

Saint Raymond of Peñafort's Story

Since Raymond lived into his hundredth year, he had a chance to do many things. As a member of the Spanish nobility, he had the resources and the education to get a good start in life. By the time he was 20, he was teaching philosophy. In his early 30s he earned a doctorate in both canon and civil law. At 41 he became a Dominican. Pope Gregory IX called him to Rome to work for him and to be his confessor. One of the things the pope asked him to do was to gather together all the decrees of popes and councils that had been made in 80 years since a similar collection by Gratian. Raymond compiled five books called the *Decretals*. They were looked upon as one of the best organized collections of Church law until the 1917 codification of canon law.

Earlier, Raymond had written for confessors a book of cases. It was called *Summa de Casibus Poenitentiae*. More than simply a list of sins and penances, it discussed pertinent doctrines and laws of the Church that pertained to the problem or case brought to the confessor. At the age of 60, Raymond was appointed archbishop of Tarragona, the capital of Aragon. He didn't like the honor at all and ended up getting sick and resigning in two years.

He didn't get to enjoy his peace long, however, because when he was 63 he was elected by his fellow Dominicans to be the head of the whole Order, the successor of Saint Dominic. Raymond worked hard, visited on foot all the Dominicans, reorganized their constitutions and managed to put through a provision that a master general be allowed to resign. When the new constitutions were accepted, Raymond, then 65, resigned.

He still had 35 years to oppose heresy and work for the conversion of the Moors in Spain. He convinced Saint Thomas Aquinas to write his work *Against the Gentiles*.

In his 100th year, the Lord let Raymond retire

Feast Day January 7th

franciscanmedia.org

New Altar Servers

We are always eager to welcome more young people to our growing family of Altar Servers. If you are aged 7+ and think you may like to give serving a go please speak to either Canon Michael or to Shauna, you can try without making a firm commitment – you'll never know unless you give it a go. Our servers are a very happy group of friendly and supportive individuals, come and chat to any one of them about the role.

Social Committee to Provide Activities for our Younger Parishioners

Would you like to help organise and supervise activities for our young parishioners? Can you commit to supporting this initiative? Are you prepared to apply for, or do you already hold, an enhanced DBS? If you are interested please email shaunadevitt@yahoo.co.uk and continue to watch this space for further information. Please only respond if you know you have the time, energy and willingness to give.

Baptism

If you have a child you would like to be baptised please speak to Canon Michael and fill in an application form.

Good Shepherd Catechises

For children aged 3 – 6yrs of age
The Sisters of Charity have agreed to run this beautiful, hands-on learning approach for children to grow in knowledge and love of Jesus and their faith. If you would like your child to be a part of this group please come along to the meeting to be held at St Joseph's at 5pm on Sunday 12th January.

White Flower Appeal

The annual retiring collection for the work of SPUC will be on the weekend of **25/26th January**.

St Joseph's Teas and Coffees

This weekly event will **resume on the 12th January**, why not come along and make some new friends whilst enjoying a free cuppa in a warm, welcoming environment.

CELEBRATION of MARRIAGE & FAMILY LIFE

Bishop Stephen will preside at a Celebration of Marriage and Family Life Mass in the Cathedral on Saturday 8 February 2025 at 12:00pm.

Book Club

Set yourself a New Year's resolution to read a book once a month and come along to discuss its contents with others in a relaxed and friendly parish family atmosphere.

Our **next meeting** will take place on **TUESDAY 28th JANUARY at 7.00pm**

The book we are reading and will be talking about is **"Utopia by St Thomas More"**.

All are very welcome.

If you would like to have the newsletter emailed to you please email your address to: -
shaunadevitt@yahoo.co.uk

Access the newsletter via the website, scan the QR code on the poster at the back of church, or access via
www.stjosephscatholicchurchgateshead.org.uk

St Joseph's Catholic Church
High West Street
Gateshead
NE8 1LX



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

Parishes of the John Ingram Partnership

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Parish website: www.stjosephscatholicchurchgateshead.org.uk

January 5th 2025 Feast of Epiphany (OF) Feast of Holy Name (EF)

Our Lady and St Wilfrid's Mass Times and Other Services

DAY	DATE	TIME	INTENTION
Saturday	January 4 th	5.00pm	Priest's Intention
Sunday	January 5 th		
Monday	January 6 th	10.00am	Anastasia Ukah
Tuesday	January 7 th		
Wednesday	January 8 th	1.00pm	Funeral service for Ellison Lee Bradford
Thursday	January 9 th		
Friday	January 10 th	10.00am	Fr Kevin Cummings (NBF)
Saturday	January 11 th	5.00pm	Priest's Intention

Confessions: Before Mass on Saturdays

St Joseph's Mass Times and Other Services

DAY	DATE	TIME	INTENTION
Saturday	January 4 th	10.00am (EF)	
Sunday	January 5 th	10.00am	Hannah & Federick Lawson
		12.00pm (EF)	People of the Parish
Monday	January 6 th	7.00pm (EF)	Fr Kevin Cummings
Tuesday	January 7 th	12.05pm	NO MASS
Wednesday	January 8 th	12.05pm	Marcellus Egiogo
Thursday	January 9 th	12.05pm	NO MASS
Friday	January 10 th	12.05pm	McGrady & Cunningham families
Saturday	January 11 th	11.00am (EF)	Well-being of Arlene
Sunday	January 12 th	10.00am	Dennis Duffy
		12.00pm	People of the Parish

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

Confessions: Saturday 12-12.30 and Wednesday after Mass

**NO Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament THIS Thursday 11.00 – 11.55
Saturday 7.00am (led by CMUK/St Joseph's Men)**