

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: 01914771631 Email: cnmichaelbrown@gmail.com

Parish website: www.stjosephscatholicchurchgateshead.org.uk

Parish email: stjosephstwilfridgateshead25@outlook.com

Parishes of the John Ingram Partnership

Graduate Sunday Year A December 14th 2025

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

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

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

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

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.

EPIPHANY PARTY

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

Book club will meet on January 27th 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 21st 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 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

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve Wednesday 24th December

St Wilfrid's – 5.00pm
St Joseph's – 5.00pm
9.00pm (Latin Mass)

CHRISTMAS DAY Thursday 25th 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

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