

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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Parish website: www.stjosephscatholicchurchgateshead.org.uk

Parish email: stjosephstwilfridgateshead25@outlook.com

Parishes of the John Ingram Partnership

Second Sunday of Advent Year A December 7th 2025

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

DAY	DATE	TIME	INTENTION
Saturday	Dec 6 th	5.00pm	Priest's Intention
Sunday	Dec 7 th		
Monday	Dec 8 th	10.00am	Priest's Intention
Tuesday	Dec 9 th		
Wednesday	Dec 10 th		
Thursday	Dec 11 th		
Friday	Dec 12 th	10.00am	George & Mona McGowan
Saturday	Dec 13 th	5.00pm	Priest's Intention

Confessions: After Mass on Saturday

Sanctuary Candle:

St Joseph's Mass Times and Other Services

DAY	DATE	TIME	INTENTION
Sunday	Dec 7 th	10.00am	People of the Parish
		12.00 (EF)	Billy & Margaret Armstrong
Monday	Dec 8 th	7.00pm	Conversion of England (Immaculate Conception)
Tuesday	Dec 9 th	12.05pm	Thanksgiving
Wednesday	Dec 10 th	10.00am	NO MASS
Thursday	Dec 11 th	12.05pm	TV Joseph
Friday	Dec 12 th	12.05pm	Priest's Intention
Saturday	Dec 13 th	11.00am (EF)	Adrian Barnes
Sunday	Dec 14 th	10.00am	People of the Parish
		12.00 (EF)	Billy McStea

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

Confessions: NONE on WEDNESDAY
after Mass & SATURDAY 12.00 – 12.30pm

Sanctuary Candle: Thanksgiving (Soy)

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

EXPOSITION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT: THURSDAY 11.00am – 11.55am

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
Meets every Friday - 4.30pm in St Joseph's presbytery.
All children aged 3 -10yrs are very welcome to come along.

Baptism, First Holy Communion and Confirmation
If you would like to register for one of the above sacraments please ask for the relevant application forms.

NO teas & Coffees TODAY

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

St Wilfrid's collection £100.60 Gift Aid £117
St Joseph's collection £230 Gift Aid £204.50

Please consider signing up to the Gift Aid scheme.

Alternatively you can set up a regular standing order mandate with your bank – gift aided or not – this way if you cannot attend Mass for any reason you will still contribute to the weekly income.

Account Details for St Joseph's

Account Name: DHN Gateshead St Joseph
Account Number: 31164066
Sort Code: 40-34-18

Cheques made out to: DHN Gateshead St Joseph

Account Details for St Wilfrid's

Account Name: DHN Gateshead Our Lady & St Wilfrid
Account Number: 01164120
Sort Code: 40-34-18

Cheques made out to: DHN Gateshead Our Lady & St Wilfrid

Book of Remembrance. The book will be updated soon. If you would like the name of a deceased person to be added please write the details – full name & date of death - put in an envelope marked 'Book of Remembrance' with your offering. (The suggested amount is £10).

Book club will meet on December 9th at 7pm at St Joseph's to discuss *Galileo's Daughter*. Copies available on Amazon from £3.66. All welcome.

St Stephen's Day – 26th December – Boxing Day – the day after Christmas Day -We will be holding our annual St Stephen's Guild Mass on his feast day.

All Altar Servers are asked to attend, we have some new servers to be enrolled into the Guild and the current members will receive service award certificates.

Teas/coffees/juice and light refreshments will be served in the hall following Mass.

Mass will begin at 10.00am – ALL parishioners are invited and welcomed.

Servers please email to let us know if you will be serving.

YOUTH CLUB

NEXT Meeting on JANUARY 4th for an Epiphany Party in a joint venture with the Scouts and Holy Family Guild, please email if you would like to come along: stjosephstwilfridgateshead25@outlook.com

'GOOD OLD-FASHIONED JUMBLE SALE'
Thank you to all who supported this event.

School carol services. St Joseph's school carol service will be held on 10th December in church at 5.30pm. St Wilfrid's school carol service will be held on Thursday 11th December at 1.30pm. All welcome

Penance Service. There will be a Penance service with the opportunity of individual confession at St Peter's, Low Fell on Wednesday 17th December at 7.00pm. All welcome

St Joseph's CHRISTMAS RAFFLE
Tickets are £1 per strip, to be drawn on Sunday 21st December after the 10.00am Mass

**Preparing YOUR Church for Christmas
NEXT Saturday 13th December – Beginning at 12.45pm**

We need people to sweep the floors, vacuum the Sanctuary, dust the statues, polish the brass, clean the candle holders as well as put up the Christmas tree and decorations.

It is also an opportunity to get to know fellow parishioners as we work together and relax afterwards with mulled wine and mince pies.

Please email stjosephstwilfridgateshead25@outlook.com if you can help,
(we need numbers for the mince pies etc.)

ST WILFRIDS; RAFFLE TICKETS
Are on sale, the cost is £1 per book.
CHRISTMAS CARDS, 2026 diaries and
calendars and other items are now available
at the back of church or in the kitchen.

If you would like to help prepare St Wilfrid's Church for Christmas or help out in any way at this church please speak to **Canon Michael** and Stephen Hogarth or Richard Kelly or Rachel Arthurs

January 12th 2026 Visitation of Our Lady of Fatima to St Catherine's nursing Home. Meet at 1.45 for a procession followed by one hour of prayer in front of the Statue and Relics. All Welcome

Open-Door Event Wednesday 10th December

Each year before Christmas, Joe's Place arranges an Open-Door Event at St Joseph's Church in Gateshead. Many people who visit Joe's Place accept the invitation to come in, enjoy some quiet time, and light a candle. Some want to sit listening to the music; others ask for help in lighting a candle, or in praying for a family member or something special to them. This year's Open-Door Event is on Wednesday 10th December from 12.00pm till 1.30pm. Please support this event by your presence if you can. We need people to come along to pray quietly in church, just to be there in solidarity and support for any of our Joe's Place visitors who might come in. This is an opportunity to pray for those, for whom life is a struggle, and who perhaps find Christmas difficult. All are welcome (Bernadette Hirst)

A Little Football Trivia

Did you know that the black and white stripes worn by NUFC were inspired by the colours of a local team associated with St Dominic's Priory and a Dutch Dominican Friar named Dalmatius Houtmann?

Saint Damasus I's Story

To his secretary [Saint Jerome](#), Damasus I was “an incomparable person, learned in the Scriptures, a virgin doctor of the virgin Church, who loved chastity and heard its praises with pleasure.” Damasus seldom heard such unrestrained praise. Internal political struggles, doctrinal heresies, uneasy relations with his fellow bishops and those of the Eastern Church marred the peace of his pontificate.

The son of a Roman priest, possibly of Spanish extraction, Damasus I started as a deacon in his father’s church, and served as a priest in what later became the basilica of San Lorenzo in Rome. He served Pope Liberius (352-366) and followed him into exile.

When Liberius died, Damasus was elected bishop of Rome; but a minority elected and consecrated another deacon, Ursinus, as pope. The controversy between Damasus and the antipope resulted in violent battles in two basilicas, scandalizing the bishops of Italy. At the synod that Damasus called on the occasion of his birthday, he asked them to approve his actions.

The bishops’ reply was curt: “We assembled for a birthday, not to condemn a man unheard.” Supporters of the antipope even managed to get Damasus accused of a grave crime—probably sexual—as late as A.D. 378. He had to clear himself before both a civil court and a Church synod.

As pope, his lifestyle was simple in contrast to other ecclesiastics of Rome, and he was fierce in his denunciation of Arianism and other heresies. A misunderstanding of the Trinitarian terminology used by Rome threatened amicable relations with the Eastern Church, and Damasus was only moderately successful in dealing with that challenge.

During his pontificate, Christianity was declared the official religion of the Roman state, and Latin became the principal liturgical language as part of the pope’s reforms. His encouragement of Saint Jerome’s biblical studies led to the Vulgate, the Latin translation of Scripture which 12 centuries later the Council of Trent declared to be “authentic in public readings, disputations, preaching.”

The history of the papacy and the Church is inextricably mixed with the personal biography of Damasus. In a troubled and pivotal period of Church history, he stands forth as a zealous defender of the faith who knew when to be progressive and when to entrench.

Damasus I makes us aware of two qualities of good leadership: alertness to the promptings of the Spirit, and service. His struggles are a reminder that Jesus never promised his Rock protection from hurricane winds nor his followers immunity from difficulties. His only guarantee is final victory.

Toilet wipes. Please do not put any type of wipes down the toilet. These cause blockages in the sewers and lead to flooding of the area. Even wipes which say they are flushable must not be flushed down the toilet. The blockage of sewers can be traced to individual sites and a charge will be levied against offenders. Please use the bins provided for the disposal of wipes.

PLEASE READ the NEWSLETTER

- TAKE the paper copy HOME with you
- Access it via the website;

www.stjosephscatholicchurchgateshead.org.uk

Or scan the QR code on the poster at the back of church.

- Have it emailed out to you, just email your request to;

stjosephstwilfridgateshead25@outlook.com