

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

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

PARISH PRIEST: CANON MICHAEL BROWN

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

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**MASS TIMES, INTENTIONS AND SERVICE TIMES**

	<b>FEB</b>		<b>SAINT WILFRID'S</b>		<b>SAINT JOSEPH'S</b>
Saturday	10	5.00pm	Celebrant's Intention		
Sunday	11		<i>Extraordinary Form (Latin)</i>	10.00am	People of the Parish
				12 noon	Molly Scott
Monday	12	10.00am	Intentions of Jovita Udeh		
Tuesday	13			12.05pm	Billy's Intention
Wednesday	14	10.00am	Priest's Intention	12.05pm	Priest's Intention
				7.00pm EF	Pat Turnbull
Thursday	15			12.05pm	Deceased members of Woodward family
Friday	16	10.00am	Priest's Intention	12.05pm	Jones family
Saturday	17		Priest's intention	11.00am EF	Richard and Win Rainbow
		5.00pm			
Sunday	18		<i>Extraordinary Form (Latin)</i>	10.00am	Ann Southern
				12.00noon	People of the Parish

**CONFESSIONS** ST. JOSEPH'S Wed after 12.05pm Mass and Saturday 12noon-12.30pm.  
ST WILFRID before 5.00pm Mass Saturday

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Thursday 11am to 11.55am

**COLLECTIONS:** St Wilfrid's Collection £232 Gift Aid £62  
St Joseph's Collection

**SANCTUARY LIGHT:** At St Wilfrid's: For Rachel. At St Joseph's: Len Pygall

Ash Wednesday

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION** Classes will resume as soon as possible. We apologise for the delay and remain hopeful for first Holy Communion to take place in the late spring/early summer.

**FIRST COMMUNICANT'S TASK FOR 27<sup>th</sup>/28<sup>th</sup> January**

- Continue following all the instructions you have been given so far.
- Listen carefully to the Gospel, try to read along, after Mass talk to your parents about what you have understood, perhaps read it again at home.

**BOOK CLUB.** It is proposed to have the next meeting on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January at 7pm if this is convenient. We will be discussing *The Chemist of Catania* by Fr Alexander Lucie Smith which is available on Amazon for £5.40. All welcome.

**ST JOSEPH'S**

**CHILDREN'S LIBRARY**

The books have been removed to check for damage and to be repaired or removed as necessary. If you have any suitable books which you no longer use please consider donating them, leave them in the office. If anyone has a forward facing book case they no longer need it would be gratefully received.

**THE SANCTUARY LAMP** is kept burning day and night in our church to remind us that the Blessed Sacrament is reserved in the tabernacle. It is a symbol of Christ's everlasting love for us and a reminder to us to give loving adoration in return. The Sanctuary Lamp may be sponsored and lit in memory of a loved one or for a particular intention. A new candle will be lit every Sunday and will burn for a week.

The minimum donation is £5, and proceeds will go towards the cost of candles in church. The Sanctuary Lamp Intentions will be displayed in our Weekly Newsletter, and on the Notice Board at the back of church.

A list of dates will be available in the Office, together with envelopes for donations. It may be that several intentions are given for particular dates.

**ST WILFRID'S**

## **DONATIONS APPEAL** – your Parish needs you.

Both St Wilfrid's and St Joseph's are in debt to the diocese. St Wilfrid owes £37,665.83 and St Joseph's owes £166,890.99. The amounts cannot be paid back through the regular weekly contributions which are needed for day to day finances to run the parishes. We have managed at times to raise small amounts through fund raising, but this is not proving very successful and so I am appealing directly to you all – please consider if there is anything you can do to help our parishes. I appreciate there are those who struggle financially and I don't want anyone to stretch themselves beyond their means only give what you can spare.

Perhaps you may consider leaving a legacy to the parish in your will; this used to be a traditional practice which has sadly gone out of fashion in more recent times.

# Gateshead

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time Year B (OF)**

**Septuagesima Sunday (EF)**

**10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

Ash Wednesday is the doorway into our Lenten season of renewal – a day rich in associations and symbolism. It marks the beginning of Lent – a time for turning again to the practice of our faith, in prayer, self-denial (fasting) and practical generosity (almsgiving).

Although it is not a Holy Day of Obligation, many Catholics consider it important to receive ashes on this day. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of a period of 40 days (Sundays excluded) in which Catholics prepare for Eastertide. This period also represents the 40 days that Jesus spent in the desert as well as the 40 years that the Israelites spent in exile.

The ashes themselves come from the burned palms from last year's Palm Sunday celebration: thus bringing us full circle to our last celebration of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus.

On Ash Wednesday, we are reminded that we are called to turn away from sin, to repent and to believe the Good News of our salvation through Jesus Christ.

## **Receiving Ashes**

*An outward sign of an inner step*

“As we cross this threshold we customarily receive ashes on our foreheads, in the sign of the cross. This is a public mark of our turning again to God, seeking his mercy, forgiveness and help.

“We use these words: ‘Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return’. Yes, we cannot pretend otherwise. Or: ‘Repent, and believe in the Gospel’. Yes, we seek the one thing that is absolutely necessary: the grace of God.”

Conference of Catholic bishops of England and Wales

Parishes of Saint Joseph & Saint Wilfrid