

**+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

	JAN		SAINT WILFRID'S		SAINT JOSEPH'S
Saturday	6	5.00pm	Celebrant's Intention		
Sunday	7			10.00am	People of the Parish
			<i>Extraordinary Form (Latin)</i>	12 noon	Priest's Intention
Monday	8	10.00am	George William Armstrong		
Tuesday	9			12.05pm	Mona Richardson
Wednesday	10			12.05pm	Intentions of Aroman & Gig-ging
Thursday	11			12.05pm	Inyentions of Jovita Udeh
Friday	12	10.00am	The Aloman & people of Idlib	12.05pm	Priest's intention
Saturday	13			11.00am EF	Holy Souls
		5.00pm	Priest's intention		
Sunday	14			10.00am	People of the Parish
			<i>Extraordinary Form (Latin)</i>	12.00noon	Pat Turnbull

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 £1'67.28. Gift Aid £62 Raffle for heating £116.

St Joseph's Collection £578

SANCTUARY LIGHT INTENTION AT ST WILFRID'S for this week is for the repose of the soul of Philip Nweke Ubagu.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION Copy the instructions below into your notebook and follow their direction.

FIRST COMMUNICANT'S TASK FOR 6th/7th January

- Remember all you have been asked to do and continue following all the instructions from last year and join in with the hymns this weekend.

ALTAR SERVERS` If anyone, young or old, male or female, would like to become an altar server for either parish please speak to Canon Michael.

ST JOSEPH'S

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. It has been suggested that, beginning in the New Year, 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 recommended 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 JOSEPH'S RAFFLE Many thanks to all who bought tickets. Most the prizes have been collected but there are still a few to be claimed. Numbers of winning ckets are displayed on the noticeboard. Over £200 was raised for parish funds.

ANNUAL WHITE FLOWER APPEAL

The Annual White Flower Appeal for the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children will be taken on the weekend of 13th / 14th January. SPUC's vision is for a world where abortion is unthinkable. This year's appeal calls for the Government to end the pills-by-post DIY abortion policy. As well as ending the lives of precious babies, the policy lacks safeguards against illegal late-term abortions, and puts mothers at physical and psychological risk. Please help SPUC defend and protect unborn babies and their mothers by highlighting this urgent crisis.

MESSAGE FROM HOLY ISLAND SVP CAMP:

'Are you interested in your child having a holiday in 2024? 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, sandcastle 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 a donation of £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/>

Parishes of Saint Joseph & Saint Wilfrid Gateshead

Feast of the Epiphany Year A (OF)

Feast of the Holy Family (EF)

6th/7th January 2024

If one phenomenon marks our modern world, it's instant communication. The message you're listening to is just one way we interact at the speed of light.

Today's feast of the Epiphany of the Lord is a feast that celebrates communication. The Gospel we read today portrays Jesus, the Word Made Flesh, revealed to the nations, as the wise men arrive to pay him homage. Whatever the historical facts behind the story, the message of faith is that God is reaching out to us, communicating to us the Word Made Flesh. That's communication that has transformed human history.

God's revelation in Jesus has a power surpassing all our modern technological "miracles," because it speaks to our hearts. Are we listening? Are we open to the Word?

Let's become modern channels of God's communication to the world in this new year, using our gifts—whatever they may be—to pass on the message of the Good News, that Love is born in our midst.

Father Greg Friedman, OFM www.franciscanmedia.org/