

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

Hall Bookings contact: - gateshead.stjoseph@rcdhn.org.uk

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time (OF) Quinquagesima Sunday (EF) 19th February 2023

MASS TIMES, INTENTIONS AND SERVICE TIMES

Day	Date	Saint Wilfrid's	Time	Saint Joseph's	Time
Saturday	Feb 18 th	Special Intention	5.00pm		
Sunday	Feb 19 th			People of the Parish Souls in Purgatory	10.00am 12.00 noon (EF)
Monday	Feb 20 th	Bernard McGuigan	10.00am		
Tuesday St Peter Damian	Feb 21 st			Margaret Barnes	12.05am
ASH Wed Fasting & Abstinence	Feb 22 nd	Ray Brown	10.00am	Holy Souls Private Intention	12.05pm 7.00pm (EF)
Thursday	Feb 23 rd			Roger Stazeuski	12.05pm
Friday	Feb 24 th	Requiem Karen Scullion	11.30am	NO MASS	12.05pm
Saturday	Feb 25 th	Private Intention	5.00pm	Intentions of Richard Phipps	11.00am (EF)
Sunday 1 st in lent	Feb 26 th			People of the Parish Intentions of Tony Turnbull	10.00am 12.00 noon (EF)

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

Confessions: - St Joseph's: Saturday 12-12.30 and Wednesday after Mass

St Wilfrid's - before Mass on Saturday

Exposition @ St Joseph's every Wednesday 11.00am - 11.55

Congratulations to:-

Billy, Rory, Johnnie, Grace, Melissa, Scott, Heidi and Finlay

Who make their first Holy Communion **today** at the 10.00am Mass in St Joseph's Church

Please continue to keep them and their families in your prayers

Thank You

St Joseph's

50/50 Draw

It has been suggested that we run this in the parish to raise funds. Does anyone have any experience in organising and looking after something like this? Would anyone be willing to run the draw? Please email Canon Michael.

First Holy Communion Welcome

There is a celebration for the first Holy Communion children and their families in the hall after 10.00am Mass, to which you are all invited for coffee and cake.

THANK YOU

To Sonia Elliot for providing food and treats for guests and children, and to Bernadette Hirst for preparing the hall and making the church look so beautiful.

Volunteers

We always need volunteers to help in the parish, if you feel you could give of your time please collect a volunteer form from the office, fill it in and let us know what you are volunteering for. ALL volunteers need two referees and cannot begin in any role until references have been seen and approved. Some roles require DBS clearance before the role can begin.

After Mass Coffee

The church hall is fully opened up after its closure during covid. It would be nice to see it used once again for teas and coffees after Mass on a Sunday. Would anyone be interested in organising and facilitating this?

Lost Property

Any items left behind in church or mislaid in the church grounds and discovered by us will be held in the office for a month, after which time they will be given to charity. If you have lost anything please call into the office to see if it has been handed in.

Tuesday Club

Straight after 12.05 Mass in the hall.

Income 12th February 2023

£702 of which £105 was Gift Aided and £322 was raised for the earthquake fund

Thank You

BOOK CLUB:

Next meeting, Wednesday 15th March 7.30pm to discuss Guadalupe, A River of Light the Story of Our Lady of Guadalupe From the First Century to Our Days by Carlos Caso-Rosendi. All welcome.

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

First Holy Communion, Confirmation, St Patrick's and Easter Cards are now available in the kitchen or at the back of Church. We also have First Holy Communion medals and pins available. Please see Rachel if you need any help.

COLLECTION BOX

St Wilfrid's and St Joseph's recently received a gift of a lockable wooden collection box from Watsons Funeral Directors. Given that these boxes are quite expensive to buy we wish to again thank the management and staff of Watsons for their generosity.

Income 12th January 2023

Loose Plate £182.40 Gift Aided- £27

Heating Collection £20

Thank You

Confirmation Classes

The initial meeting will be an opportunity for young people and their parents to find out a little more about this sacrament and how the classes will be organized. If you are thinking about receiving the sacrament of Confirmation but have not yet filled in a form, because you want more information, or have any questions, then this meeting is for you and your parents too!! Come along to the meeting on **Sunday 12th March at**

Children's Catholic Activity Youth Club

Calling children aged 7-11 (KS1 &2), would you like to have fun with other children from our parishes? Are you interested in learning more about what it means to be a Catholic? Do you enjoy listening to stories, being arty, creating things? Would you like to explore our churches and their grounds, discovering hidden secrets and their history? Fancy sharing snacks, music and chats or learning a new skill?

If this is you, please get a grown up to email shaunadevitt@yahoo.co.uk with your name and age to register your interest.

Look out for further information shortly.

Altar Servers

We are always looking for more Altar Servers. If you are interested please watch this space for more information about training/social sessions. Ideally you need to be aged 7+ and have made your first Holy Communion, although exceptions can be made.

This Sunday, which marks the last Sunday before the beginning of the season of Lent, we are reminded that as Christians, as God's followers and people, we are expected and called to be His holy people, the ones to be examples and beacons of His light and truth in this world. We are reminded to be holy and loving, to be filled with all righteousness, virtues, goodness and justice so that we may truly become worthy disciples.

In the first reading, we hear from the Book of Leviticus in which God spoke to His people, the Israelites, reminding all of them of the obligations that each and every one of them have as His people, in doing His will and obeying His Law and commandments, in being holy and devout people, that are truly worthy of being called His children and His flock, as the people whom He had rescued by His own hands from their enslavement in Egypt. God reminded all of His people that they all have to be righteous, virtuous, holy and good just as He is holy, or else, they would scandalise their faith and the Lord Himself.

Then, in our second reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Church and the faithful in the city of Corinth, we hear of the call of the Apostle telling all the faithful to keep themselves holy and truly worthy of the Lord, echoing what the Lord Himself had told Moses in the Book of Leviticus. St. Paul tells us that we have to keep in mind that we are all Temple of the Lord's Holy Presence, the Temple of the Holy Spirit, and thus because we are the dwelling place of the Almighty and Most Holy God Himself, we must not defile this Temple that is our body, mind, heart and soul, our whole being with wickedness of sins and our unworthy actions, words and deeds that bring about scandal to our faith and lives as good and dedicated Christians.

The Temple of God is a most holy and sacrosanct place where God Himself dwelled, His Presence coming down from His Heavenly Throne to be with us all His people. In the earliest days, during the time of the Exodus from Egypt, the Israelites built the Holy Tent of Meeting as the centre of their entire community, and it was upon the Holy Tent that God's very own Holy Presence descended, to the Ark of the Covenant placed inside the Holy of Holies within the Holy Tent, with God Himself seated upon the Cherubim atop the Ark of the Covenant.

Similarly, the Ark of the Covenant was considered so holy and sacrosanct that touching it is was taboo, The Ark of the Covenant, the Holy of Holies of the House of God, where historically where God's Holy Presence resided, were all considered so holy and sacrosanct that no imperfections, wickedness and sin should ever be in its presence and place.

Each one of us have received the Lord Himself, wholly in the flesh, in His own Most Precious Body and Blood that He has given us all most generously and lovingly in the Sacrament of the Most Holy Eucharist, which He instituted at the Last Supper, and passed down to us through His Apostles and other disciples, through their successors in the Church, right up to our Pope, bishops and priests, all those who have been given the faculty and the authority and power, in their role as Alter Christus, in offering the same gifts that the Lord Himself has offered, and turned the bread and wine into the very essence, reality and Holy Presence of God, in the Most Precious Body and Blood, the Most Holy Eucharist that we all have partaken and received.

As we believe that the Lord Himself has come into our midst and dwelled within us through the Eucharist, how can we not then endeavour to keep ourselves holy, blameless and spotless just as the Ark of the Covenant and the Holy of Holies of the House of God were kept holy and sacrosanct? We are also the Temple of the Holy Spirit, which come upon us through the Sacrament of Baptism and was further reaffirmed and strengthened for all those who have received the Sacrament of Confirmation.

As Christians, all of us must do what we can to keep our lives holy and worthy of the Lord, distancing ourselves from sin and wickedness of the world, from the excesses of worldly desires and ambitions, and from the corrupting nature of sin. We must resist the temptations of sin, and do what we can to help and inspire one another to continue keeping our beings, the Temples of God's Holy Presence, good and worthy of Him. We do this by heeding what we have heard from the Gospel passage today, in which the Lord highlighted to all of His disciples and hence to all of us, what it truly means to become one of His disciples and followers, to be truly filled with love of God, and the righteousness and virtues that He has taught us all.

The Gospel reminds us that the most important thing we can do with our lives is to love and to be filled with God's love, We must love God first and foremost with all of our hearts and strength, and then to love our fellow brothers and sisters in the same way, just as much as we love ourselves. It is our Christian calling and vocation to be always grounded in love, in our every word, actions and deeds, so that by our love everyone may truly know God's love.

We have to love sincerely and generously, we should not just love because there is something in it for us, or that we stand to benefit from loving that person, We have to show what the Lord Himself has shown us by His own examples, that in loving us all so greatly, all of us who have often hurt and betrayed Him, abandoned Him and rebelled against Him, He chose to willingly embrace His Cross, bearing upon Himself the whole burden of the innumerable sins of the world, of all mankind, past, present and future, so that by loving us that way, He may bring us all to eternal life. Christ Himself has shown us how we ought to live our lives with genuine Christian love, as He Himself had done.

Let us all therefore embark on a new journey of faith, and renew our conviction to remain faithful to God, as we are about to enter into the season of Lent this Ash Wednesday. Let us renew our conviction to love the Lord wholeheartedly once again, and with the resolve to love one another most generously, forgiving those who have hurt or pained us, and helping one another to grow ever stronger in faith, by living our own lives most worthily and by doing what God has taught and shown us all to do. Let us all make good use of whatever time and opportunities that God has given us all, and do our best to make our whole beings truly worthy and holy Temples of His Holy Presence, not just for this upcoming lent and Easter, but for the rest of our lives, till the day we encounter the Lord once again in His heavenly abode.

CANCELLED due to lack of interest
Men of St Joseph Retreat Minsteracres Fri 10th 6pm to Sun 12th March 2pm, 2023
'Arise From Your Slumber' – A Retreat for Men

Planning Your Catholic Funeral

Sometimes when people die, their families plan their funeral and the person who has died may not get the Funeral they desired! Often, because the extended family does not go to Church, they do not plan a Church Funeral.

Have you told your family what you want for your funeral?

Funeral Planning Forms are available from the office now. Complete the Form and let people know where it's kept

North East Catholic History Society

Wednesday 1 March 2023 at 2.00pm in St Joseph`s parish hall.

"Happy Homecoming or Second Exile? The return of the first Benedictine nuns to England after the Reformation", by Dr Scholastics Jacob.

All are very welcome £1.00 for non members.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2023

Can you help the Pilgrimage to Lourdes or know of someone who can? They need nurses, healthcare assistants, doctors and volunteers to provide care to the assisted pilgrims who travel with them. The Pilgrimage hopes to travel on Friday 28th July 2023. If you would like to find out more email lourdes@rcdhn.org.uk or look at their website...

www.hexhamandnewcastlelourdespilgrimage.co.uk

Vocations to the Priesthood

The Priesthood Vocations Team invite men aged 18+ who might be experiencing the call from God to discern priesthood to join the Vocations Team in finding out more.

Discernment Evenings

Tuesday 4th April, 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
Telephone: - 01670 812 200.

Hiring St Joseph's Church Hall

The hall is available for anyone to hire at a cost of £20 per hour, if you would like to hire the hall for any event please email the office in the first instance and someone will get back to you to discuss you requirements.

gateshead.stjoseph@rcdhn.org.uk

Standing Order

Would you like to set up a Standing Order so that your Offering to the Church comes directly out of your Bank Account automatically? Please contact the Parish Office for Bank Details, it would be helpful for us to know that you are doing so or have done this with a quick message to the parish office.

Holy Island SVP Vinnie Camp 2023

Are you interested in your child having a holiday in 2023?

Let them join us for a week on Holy Island; they'll stay in our Centre and be looked after by DBS checked and trained helpers who will ensure they have a safe, fun time. We do lots of interesting and enjoyable activities such as rock pooling, longball, football, rounders, walking, craft and art, table tennis, long ball, Quizzes and competitions and marathons as well as laser tag, silly sports, sand castle building, swimming and scavenger hunts. Girls and boys can be aged 9-12 and it is a great way for them to meet new people and make friends from all over the North East. A week's all-inclusive holiday costs £150 and can be paid in installments. In some circumstances children may be able to receive partial or full funding to attend. If you're interested, or know of a child who could benefit from such a holiday, please visit our website for further details at [https:// www.svp.org.uk/microsite/holy-island](https://www.svp.org.uk/microsite/holy-island)
Applications open from 10th February 2023

Job Vacancies

Centre for Catholic Studies, Durham University

The Centre for Catholic Studies (CCS) are seeking to appoint a part-time Administrator, 21 hours per week, whose work will focus on CCS events and communications. Do you know anyone who might be interested in applying? Full details can be accessed at "Job Description - CCS Administrator (22001983)" (taleo.net) the closing date for applications is midnight on Monday 20th February 2023.

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)