

**Saint Joseph's Catholic Church**  
High West Street  
Gateshead  
NE8 11 X



**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](http://www.stjosephscatholicchurchgateshead.org.uk)

Hall Bookings contact: - [gateshead.stjoseph@rcdhn.org.uk](mailto:gateshead.stjoseph@rcdhn.org.uk)

*Fifth Sunday in Lent (OF) Passion Sunday (EF) 26<sup>th</sup> March 2023*

MASS TIMES, INTENTIONS AND SERVICE TIMES

Day	Date	Saint Wilfrid's	Time	Saint Joseph's	Time
Saturday Annunciation of the Lord	March 25 <sup>th</sup>	Priest's Intention	5.00pm		
Sunday	March 26 <sup>th</sup>			Elsie and George Dalton People of the Parish African Community Mass	10.00am 12.00 noon (EF) 2.00pm
Monday	March 27 <sup>th</sup>	Holy Souls	10.00am		
Tuesday	March 28 <sup>th</sup>			Intentions of Richard Phipps	12.05pm
Wed	March 29 <sup>th</sup>			Well being of Verina Telford	12.05pm
Thursday	March 30 <sup>th</sup>			John Devitt & deceased of Devitt Family	12.05pm
Friday	March 31 <sup>st</sup>	Priest's Intention	10.00am	Stations of Cross 11.00am Elsie and George Dalton	12.05pm
Saturday	April 1 <sup>st</sup>	Priest's Intentions	5.00pm	Peggy Eglington	11.00am (EF)
Sunday Palm Sunday	April 2 <sup>nd</sup>			People of the Parish Intentions of Lizarry Lleses	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

African community Mass last Sunday of the Month 2.00pm

Please pray for all those preparing for, or having recently received, the Sacraments of Baptism, First Holy Communion, Marriage, Confirmation, Holy Orders

## St Joseph's

### First Saturday Devotions to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

These monthly devotions will have the following programme:  
11:00 am - Holy Mass, with the intention of making reparation to the Immaculate Heart  
11:30 am - Group Recitation of the Rosary  
11:45 am - Silent Meditation on the Mysteries of the Rosary  
12:00-12:30 pm – Confessions  
12.00 – 2.00 pm - coffee

**Church Cleaning takes place on:-  
Saturday morning between 9.30am and 10.30am and after confessions until 1.45pm**

**Tuesday straight after 12.05 Mass until 2.00pm  
If you wish to help with the cleaning and have not yet filled in a volunteer form please do so before helping out.**

Please also sign in and out of the visitors' book located on the desk in the office

### 50/50 Draw – See Angela Gallagher

**In order to make this a viable initiative we need more participants. Please consider joining. Half of the money raised goes towards parish funds; the other half is put into a prize pot which is then distributed each month to the winning person. It costs only £10 for the chance to win something every month for ten months!!**

### Tuesday Club

Straight after 12.05 Mass in the hall.

### Piety Stall

**Open every 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the Month before each Mass.** If there is something you need/want at any other time please speak to Shauna Devitt and she will be able to open the stall for your purchase.

### Income 19<sup>th</sup> March 2023

£479.60 of which £50 was Gift Aided

Thank You

### 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.

## 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

Open at rear of church

### Income 19<sup>th</sup> March 2023

Loose Plate £203.75 Gift Aided- £56  
donation £20

Thank You

### Confirmation Class This Sunday at 6.00pm

Theme - 'Who is Jesus?' - please bring your folder and 'YOUCAT' if you have one.

Please note parents/carers are not required to attend this session with their young person, but may like to have tea/coffee together in another room whilst they wait.

### SPUC

The Gateshead branch meets **every second Wednesday of the Month at 7,00pm** in the John Ingram Room @ St Joseph's, access through the office via presbytery back door, behind church.

### Summer Magazine

After the success of the Christmas magazine I am planning to produce a summer edition. In order to make it a success I am asking you all to begin to think about how you can contribute.

Perhaps a family member has been Baptised, Received First Holy Communion, been Confirmed, or married in one of our churches this past year and you would like to share some of the experience, perhaps you have joined in with one of the groups and have a reflection on this?

All contributions are encouraged and welcomed in almost any form: - prose, poetry, commentary, song!  
Please watch this space for more information.

### BOOK of REMEMBRANCE

If you would like to have the name of a deceased relative or friend placed in the book of remembrance please put the **name and death anniversary date** along with a **donation** into an envelope and hand it into the office or place on the collection plate.

**BOOK CLUB:** Next meeting Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> April 7.30pm to discuss The Shoes of the Fisherman by Morris West All welcome.

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.

Today's gospel offers one miracle for the unbeliever and many surprises for a believer in Jesus Christ. Jesus raising a dead man is a miracle for the unbeliever. For the believer, who knows that Jesus is the God of life and can bring the dead back to life, there are other surprises.

Jesus was a considerable distance away from Bethania when his friend Lazarus fell sick. Without any message, Jesus announced to His apostles that Lazarus was dead. That does not surprise a believer.

Jesus asked the small group that greeted Him at the gate of the town, "Where have you laid him?" Why did Jesus need directions from them to locate the tomb? It is a hidden miracle. It is the first puzzle among the three major puzzles.

Jesus was led by the crowd to the tomb. Jesus stood in front of the tomb and said, "Take away the stone." Moving a stone is not as difficult as raising a dead man. Jesus stood in front of the tomb determined to resurrect Lazarus. A word from Jesus was enough to move the stone. Then why did Jesus ask his apostles and disciples to move the stone? It is the second puzzle.

Finally, Lazarus was back to life. He stood in front of the small crowd 'tied hand and foot with burial bands'. Jesus gave a third command, "Untie him and let him go." Could not Jesus employ the angels to untie and set him free? Why did Jesus use some mortals to set Lazarus free? It is the third puzzle to be solved.

Jesus was not interested in amused onlookers or amazed admirers. He was inviting collaborators. While doing the miracle, He let man collaborate. It is divine dignity. It is divine mercy. It is the key to the puzzle. You are invited to collaborate with Jesus to bring life back to the dead. You are invited to help sinners back to Jesus.

This group of 'miracles' reveal the mystery of confession. Sin is death. Only God can liberate anyone from the chains of sin. Liberation from sin is a miracle that is celebrated in the Church. Confession is a miracle where God lets us mortals collaborate to bring the sinner back to grace. There are three ways to collaborate.

1. Lead Jesus to the sinner. When you are talking of Jesus to anyone you are taking Jesus to him/her. You can take Jesus to many by words and deeds. Jesus is looking forward to you taking Him to those who are in need of His special intervention.
2. 'Take away the stone!' Jesus is repeating the same command today. We need to remove the stones of our prejudices. Remember, Martha was against removing the stone. If Jesus can raise a dead man, He can convert a sinner to a saint. So let us be keen to remove the stones.
3. Finally, 'Untie and let him go!' Humans are allowed and asked to untie the bondage of sin, through the sacrament of confession. The priests are ordained to untie the effects of sin at the confessional.

Thus, this group of miracles can be perceived as a parable in action on confession. As we are just a week away from the holy week, help ourselves with a good confession, and help others to receive the joy of a good confession.

**Fr. Bobby Joseph CMI**

## HOLY WEEK

The services for Holy Week are:

### **Maundy Thursday**

St Joseph`s (EF) Mass 7.00pm

### **Good Friday**

St Joseph`s 11.00am Stations of the Cross

3pm Commemoration of the Lord`s Passion

### **Holy Saturday**

St Joseph`s Easter Vigil 7.00pm

### **Easter Sunday**

St Wilfrid`s Mass 9.30am;

St Joseph`s Mass 10.00am and 12 noon Latin Mass.

## **Holy Places Collection**

There will be a **Retiring Collection Next Sunday** (Palm Sunday) for the Holy Places Collection. This collection is used by the Holy Father to support the Holy Places and People in the Holy Land, the land of Jesus birth, ministry, death and resurrection.

## **Tyneside Newman Association**

The Tyneside Newman Association hold regular talks and they invite you to their next one which is a talk by Isobel Vaughan-Spruce, at St Cuthbert`s Church Hall, Albion Road West, North Shields, on Wednesday 29th March, at 7.30pm. Isobel Vaughan-Spruce, the leader of March for Life, has been arrested twice this year in Birmingham, for silently standing and praying within 50 metres of a closed abortion clinic. She was taken to the police station, asked what she was praying about, searched and charged by the police with ... a thought crime. The new Public Order Bill makes standing outside abortion clinics and praying silently a crime in the UK. See more about this on [cbcew.org.uk](http://cbcew.org.uk) where the Bishop of England and Wales give their views.

## **Vocations to the Priesthood**

### **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](mailto:vocationspromoter@diocesehn.org.uk) Telephone: - 01670 812 200.

If you haven`t already done so, please complete the **DIOCESAN SURVEY**: *The investigation commissioned by the Vatican Dicastery for Bishops has issued a survey to be completed by parishioners. This is an anonymous survey, all answers are provided in complete confidence, and you are asked to give your own individual views. The survey will run until Monday 27 March 2023 and can be accessed at <https://forms.gle/wevQ6zrj1t8SCxNq5> or through the Diocesan website.*

## **Statement on Illegal Migration Bill**

The Lead Bishop for Migrants and Refugees, Bishop Paul McAleenan, has commented on the government`s Illegal Migration Bill:

“Everyone who makes a dangerous journey across the Channel to build a better life here has a name, a face, and a story.

“People are driven from their homes by poverty, conflict, persecution, natural disasters, or other factors that prevent their flourishing. Many have links to the UK or family members already living here. Yet, far too often, there are no safe routes open to them.

“While we all wish to end dangerous Channel crossings, this new legislation treats migrants and refugees as a problem to be solved rather than brothers and sisters towards whom we have responsibilities. Establishing more safe routes and genuinely understanding people`s individual circumstances are essential to meeting these.

“As Christians we call for the human person, made in the image and likeness of God, to be put at the heart of public policy.”

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://diocesehn.org.uk)