

**+THE PARISHES OF SAINT JOSEPH AND SAINT WILFRID+  
GATESHEAD**

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

PARISH PRIEST: VERY REV DR MICHAEL BROWN

PRESBYTERY: ST JOSEPH'S HIGH WEST STREET GATESHEAD NE8 1LX

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**MASS TIMES, INTENTIONS AND SERVICE TIMES**

	DEC		SAINT WILFRID'S		SAINT JOSEPH'S
Saturday	2	5.00pm	Harry Richardson		
Sunday	3	10.30am	<i>Polish Mass</i>	10.00am	People of the Parish
				12 noon (EF)	Conversion of Michael Lawler
				4.00pm	Holy Hour and Benediction
Monday	4	10.00am	Harry Richardson		
Tuesday	5			12.05pm	Holy Souls
Wednesday	6			12.05pm	Deceased of Brown & Henderson families
Thursday	7			12.05pm	NO INTENTION
Friday	8	10.00am	Priest's Intention	12.05pm	REQUIEM: Margaret Brown
				7pm (EF)	Margaret Gray
Saturday	9	5.00pm	Margaret Curry & Vincent O'Hagan	<del>9</del> 30am (EF)	Birthday of Connie Stout
Sunday	10	10.30am	<i>Polish Mass</i>	10.00am	People of the Parish
				12 noon (EF)	Tracy Lawler

**EF DENOTES EXTRAORDINARY FORM OF THE MASS IN LATIN ACCORDING TO 1962 ROMAN MISSAL**

**CONFESSIONS ST. JOSEPH'S CONFESSIONS SATURDAY 12NOON-12.30PM: ON WEDNESDAY AFTER MASS.**

**ST WILFRID'S BEFORE 5.00PM MASS SATURDAY**

**EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT ON THURSDAY AFTER MASS UNTIL 1.30PM. 4.30PM-5PM ON SATURDAYS AT ST WILFRID'S**

**COLLECTIONS:** 25.11.17 St Joseph's 10.00am £262.95 Mid week £77.51  
12noon £217.86  
Total £480.81

St Wilfrid's: £166.03 Polish Rent £300. Many thanks.

**Please remember** our sick parishioners in your prayers, especially Pat Palmer, Joe Beck, Bernadette Hand, Albert Hanley and Margaret Moore.

**PRIEST'S SICK COMMUNIONS** Fr Brown will take Holy Communion on Friday morning to parishioners in Alexandra House.

**MASS COUNT.** The annual Mass count will be taken at Masses this weekend and for the two next Sundays.

**NORTHERN CATHOLIC CALENDARS** for 2018 are available at the back of church. £3.50 for ring-bound and £3 for the others.

**CHRISTMAS.** Christmas vigil Mass at St Joseph's and at St Wilfrid's will be at 5pm on Christmas Eve preceded by carols from 4.30pm. There will be a Latin Midnight Mass and Mass at 10am on Christmas Day at St Joseph's

**ST JOSEPH'S**

**ADVENT SERVICE.** The Westland Singers will be leading a service of music and readings for Advent on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm. This is an opportunity to engage in the beautiful season of Advent which is often lost in the run-up to Christmas. All welcome.

**THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION** There will be an additional EF Mass on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm.

**ST WILFRID'S**

**EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS.** If you would like to be considered for this important role or are already a Minister and would like to be on the rota for Church please see Fr. Brown.

**MASS INTENTIONS.** Sometimes there are no intentions for Masses, which is always regrettable. If you would like a Mass said for a particular intention please put it in an envelope and give it to Fr. Brown: the statutory fee is £10.

**RAFFLE TICKETS;** There are still some some left so if you haven't bought any then please do get some. There are some great prizes this year. If you have taken some to sell on do remember to bring them in as soon as they have been sold.

**BOXING DAY MASS.** Mass on December 26<sup>th</sup> at 10.00am will be a joint Mass with the English and Polish communities. This was a lovely occasion last year our Polish community shared their Christmas traditions with the parish. All welcome.

#### PARISH PARTNERSHIP.

**VOLUNTEERS FOR CHRISTMAS LUNCH** – It is hoped to provide a Christmas Lunch on Christmas Day for people who may not have the opportunity of company or a hot meal. We have a venue (St Joseph's, Gateshead) and funding but we need a firm commitment from volunteers to cover the time 10a.m. till 4.30p.m. Are you able to help even for a couple of hours? For further information please contact Carole Bambrough 478 2260 or c.bambrough@virginmedia.com Deadline 4th December for volunteers. Thank you.

**ADVENT AT ST PATRICK'S CHURCH** There will be an Advent service together with More than Dance on 3/12/17 at 4pm Any young people/children from our partnership parishes and schools are more than welcome to be a part of this celebration.

#### DIOCESE

**VACANCIES.** The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle has the following vacancies: Parish Secretary, St Robert, Morpeth 16 hours per week. Closing date: 11 December. Administration Assistant, St Mary, Sunderland 4 hours per week. Closing date: 12 December. Refugee Project Worker, Newcastle upon Tyne 18 hours per week. Closing date: 6 December.

For further information and details of how to apply please visit our website [www.rcdhn.org.uk](http://www.rcdhn.org.uk) or contact us (0191 243 3301, email [human.resources@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:human.resources@diocesehn.org.uk))

## **Parishes of Saint Joseph & Saint Wilfrid Bl. John Ingram Partnership Gateshead First Sunday of Advent: Year B (OF) First Sunday of Advent (EF) 2<sup>nd</sup> /3<sup>rd</sup> December 2017**

**Saint Francis Xavier (April 7, 1506 – December 3, 1552)**

Jesus asked, "What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life?" (Matthew 16:26a). The words were repeated to a young teacher of philosophy who had a highly promising career in academics, with success and a life of prestige and honour before him. Francis Xavier, 24 at the time, and living and teaching in Paris, did not heed these words at once. They came from a good friend, Ignatius of Loyola, whose tireless persuasion finally won the young man to Christ. Francis then made the spiritual exercises under the direction of Ignatius, and in 1534, joined his little community, the infant Society of Jesus. Together at Montmartre they vowed poverty, chastity, obedience, and apostolic service according to the directions of the pope. From Venice, where he was ordained a priest in 1537, Xavier went on to Lisbon and from there sailed to the East Indies, landing at Goa, on the west coast of India. For the next 10 years he labored to bring the faith to such widely scattered peoples as the Hindus, the Malayans, and the Japanese. He spent much of that time in India, and served as provincial of the newly established Jesuit province of India. Wherever he went, Xavier lived with the poorest people, sharing their food and rough accommodations. He spent countless hours ministering to the sick and the poor, particularly to lepers. Very often he had no time to sleep or even to say his breviary but, as we know from his letters, he was filled always with joy. Xavier went through the islands of Malaysia, then up to Japan. He learned enough Japanese to preach to simple folk, to instruct, and to baptize, and to establish missions for those who were to follow him. From Japan he had dreams of going to China, but this plan was never realized. Before reaching the mainland, he died. His remains are enshrined in the Church of Good Jesus in Goa. He and Saint Thérèse of Lisieux were declared co-patrons of the missions in 1925.

Feast Day: 3rd December

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