

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

Tel: 0191 4771631 Email: [cnmichaelbrown@gmail.com](mailto:cnmichaelbrown@gmail.com)

Parish website: [www.stjosephscatholicchurchgateshead.org.uk](http://www.stjosephscatholicchurchgateshead.org.uk)

Parish email: [stjosephstwilfridgateshead25@outlook.com](mailto:stjosephstwilfridgateshead25@outlook.com)

Parishes of the John Ingram Partnership

**Guadate Sunday Year A December 14<sup>th</sup> 2025**

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

DAY	DATE	TIME	INTENTION
Saturday	Dec 13 <sup>th</sup>	5.00pm	Priest's Intention
Sunday	Dec 14 <sup>th</sup>		
Monday	Dec 15 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	William Henderson
Tuesday	Dec 16 <sup>th</sup>		
Wednesday	Dec 17 <sup>th</sup>		
Thursday	Dec 18 <sup>th</sup>		
Friday	Dec 19 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Jaqueline Harland & Jimmy Harrison
Saturday	Dec 20 <sup>th</sup>	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 14 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	People of the Parish
		12.00(EF)	Intentions of Billy McStea
Monday	Dec 15 <sup>th</sup>		
Tuesday	Dec 16 <sup>th</sup>	12.05pm	Holy Souls
Wednesday	Dec 17 <sup>th</sup>	12.05pm	Florence Rainbow
Thursday	Dec 18 <sup>th</sup>	12.05pm	In honour of the Holy Family
Friday	Dec 19 <sup>th</sup>	12.05pm	Priest's Intention
Saturday	Dec 20 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am (EF)	Intentions of the LMS
Sunday	Dec 21 <sup>st</sup>	10.00am	People of the parish
		12.00 (EF)	Zoe Trainor

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

**Confessions:** WEDNESDAY after Mass & SATURDAY 12.00 – 12.30pm

**Sanctuary Candle:**

**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

### **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.

**Join your fellow parishioners in the hall after 10.00am Mass for complimentary festive refreshments**

### **WEEKLY COLLECTIONS**

St Wilfrid's collection   £139   Gift Aid £72  
St Joseph's collection   £226.50   Gift Aid £225

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

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

**St Stephen's Day – 26<sup>th</sup> 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.**

### **EPIPHANY PARTY**

Join the fun on **January 4<sup>th</sup>** as we celebrate, (two days early), the EPIPHANY. ALL are welcome and encouraged to come along.

**Book club** will meet on January 27<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at St Joseph's to discuss William Cobbett's A History of the Protestant Reformation. Copies available on Amazon from £7.99. All welcome.

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

**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).

Thank you so much to all those who turned up yesterday to help clean and prepare the church for Christmas, you did an amazing job, it's a long time since the church was so clean – thank you again.

### **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?

Newcastle/Sunderland Derby – Good Luck to both teams – (but particularly those who wear the black n white)

January 12<sup>th</sup> 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

### **CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES**

Christmas Eve Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> December

St Wilfrid's – 5.00pm

St Joseph's – 5.00pm

9.00pm (Latin Mass)

CHRISTMAS DAY Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> December 10.00am at St Joseph's

## **Blessed Anthony Grassi's Story**

Anthony's father died when his son was only 10 years old, but the young lad inherited his father's devotion to Our Lady of Loreto. As a schoolboy, he frequented the local church of the Oratorian Fathers, joining the religious order when he was 17.

Already a fine student, Anthony Grassi soon gained a reputation in his religious community as a "walking dictionary," who quickly grasped Scripture and theology. For some time he was tormented by scruples, but they reportedly left him at the very hour he celebrated his first Mass. From that day, serenity penetrated his very being.

In 1621, at age 29, Anthony Grassi was struck by lightning while praying in the church of the Holy House at Loreto. He was carried paralyzed from the church, expecting to die. When Anthony recovered in a few days he realized that he had been cured of acute indigestion. His scorched clothes were donated to the Loreto church as an offering of thanks for his new gift of life.

More importantly, Anthony Grassi now felt that his life belonged entirely to God. Each year thereafter he made a pilgrimage to Loreto to express his thanks.

He also began hearing confessions, and came to be regarded as an outstanding confessor. Simple and direct, Anthony listened carefully to penitents, said a few words, and gave a penance and absolution, frequently drawing on his gift of reading consciences.

In 1635, Anthony Grassi was elected superior of the Fermo Oratory. He was so well regarded that he was re-elected every three years until his death. He was a quiet person and a gentle superior who did not know how to be severe. At the same time he kept the Oratorian constitutions literally, encouraging the community to do likewise.

He refused social or civic commitments and instead would go out day or night to visit the sick or dying or anyone else needing his services. As Anthony grew older, he had a God-given awareness of the future, a gift which he frequently used to warn or to console.

But age brought its challenges as well. Anthony suffered the humility of having to give up his physical faculties one by one. First was his preaching, necessitated after he lost his teeth. Then he could no longer hear confessions. Finally after a fall, Anthony was confined to his room. The archbishop himself came each day to give him Holy Communion. One of his final acts was to reconcile two fiercely quarreling brothers.

Nothing provides a better reason for reassessing a life than a brush with death. Anthony's life already seemed to be on track when he was struck by lightning; he was a brilliant priest, blessed at last with serenity. But the experience softened him. Anthony became a loving counselor and a wise mediator. The same might be said of us if we put our hearts to it. We needn't wait to be struck by lightning.

### **PLEASE READ the NEWSLETTER**

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

[www.stjosephscatholicchurchgateshead.org.uk](http://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](mailto:stjosephstwilfridgateshead25@outlook.com)