

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

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

PARISH PRIEST: FR MICHAEL BROWN

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

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MASS TIMES, INTENTIONS AND SERVICE TIMES

	DECEMBER		SAINT WILFRID'S		SAINT JOSEPH'S
Saturday	26	5.00pm	Moira Raith		
Sunday	27			10.00am	People of the Parish
			<i>Extraordinary Form (Latin)</i>	12 noon	Fr Gerard Martin
Monday	28			Private Mass	A.T.
Tuesday	29			12.05pm	Sr Agnieszka Lapinscy
Wednesday	30			Private Mass	Intentions of Anna Barnes
Thursday	31			Private Mass	Intentions of T Turnbull
Friday	JANUARY 1			12.05pm	Special Intention of Shirley and Cresswell Smith
Saturday	2		<i>Extraordinary Form (Latin)</i>	11.00am	E.McPherson
		5.00pm	Dot Adams		
Sunday	3			10.00am	People of the Parish
			<i>Extraordinary Form (Latin)</i>	12.00noon	Fr Gerard Martin

CONFESSIONS BY REQUEST

Christmas Masses

Many thanks to all our volunteer stewarts and cleaners who made it possible for Mass to be celebrated safely. It was god to see so many attending Mass for Christmas.

Canon Brown would like to wish everyone a very happy and holy New Year for 2021 and to thank you for your Christmas good wishes, cards and presents.

Northern Catholic Calendars 2021

£3 paperback or £3.50 for ring bound. Please see Canon Brown if you would like one.

Feast of the Epiphany

The Feast of the Epiphany will be celebrated on Wednesday 6th January. Although normally a Holyday of Obligation, there is still no obligation attached to these Masses and to all Sunday and Holyday Masses at the moment, but there will be Mass at: St Wilfrid's 10am St Joseph's 12.05 and 7pm (EF).

“Doors Wide Open” We have to keep doors fully open during Mass, in order to maintain proper ventilation to ward off any transmission of COVID. This will remain the case throughout the winter months, including Christmas time. We advise that you wear extra layers of clothing or bring a shawl/blanket with you to Mass.

Donations: If you would like to continue giving through direct debit, standing order or bank transfer, the details are below.

Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle	Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle
St Wilfrid's	St Joseph's
Sort Code 40-34-18	Sort Code 40-34-18
Account Number 01164120	Account Number 31164066

To donate via cheque please make out to 'DHN St Wilfrid's Gateshead' or 'DHN St Joseph's Gateshead' These can be posted to the parish address

Please use the reference “Weekly Contribution” for collection money
 “Loft Fund” for donations to improving choir loft
 “Lourdes Garden” for contributions to the garden
 “Parish Poor” for donations to help feed our homeless and hungry

Gateshead

Feast of the Holy Family: Year B (OF) Sunday within the Octave of the Nativity (EF)

26th /27th December 2020

Saint Thomas Becket
(December 21, 1118 – December 29, 1170)

A strong man who wavered for a moment, but then learned one cannot come to terms with evil, and so became a strong churchman, a martyr, and a saint—that was Thomas Becket, archbishop of Canterbury, murdered in his cathedral on December 29, 1170. This year marks the 850th anniversary of his death

His career had been a stormy one. While archdeacon of Canterbury, he was made chancellor of England at the age of 36 by his friend King Henry II. When Henry felt it advantageous to make his chancellor the archbishop of Canterbury, Thomas gave him fair warning: he might not accept all of Henry's intrusions into Church affairs. Nevertheless, in 1162 he was made archbishop, resigned his chancellorship, and reformed his whole way of life!

Troubles began. Henry insisted upon usurping Church rights. At one time, supposing some conciliatory action possible, Thomas came close to compromise. He momentarily approved the Constitutions of Clarendon, which would have denied the clergy the right of trial by a Church court and prevented them from making direct appeal to Rome. But Thomas rejected the Constitutions, fled to France for safety, and remained in exile for seven years. When he returned to England he suspected it would mean certain death. Because Thomas refused to remit censures he had placed upon bishops favored by the king, Henry cried out in a rage, "Will no one rid me of this troublesome priest!" Four knights, taking his words as his wish, slew Thomas in the Canterbury cathedral.

Thomas Becket remains a hero-saint down to our own times. He is patron saint of the English secular clergy

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