

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



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

Parish Priest: Canon Michael Brown

St Joseph's Presbytery, High West Street, Gateshead, NE8 1LX

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Parishes of the John Ingram Partnership

August 2nd 2026 18th Sunday of Ordinary Time Year A
Tenth after Pentecost *(Extraordinary Form)*

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

DAY	DATE	TIME	INTENTION
Saturday	1st Aug	5.00pm	People of the Parish
Sunday	2 nd Aug		
Monday	3 rd Aug	10.00am	Bell & Cantwell Families
Tuesday	4 th Aug		
Wednesday	5 th Aug		
Thursday	6 th Aug		
Friday	7 th Aug	10.00am	Fr Leo Pyle
Saturday	8th Aug	5.00pm	Priest's Intention

Confessions: After Mass on Saturday

Sanctuary Candle: Save our parish

St Joseph's Mass Times and Other Services

DAY	DATE	TIME	INTENTION
Sunday	2 nd Aug	10.00am 12 Noon (EF)	Priest's Intentions Margaret Seymour
Monday	3 rd Aug		
Tuesday	4 th Aug	12.05pm	T V Joseph
Wednesday	5 th Aug	12.05pm	Health of George Parry
Thursday	6 th Aug	12.05pm	Special Intention (MG)
Friday	7 th Aug	12.05pm	Souls in Purgatory
Saturday	8 th Aug	11.00am (EF)	Intentions of LMS
Sunday	9 th Aug	10.00am 12 Noon (EF)	Priest's Intentions Christine and John McConvill: Golden wedding

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

Sanctuary Candle: Soy's Intentions

Baptism for Ayola Oloye at 10.00am Mass – 9th August

Confessions: WEDNESDAY after Mass.
SATURDAY 12.00 – 12.30pm

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Thursday 11.00am – 11.55am

African Community Mass 2.00pm last Sunday of every Month
followed by social gathering in the hall – all are welcome.

End of Summer Family BBQ Saturday September 5th or Sunday September 6th

We would like to have a family BBQ at the end of the summer BUT for this to actually happen will require commitment from people to help out as well as attend the event.

We need people to commit:-

- to doing the shopping
- barbequing the food
- preparing the garden
- cleaning up afterwards

If you can commit to any of the above roles please email to let us know or fill in the sheet at the back of church.

If you would like to attend please email or complete the form at the back of church with your preferred date and the number of people in your party

This would be a ticketed event with tickets costing £30 per family or £10 per adult over 18 years – no children to come unaccompanied

RESPONSES ARE REQUIRED BY SUNDAY 9th AUGUST – in order for us to make a decision as to whether or not the event can actually take place and if it is going ahead on which day

DATES for YOUR DIARIES

Tuesday 11th August – Book Club – 7.00pm – John Ingram Room, St Joseph's Presbytery

End of Summer Family BBQ – 5th or 6th September – Canon's garden

Saturday 28th November – Almost a Christmas Ceilidh is back

DIOCESAN STRATEGIC REORGANISATION Most parishioners are probably not aware of the meetings that have been held to start the diocese's pastoral strategy as we contemplate its future given that there is a shortage of priests, and while numbers at Sunday Mass are increasing, income is falling.

There were initial meetings held earlier this year to begin the process of discernment. About 12 people came to the St Wilfrid's and 3 came to the St Joseph's meeting. These meetings were to assess the current state of the parishes after which there was a meeting for the Parish Partnership with representatives from each of the parishes. In addition a questionnaire was put out to get parish feedback. Sadly few of these were filled in and returned. Further meetings were held on June 24th and July 16th. The question was discussed about how Gateshead Catholics could manage in the future with only 2 or 3 priests. Some parishes will be closed as they are not sustainable. The question of lay leadership arose. There is provision for service of the Word and Holy Communion to be led by lay leaders. However, there are clear requirements in the documents for the conditions to be met. First of all Catholics continue to be bound by the obligation to attend Sunday Mass unless it is impossible for them to attend. Even if Gateshead was to have only 2 priests which would mean a maximum of 6 Masses for the town, Catholics would still be required to fulfil their Sunday obligation at one of these Masses. So the conditions for a lay led service would not be fulfilled nor would attendance fulfil the Sunday obligation. Nor could these lay led services be held during the weekdays as the Vatican document is for services on a Sunday only.

What can we do about this crisis? As always the first thing to do is to pray. Thus the rosary will be said on a Tuesday at St Joseph's after Mass to pray for vocations starting this week. At present we have two men at St Joseph's interested in testing their vocations: one to the permanent diaconate and another for the priesthood. We will be keeping Nazaire and Michael in our prayers. The Church lives by the Eucharist and there can be no Eucharist without priests so the priest as pastor of the flock remains an essential element in Catholic life.

All of us can make a contribution to overcome our difficulties by living the Catholic faith as fully as we can with the help of Almighty God.

PLEASE READ the NEWSLETTER