Year C (OF)

Third Sunday of Advent (EF)

15th/16th December 2018

Saint Jacopone da Todi

(c. 1230 – December 25, 1306)

Jacomo or James, was born a noble member of the Benedetti family in the northern Italian city of Todi. He became a successful lawyer and married a pious, generous lady named Vanna. His young wife took it upon herself to do penance for the worldly excesses of her husband. One day Vanna, at the insistence of Jacomo, attended a public tournament. She was sitting in the stands with the other noble ladies when the stands collapsed. Vanna was killed. Her shaken husband was even more disturbed when he realized that the penitential girdle she wore was for his sinfulness. On the spot, he vowed to radically change his life. Jacomo divided his possessions among the poor and entered the Secular Franciscan Order. Often dressed in penitential rags, he was mocked as a fool and called Jacopone, or “Crazy Jim,” by his former associates. The name became dear to him. After 10 years of such humiliation, Jacopone asked to be received into the Order of Friars Minor. Because of his reputation, his request was initially refused. He composed a beautiful poem on the vanities of the world, an act that eventually led to his admission into the Order in 1278. He continued to lead a life of strict penance, declining to be ordained a priest. Meanwhile, he was writing popular hymns in the vernacular. Jacopone suddenly found himself a leader in a disturbing religious movement among the Franciscans. The Spirituals, as they were called, wanted a return to the strict poverty of Francis. They had on their side two cardinals of the Church and Pope Celestine V. These two cardinals though, opposed Celestine's successor, Boniface VIII. At the age of 68, Jacopone was excommunicated and imprisoned. Although he acknowledged his mistake, Jacopone was not absolved and released until Benedict XI became pope five years later. He had accepted his imprisonment as penance. He spent the final three years of his life more spiritual than ever, weeping “because Love is not loved.” During this time he wrote the famous Latin hymn, *Stabat Mater*. On Christmas Eve in 1306 Jacopone felt that his end was near. He was in a convent of the Poor Clares with his friend, Blessed John of La Verna. Like Francis, Jacopone welcomed “Sister Death” with one of his favourite songs. It is said that he finished the song and died as the priest intoned the “Gloria” from the midnight Mass at Christmas. From the time of his death, Brother Jacopone has been venerated as a saint. <https://www.franciscanmedia.org>