

St Joseph and St Wilfrid Weekly Newsletter

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

PARISH PRIEST: VERY REV DR MICHAEL BROWN RESIDENT IN THE PRESBYTERY AT ST JOSEPH'S

HIGH WEST STREET GATESHEAD NE8 1LX

TELEPHONE No: 0191 477 1631

<http://www.stjosephscatholicchurchgateshead.org.uk/>

BOOKINGS FOR ST JOSEPH'S HALL: 07989 734644

Email: gateshead.stjoseph@rcdhn.org.uk

First Week of no Public Mass Week commencing 22nd March 2020 4th Sunday of Lent

HAPPY MOTHERS' DAY

25th March Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord

The feast of the Annunciation, now recognized as a solemnity, was first celebrated in the fourth or fifth century. Its central focus is the Incarnation: God has become one of us. From all eternity God had decided that the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity should become human. Now, as Luke 1:26-38 tells us, the decision is being realized. The God-Man embraces all humanity, indeed all creation, to bring it to God in one great act of love. Because human beings have rejected God, Jesus will accept a life of suffering and an agonizing death: "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends" (John 15:13). Mary has an important role to play in God's plan. From all eternity, God destined her to be the mother of Jesus and closely related to him in the creation and redemption of the world. We could say that God's decrees of creation and redemption are joined in the decree of Incarnation. Because Mary is God's instrument in the Incarnation, she has a role to play with Jesus in creation and redemption. It is a God-given role. It is God's grace from beginning to end. Mary becomes the eminent figure she is only by God's grace. She is the empty space where God could act. Everything she is she owes to the Trinity. Mary is the virgin-mother who fulfils Isaiah 7:14 in a way that Isaiah could not have imagined. She is united with her son in carrying out the will of God (Psalm 40:8-9; Hebrews 10:7-9; Luke 1:38).

Together with Jesus, the privileged and graced Mary is the link between heaven and earth. She is the human being who best, after Jesus, exemplifies the possibilities of human existence. She received into her lowliness the infinite love of God. She shows how an ordinary human being can reflect God in the ordinary circumstances of life. She exemplifies what the Church and every member of the Church is meant to become. She is the ultimate product of the creative and redemptive power of God. She manifests what the Incarnation is meant to accomplish for all of us.

Reflection

Sometimes spiritual writers are accused of putting Mary on a pedestal and thereby, discouraging ordinary humans from imitating her. Perhaps such an observation is misguided. God did put Mary on a pedestal and has put all human beings on a pedestal. We have scarcely begun to realize the magnificence of divine grace, the wonder of God's freely given love. The marvel of Mary—even in the midst of her very ordinary life—is God's shout to us to wake up to the marvellous creatures that we all are by divine design.

ST WILFRID'S

Confessions: By Appointment Only

Church will be open Monday and Friday between 11 and 1 for private prayer

ST JOSEPH'S

Confessions: By Appointment Only

Fr Michael will be saying Mass in private at 10am daily and the live streaming of Holy Mass from the Cathedral will take place each day Monday to Saturday at 12 noon and on a Sunday at 11.30am. The direct link for the live stream of Mass to the YouTube website is: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC12EvW0Egg-cFTh5i2y_EQw/videos

The following prayer for making a Spiritual Communion is recommended:

At Thy feet, O my Jesus, I prostrate myself, and I offer Thee the repentance of my contrite heart, which is humbled in its nothingness and in Thy holy presence. I adore Thee in the Sacrament of Thy love, the ineffable Eucharist. I desire to receive Thee into the poor dwelling that my heart offers Thee. While waiting for the happiness of sacramental Communion, I wish to possess Thee in spirit. Come to me, O my Jesus, since I, for my part, am coming to Thee! The love embrace my whole being in life and in death. I believe in Thee, I hope in Thee, I love Thee. Amen

PILGRIMAGE to ROME 2020

This will now take place from September 7th to 11th all being well.

COLLECTION

Please remember at this time that our Parish still depends upon us to give generously. If possible continuing to make your weekly donation via cheque popped in the post!!

CORONAVIRUS

You will be aware that in response to the current Coronavirus pandemic the Bishops have asked us not to gather for public acts of worship in our churches. Hence, the daily celebration of Mass will take place without a public congregation. The obligation to attend Mass has been temporarily removed. The Cathedral will remain open each day as usual for private prayer and St Dominic's will be open on Saturday from 5.00pm - 6.00pm and Sunday from 10.00am - 11.00am and 6.30pm - 7.30pm for private prayer. The Bishop asks that we strive to keep the Sabbath holy and pray as the domestic church. Please pray the scriptures and the Holy Rosary and please offer any support you can to the vulnerable and the elderly.

Help Urgently Needed

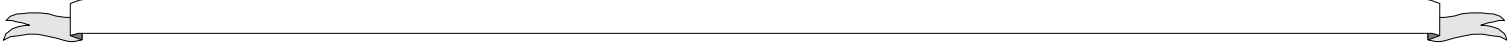
Due to the impact of Coronavirus, our Diocesan Refugee Project in Newcastle is rapidly running out of the basic food items we provide to some of the most vulnerable people in our community. Anything that parishes and individuals can do to help at this critical time would be greatly appreciated. Please see Diocesan website

Rededication of England to Mary

On Sunday 29th March at 12 noon we are asked to celebrate the rededication of England to Our Blessed Lady.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

CANCELLED



MASS TIMES, INTENTIONS

**FR MICHAEL IS SAYING MASS EVERYDAY AT 10.AM THIS WEEK INTENTIONS ARE FOR
CATHERINE, VALERIE AND JOHN WALLS
SUNDAY MASS INTENTION PEOPLE OF THE PARISH**

**Remember in your prayers those who are sick; especially- Pat Palmer,
Bernadette Hand, Albert Hanley, Eva Barnwell, Mona Richardson and Sheila**

PLEASE NOTE ALL NOTICES FOR BULLETIN MUST BE SUBMITTED BY MIDDAY ON WEDNESDAY

