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Weekly Newsletter during the Covid-19 Pandemic 21/02/ 2021 Joint Parishes of St Joseph's and St Wilfrid's Gateshead Parish Priest Canon Michael Brown, resident at St Joseph's Presbytery High West Street Gateshead NE8 1LX Telephone 01914771631

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## Today is the First Sunday of Lent 2021

### Lenten Reflections

The Diocesan Department for Faith and Mission has prepared a series of daily reflections for the whole of the Season of Lent, 46 individual reflections in total. These are available online on the diocesan website, or you can sign up for them to be emailed to you on a daily basis. The Diocesan Youth Ministry Team has prepared a series of video reflections for Lent. 'Wait a Minute - It's Lent' are daily videos which will be available via YMT's YouTube channel, with reflections from across the Diocese. Watch the trailer on the following link and subscribe to their channel [https://www.youtube.com/channel/ UCVIOoCyoxRWub3zoPJorMhQ].

### Global Healing Online Talks

Pope Francis has called each of us to listen to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor. This Lent, there will be a series of reflective evenings with speakers, prayer and discussion, using the film-based resource "Global Healing". These documentaries will help us respond to Pope Francis' call to Care for Our Common Home. Hosted by the Global Catholic Climate Movement Laudato Si' Animators in the UK. Speakers:

25th February: Jane Mellett from the Global Catholic Climate Movement. March 4th: Dr Emma Gardner (Head of Environment, Salford Diocese). March 11th: Sr. Shirley Aeria, FMDM (Franciscan Missionaries of the Divine Motherhood). March 18th: Graham Gordan, Head of Public Policy at CAFOD March 25th: Paul Kelly, a retired GP, is a Live Simply Award assessor and member of the NJPN (National Justice and Peace Network) Environment Group Further details on their website: catholicclimatemovement.global or email{ jane@catholicclimatemovement.global.

### RIGHT to LIFE

Right to Life UK writes, "The evidence that babies can feel pain in the womb, and during many abortions, highlights the humanity of the unborn child and provides another important reason to introduce legislation to protect the unborn child from abortion. Carla Lockhart MP has launched a parliamentary motion (Early Day Motion 1340) which highlights the latest science and developments on foetal pain and calls on the Government to urgently review official guidance in this area. We have set up an easy-to-use tool on our website that will enable you to email your MP asking them to sign this parliamentary motion - www.righttolife.org.uk If your MP replies to you saying that they don't sign early day motions, it would be helpful to write to the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, Matt Hancock, on your behalf, raising the points that are made in Early Day Motion 1340."

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SPUC: Respond to Department of Health consultation to stop home abortions!

The Department of Health is holding a public consultation on whether to continue the practice of allowing abortion providers to send abortion pills to women so that they can perform their own abortion at home. SPUC need as many pro-life people as possible to complete the Department of Health's questionnaire in order to help stop dangerous DIY abortions becoming permanent. SPUC has prepared a briefing which gives a step by step guide to completing the consultation questionnaire. Please go to

https://www.spuc.org.uk/Get-Involved/Campaigns/England-DIY-Abortion-Consultation the consultation ends on 26 February 2021.

### STOP ASSISSTED SUICIDE

Ask your MP to oppose introducing assisted suicide The assisted suicide lobby have launched a large campaign to put pressure on the Government to reconsider the legalisation of assisted suicide. It is vital that it is clear to the Government that the public want them to continue to hold strong against this pressure from assisted suicide campaigners and reject their demands. Right To Life UK have set up an easy to use tool which will enable you to email your MP asking them to make it clear to the Government that it should not give into demands from the assisted suicide lobby to reconsider the legalisation of assisted suicide. It only takes 30 seconds to email your MP by visiting: https://rigttolife.org.uk/StopAssistedSuicide

# First Sunday of Lent

First Reading: Ssaiah 43:18-19. 21-22. 24-25 Psalm: 40 Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 1:18-22 Gospel: Mark 2:1-12

## (EF)

Introit: Psalm 30: 3-4 Epistle: 1 Corinthians 13:1-33 Gradual: Psalm 76:15-16 Gospel: Luke 18:31-43

## Mass and Intentions this week

Saturday 5pm St Wilfrid's: Fr Stephen Johnson Sunday St Joseph's 10am: Nicholas Porteous Midday (EF): People of the Parish Monday in private: Holy Souls in Purgatory Tuesday 12.05 St Joseph's: Melia Family

Wednesday in Private: Intentions of Anna Barnes

Thursday in private: Holy Souls in Purgatory Friday in private: No Mass

Saturday 11am St Joseph's: Honour of and Thanksgiving to St Joseph

5pm St Wilfrid's: Priest's Intention

Sunday St Joseph's 10am: Robert and Alistair Anderson Midday (EF): People of the Parish

Please keep in your prayers all those who have recently died or whose anniversaries occur at this time

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If Canon Michael does not have your most recent, up to date, contact details, he is unable to

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Please ensure the details held for you are current and correct, if you are unsure or have recently moved into the parish please let us know via email, letter or phone, providing your

### Going into Hospital

If you are admitted into Hospital, it is important to remind ward staff of your religion, so that the chaplains can pick this up before they start their visits. More and more often, the catholic chaplains are coming upon catholic patients whose religion is not recorded and there is a possibility you might not be visited by the chaplain, because they don't know you're there. Please remember to make sure your religion is recorded when admitted.

If you wish to receive/continue to receive this newsletter by email please contact: shaunadevitt@tiscali.co.uk

You can keep yourself informed about Parish activities and more by following us on Social Media: Face Book and Twitter And by logging into the parish website and/or Blog

https://stjosephstwilfridsgatesheadnewsblog.wordpress.com/

http://www.stjosephscatholicchurchgateshead.org.uk

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### MONEY MATTERS

If you would like to give through direct debit, standing order or bank transfer, the details are

Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle St Wilfrid's Sort Code 40-34-18 Account Number 01164120

Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle St Joseph's Sort Code 40-34-18 Account Number 31164066

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To donate via cheque please make out to 'DHN St Wilfrid's Gateshead' or 'DHN St Joseph's Gateshead' These can be posted to the parish address

Please use the reference "Weekly Contribution" for collection money "Loft Fund" for donations to improving choir loft "Lourdes Garden" for contributions to the garden "Parish Poor" for donations to help feed our homeless and hungry

Did you know that most of us are tax payers? Even if you are retired, your pension is probably taxed, if you are on some state benefits including Job Seekers allowance, you are taxed, please don't assume you can't be a 'Gift Aider', ask about the scheme and find out if you too could get something back from the taxman to help your parish. At NO EXTRA COST to you the parish could be reaping in an extra 25p for every £1 you donate, just imagine if everyone in the parish were to donate £1 a week and we were actually given £1.25 - that means for every year's donation of £52 the taxman would add a further £13, you would have donated £65 just because you filled in a form!! Please speak to Alan Young @ St Joseph's or Steve Hogarth @ St Wifrid's to find out more about becoming a Gift Aider.

#### Making Your Will?

Have you heard about 'Legacy Donations'? Will you remember your parish in your will? It is a great help to the running of our parishes when we receive a legacy donation.

#### Northern Catholic Calendars 2021

£3 paperback or £3.50 for ring bound. Please see canon Brown if you would like one

#### Universe and Catholic Times Readers

At the moment you are unable to collect your paper at Mass, but you can get it delivered direct to your home every week, POST FREE. Please go to www.thecatholicuniverse.com or call them on 0161 820 5722 and they will arrange for you. SPECIAL OFFER for 3 MONTHS:-£25.00; SPECIAL OFFER for 12 Months: £99.00; OR DIGITAL COPY for 12 Months: £55.00



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\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* . The North East Catholic Writers' Guild A literary competition for children aged 8-10 years "Compose a hopeful prayer for this difficult time" The prayer needs to have a maximum of 20 lines. The lines don't have to rhyme. \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* Please include your age, name, address and phone number and send to: Veronica Whitty, Secretary, Catholic Writers' Guild (NE), 51 Queen's Crescent, Wallsend, **NE28 8DW** Or e-mail: veronicawhitty@hotmail.com Deadline: 8th April 2021 NB: Entries: excludes anyone related to any member of the Guild or related to anyone connected with the Northern Cross. Mass Online www.churchservices.tv and www.mcnmedia.tv or https://mass-online.org some parishes stream live on YouTube - search by parish name to find them. ST WILFRID'S 'CANDLE OF HOPE' these are LED candles with, on the reverse, the Prayer from Pope Francis to Our Lady imploring an end to the corona virus. These are priced at £6 each and are beautiful. We also have Stations of the Cross, Rosary booklets and all types of crosses to help with spiritual preparations for Easter. Please see Rachel if you want any of these items. Thanks to Canon Michael and our volunteers public Mass continues as follows: -St Wilfrid's Saturday 5pm St Joseph's Saturday 11am, Sunday 10am (OF) and Midday (EF), Tuesday 12.05pm. Please Continue at all times, even if you have been vaccinated to: cover FACE, leave SPACE, wash HANDS regularly and DO NOT GATHER to CHAT BEFORE or AFTER MASS Please consider helping with the CLEANING at St Joseph's Email: gateshead.stjoseph@rcdhn.org.uk \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*