

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

Tel 01914771631 | Email gateshead.stjoseph@rcdhn.org.uk | michaelbrown6@btconnect.com

Parish website: - www.stjosephscatholicchurchgateshead.org.uk

Hall Bookings contact: - gateshead.stjoseph@rcdhn.org.uk | shaunadevitt@yahoo.co.uk

Twenty Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time (OT) Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost (EF)
1st October 2023

MASS TIMES, INTENTIONS AND SERVICE TIMES

SAINT WILFRID'S

Day	Date	INTENTION	Time
Saturday	Sept 30 th	Bob Banks (NBF)	5.00pm
Sunday	October 1 st		
Monday	October 2 nd	Requiem Ray Perry	10.00am
Tuesday	October 3 rd		10.00am
Wed	October 4 th		
Thursday	October 5 th		
Friday	October 6 th	Angela Gardiner	10.00am
Saturday	October 7 th	Private Intention	5.00pm
Sunday	October 8 th		

SAINT JOSEPH'S

Day	Date	INTENTION	Time
Sunday	October 1 st	People of the Parish Intentions of (LMS)	10.00am 12.00pm (EF)
Monday	October 2 nd		
Tuesday	October 3 rd	T V Joseph	12.05
Wed	October 4 th	Holy Souls in purgatory	12.05
Thursday	October 5 th	Exposition Safe labour and delivery K&J B-D	11-11.55 12.05pm
Friday	October 6 th	Private Intention	12.05
Saturday	October 7 th	Margret and Bill Armstrong	11.00am (EF)
Sunday	October 8 th	People of the Parish 59 th Wedding Anniversary of Tony & Terri McDonald	10.00am 12.00pm (EF)

St Wilfrid's Confessions: - before Mass on Saturday

St Joseph's Income: - September 24th
Loose Plate £266.95 Gift Aid £112

St Wilfrid's Income: - September 24th
Loose Plate £149 Gift Aid £81

Thank you for ALL donations big and small from the 5p piece to the twenty pound note, sorry we can't name you all.

"E F" = EXTRAORDINARY FORM OF THE MASS IN LATIN ACCORDING TO 1962 ROMAN MISSAL

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Thursday 11-11.55am. 12-12.30pm: Confessions St Joseph's: Wednesday after Mass; Saturday 12-12.30pm.

Sign Up for the Newsletter to be emailed out to you.
Contact shaunadevitt@yahoo.co.uk

ROSARY RALLY – NEXT SATURDAY - 7th OCTOBER

You are encouraged to join the Rosary Rally at any point. ALL are WELCOME

A Rosary procession will be held on **Saturday 7th October** from St Joseph's Church, Gateshead to Northumberland Street, Newcastle followed by Rosary in Northumberland Street. The day will start with **First Saturday Mass and devotions at 11.00am** at St Joseph's, High West Street, Gateshead (near to Gateshead Metro Station), then the Marian procession will start with a statue of Our Lady, from the church at 12.30pm, walking over the Tyne Bridge before assembling in Northumberland Street to pray the Rosary starting at 1.15pm. All are welcome and anyone can join at any stage of the event.

October the Month of the Holy Rosary

Consider saying one decade of the Rosary each day throughout October.

Pope Benedict XVI in an address at the Basilica of St. Mary Major, Rome where he prayed the rosary with the faithful said:

"Today, together we confirm that the Holy Rosary is not a pious practice banished to the past, like prayers of other times thought of with nostalgia. Instead, the Rosary is experiencing a new springtime. Without a doubt, this is one of the most eloquent signs of love that the young generation nourishes for Jesus and his Mother, Mary. In the current world, so dispersive, this prayer helps to put Christ at the centre, as the Virgin did, who meditated within all said about her Son, and also what he did and said."

EUCCHARISTIC MIRACLES of the WORLD EXHIBITION

Carlo Acutis life work was to share the Eucharistic miracles with all; his exhibition is to be held at St Joseph's Church from Saturday 14th October – Saturday 28th October 2023 please see the posters at the back of church for further information.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for one day only to help with teas and coffees in the hall at the opening of this wonderful event on **Saturday 14th October**, if you have a spare hour or so on that day please give your name to Shauna Devitt – shaunadevitt@yahoo.co.uk

10.00am Mass Choir

If you enjoy singing and would like to join the choir please come along to rehearsal in the John Ingram Room twenty minutes before Sunday Mass begins

Baptisms

Preparation classes for parents of children who are to be baptised this autumn continue on **Tuesday 3rd October at 5pm** in the presbytery. There will be 4 sessions.

The Good Shepherd programme for children aged 3-7 begins on **Saturday 7th October at 9.15am**, please come to the front door of the presbytery up the steps from High West Street where you will be greeted by Peter Armstrong. Parents will be able to wait in another room whilst their children are being instructed, or they may leave and come back at the time given by Peter, timings vary depending upon the stage of the programme – in the beginning the sessions are a little shorter than later on.

First Holy Communion Preparation Classes

Begin - Wednesday 4th October at 5.15pm. Please ensure you have filled in a form and provided a copy of your child's Baptism certificate prior to the start date.

Adult Baptism

If you or somebody you know is interested in becoming a Catholic please speak to canon Michael about preparation classes.

Altar Servers Enrolment into the Guild of St Stephen

Our **regular altar servers**, from both churches and all Masses, who have **served regularly for more than six months**, will be **enrolled** into the **Guild of St Stephen at Mass on his Feast day – 26th December.**

This will be a wonderful celebration of their dedicated service to God and we hope as many parishioners as possible will attend.

Find out more about St Stephen and the Guild on the notice boards.

If you are interested in becoming an Altar Server for one of our Masses at St Wilfrid's or St Joseph's please speak to Canon Michael.

FLOWERS

If you would like to donate a bouquet/bunch of flowers to decorate St Joseph's then please place your offering into the bucket of water in the porch at anytime throughout the week, and these will be properly displayed. Thank You.

Access the Newsletter online via the parish website at www.stjosephscatholicchurchgateshead.org.uk

ST WILFRID'S PIETY STALL

Cards are now 70p unless priced. Christmas cards, 2024 diaries are now available in the kitchen. We also have Christmas grave candles on sale. There are also some reduced Christmas items on sale at the back of Church. Please see Rachel if you need any help.

Parish Magazine

We have begun to think about the production of a Christmas edition, please consider making a contribution to the content – any thoughts about parish life, are you a member of a parish group? Could you write a little about it? Have you had an important event in your family this past year – baptism, First Communion, Confirmation, marriage, birth, death? Would you be able to write a few words to share with your parish family? We are interested in anything – poems. Prose, jokes, reflections, recipes, traditions etc.

PLEASE give it some thought.

I appeal in particular to the parishioners of St Wilfrid's from whom we have heard little for the last two publications, please make a contribution to the content of the magazine which belongs to both parishes.

HYMN BOOK MEMORIAL BOOK PLATES

Would you like to have your deceased loved ones remembered each time a parish hymn book is used? Place their name in an envelope along with £5 donation, hand this in at the office or put it on the collection plate, (please mark it clearly), and we will dedicate one of the hymn books to your loved one by way of a book plate inserted in the front page.

Car Park

If you would like to use the car park at times other than for church services please gain permission first from Canon Michael and give him your car registration details and the days/times you are likely to be using the car park. If you want to use the car-park on a regular basis we ask for a small fee to be paid.

Keep up with Diocesan news via their website [Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle \(diocesehn.org.uk\)](http://Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle (diocesehn.org.uk))

NORTH EAST CATHOLIC HISTORY SOCIETY

The first lecture of the new season will take place on Wednesday in the parish hall.

All welcome.

Non-members - £1.

Wednesday 4 October 2023: Freddie Everett will talk about:

'David Jones Catholic poet and painter'

Book club

Monday 30th October at 7pm in the Ingram Room, to discuss:-

"Why Catholics Can't Sing: The Culture of Catholicism And The Triumph of Bad Taste" by Thomas Day.

Copies available second hand from £7.48 on AbeBooks.co.uk.

Notice Boards

Please remember to look at the notice boards at the back of the church, in the porch and at both side entrance/exit points, they hold information not found elsewhere and are regularly updated. If you don't take a look you may be missing out on something important!!

FUNERAL PLANNING

Sadly, there have recently been instances of the dearly departed being denied their final wishes because they haven't told family members/next of kin of the type of funeral they want when they die. To avoid any upset and confusion at a very distressing time please fill in the forms-available in both churches-so that the intentions of the deceased are CLEARLY stated and can be carried out in accordance with their wishes. Please return the form to your chosen Funeral Director and please make sure that family members/next of kin are aware of its content and where it is.

Legacies

Are you making or renewing your Will?

Have you thought of including your parish Church in the list of beneficiaries?

Please speak to Canon Michael about leaving a legacy to St Joseph's or St Wilfrid's.

By Nick Harden

Assistant Catholic Priest of Woking and Knaphill parishes in Arundel and Brighton Diocese

We are invited to look at our life and the world through the lens of Christ, taking responsibility for those times when we have fallen short of His love and the effects this has had on the lives of both ourselves, and others. These are opportunities for spiritual growth, callings to be self-aware and to take responsibility as independent moral agents. The life-giving changes we are encouraged to enact bring us closer to that Pauline concept of union 'in Christ Jesus', remembering the apposite words of Saint John Henry Newman: 'to live is to change, and to be perfect is to have changed often.'

In our First Reading, the Prophet Ezekiel considers the ancient proverb, 'the parents eat sour grapes and the children's teeth are set on edge.' The implication is that we are punished for the sins of our forebears, a suggestion that would be very comforting to those who like to play the blame game, to be seen as 'victims' of past wrongs. But the Lord states clearly that this is not the case. The person who sins carries the guilt. In the moral act we stand alone with God, as indeed we do subsequently if we seek repentance and are rewarded with life. It is perhaps the authentic understanding of individualism, that as a moral agent I can truly be whatever I want to be; and that, although my actions may implicate others, I am responsible for them.

The themes of sinfulness and change are picked up in Jesus' Gospel parable. It is interesting that Jesus so often communicates His message through fictional tales of the everyday, because it is at the level of the everyday that our happiness and salvation are worked out. It is precisely in the dramas and challenges of the everyday that we act as responsible moral agents and are provided with the opportunities to grow spiritually. In the story, the first son is like the Jewish leaders who claim obedience to God, but whose deeds do not match their words. They are both inauthentic and resistant to change, in part because admitting their error would result in loss of social standing and rejection. Their words may be seen as mechanical, akin to the utterances of a Chatbot, without the engagement of the heart. The second son, on the other hand, initially refuses to go into the vineyard but changes his mind. Like the tax collectors and prostitutes, he is happy to embrace change. We probably recognise ourselves in both brothers.

Origen noted that, 'where there is division, there is sin'. This is what separates the two brothers, the first living divided from Christ, the second in union with Him. In our Second Reading, Saint Paul calls for unity and lack of division, as we are all 'one in Christ Jesus', united in love and purpose. Seeing everything through the lens of Christ, we 'the Church' are to live interconnectedly in union of heart, vision, and mind. The remedy for division is to 'always consider the other person to be better than yourself ... [and] your minds must be the same as Christ Jesus' (Philippians 2:3-5). This last demand mirrors Jesus' call at the beginning of his ministry (Mark 1:15) to, 'repent and believe in the Gospel', for the Greek word for 'repent' (metanoieite) literally means to 'go beyond the mind you have', in order to have the same mind as Him.

The root of all sin may be seen as grasping to be like God, as Adam did. By contrast, Christ, the 'New Adam', 'though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped' (Philippians 2:6). Our pride is healed by the humility of God, God who did not cling to His Godliness, but rather through an act of total self-emptying love, took on the form of a slave. The extent of Christ's kenotic love and obedience to The Father was revealed in His death on a cross.

Few writers have more powerfully described the change that results from accepting the call to conversion to Christ than Saint Augustine in his *Confessions*: 'Late have I loved thee, O Beauty so ancient and so new,' resulting in him being able to say: 'I have tasted, and now I hunger and thirst; thou didst touch me, and I was inflamed for thy peace.'