

Saint Joseph's Catholic Church
 High West Street
 Gateshead
 NE8 11X



Our Lady & Saint Wilfrid's Catholic Church
 Sunderland Road
 NE8 3QR

Parishes of the John Ingram Partnership Gateshead

Parish Priest: Canon Michael Peter Brown

St Joseph's Presbytery, High West Street, Gateshead, NE81LX

Tel 01914771631 | Email gateshead.stjoseph@rcdhn.org.uk | michaelbrown6@btconnect.com

Parish website: - www.stjosephscatholicchurchgateshead.org.uk

Hall Bookings contact: - gateshead.stjoseph@rcdhn.org.uk

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time (OF) Sexagesima Sunday (EF) 12th February 2023

MASS TIMES, INTENTIONS AND SERVICE TIMES

Day	Date	Saint Wilfrid's	Time	Saint Joseph's	Time
Saturday Our Lady of Lourdes	Feb 11 th	Joan Neill	5.00pm		
Sunday	Feb 12 th			People of the Parish Private Intention	10.00am 12.00 noon (EF)
Monday	Feb 13 th	For protection for the Family of Sr Vivian Ukah	10.00am		
Tuesday St Cyril & Methodius	Feb 14 th			Roger Stazeuski	12.05am
Wed	Feb 15 th			Roger Stazeuski	12.05pm
Thursday	Feb 16 th			Margaret Barnes	12.05pm
Friday	Feb 17 th	Priest's Intention	10.00am	Holy Souls	12.05pm
Saturday	Feb 18 th	Special Intention	5.00pm	Intentions of Richard Phipps	11.00am (EF)
Sunday 7 th in ordinary Time	Feb 19 th			People of the Parish Souls in Purgatory	10.00am 12.00 noon (EF)

"E F" = EXTRAORDINARY FORM OF THE MASS IN LATIN ACCORDING TO 1962 ROMAN MISSAL

Confessions: - St Joseph's: Saturday 12-12.30 and Wednesday after Mass

St Wilfrid's - before Mass on Saturday

Exposition @ St Joseph's every Wednesday 11.00am - 11.55

Please keep in your prayers:-

Billy, Rory, Johnnie, Grace, Melissa, Scott, Heidi and Finlay

Who are preparing to make their first Holy Communion **next Sunday** at the

10.00am Mass in St Joseph's Church

Thank You

St Wilfrid's

First Holy Communion

Please keep in your prayers all the children who will be making their first Holy Communion this year

Heating Fund

Remains open, please continue to give generously

Piety Stall

First Holy Communion, Confirmation, St Patrick's and Easter Cards are now available in the kitchen or at the back of Church. We also have First Holy Communion medals and pins available. Please see Rachel if you need any help.

COLLECTION BOX

St Wilfrid's and St Joseph's recently received a gift of a lockable wooden collection box from Watsons Funeral Directors. Given that these boxes are quite expensive to buy we wish to again thank the management and staff of Watsons for their generosity.

Income 5th January 2023

Loose Plate £209.50 Gift Aided- £37
Heating Collection £100 Piety £7.90 Candles £19.90
Thank You

Confirmation Classes

The initial meeting will be an opportunity for young people and their parents to find out a little more about this sacrament and how the classes will be organized. If you are thinking about receiving the sacrament of Confirmation but have not yet filled in a form, because you want more information, or have any questions, then this meeting is for you and your parents too!! Come along to the meeting on **Sunday 26th February at 7.00pm.**

Planning Your Catholic Funeral

Sometimes when people die, their families plan their funeral and the person who has died may not get the Funeral they desired! Often, because the extended family does not go to Church, they do not plan a Church Funeral.

Have you told your family what you want for your funeral?

Funeral Planning Forms are available from the office now. Complete the Form and let people know where it's kept

Hiring St Joseph's Church Hall

The hall is available for anyone to hire at a cost of £20 per hour, if you would like to hire the hall for any event please email the office in the first instance and someone will get back to you to discuss your requirements.

gateshead.stjoseph@rcdhn.org.uk

St Joseph's

Piety Stall

Open today.

Tuesday Club

Straight after 12.05 Mass in the hall.

First Holy Communion Welcome

Eight children from our united parishes will be making their first Holy Communion at the 10.00am Mass on Sunday 19th February, please give them and their families a warm welcome on this very special day. We will be holding a party for the children and their families in the hall after Mass, to which you are all invited for coffee and cake.

Any support in the way of helping to decorate the hall, providing edibles, helping to make and serve teas and coffees, making a donation towards costs etc. Would be much appreciated, please speak to or email Canon Michael, Shauna or Bernadette. Thank you.

After Mass Coffee

The church hall is fully opened up after its closure during covid. It would be nice to see it used once again for teas and coffees after Mass on a Sunday. Would anyone be interested in organising and facilitating this?

Lost Property

An insulated lunch bag, a glasses case, a pair of gloves have been handed into the office, if you have lost any of these please speak to Shauna.

Income 5th February 2023

£529 of which £80 was Gift Aided
Thank You

North East Catholic History Society

Wednesday 1 March 2023 at 2.00pm in St Joseph's parish hall.

"Happy Homecoming or Second Exile? The return of the first Benedictine nuns to England after the Reformation", by Dr Scholastics Jacob.

All are very welcome £1.00 for non members.

Standing Order

Would you like to set up a Standing Order so that your Offering to the Church comes directly out of your Bank Account automatically? Please contact the Parish Office for Bank Details, it would be helpful for us to know that you are doing so or have done this with a quick message to the parish office.

Please take this Newsletter home with you, so that you know what's happening in your parish this week or sign up for it to be emailed to you.

Today we are reminded to keep faithfully the Law and the commandments given to us by Our Lord He has given us in order to help us find our way to Him. All of us are called to be good and faithful disciples of our Lord, to be good and exemplary role models in our way of life, in everything we say and do, so that everyone who hears us, sees and witnesses our actions and works, may come to know the Lord and His truth through us, Whether we are to do good or to do evil is completely within our choice, God has given us the freedom to choose our course of action in life.

In the first reading, taken from the Book of the prophet Sirach, we hear the prophet Sirach speaking to the people of God and reminding them, that God has given us His Law and commandments, and it is up to us to make the choice whether to do what is right and just in accordance to God's Law and commandments, or whether we want to disobey Him and walk down the path of sin instead. The Lord has given us all the free will and the freedom to choose our paths, and He has also taught us and revealed to us what we all need to do if we want to be faithful and committed to Him. Unfortunately, more often than not we chose to walk down the path of rebellion and evil than to obey the Lord and His commandments, especially because we were unable to resist the temptations all around us, and because we see the path of disobedience and sin as the 'easier' path.

In our second reading today, we heard from the Apostle St. Paul in his Epistle to the Church and the faithful people of God in the city of Corinth in which he spoke of the teaching and revelation of Divine wisdom, the Wisdom of God, the truth that the Lord Himself has revealed to His disciples and Church, and which He reaffirmed to us through His Holy Spirit. St. Paul compared this Wisdom and truth to the wisdom and ways of the world, which is finite and which leads us down the wrong path in life, while the Wisdom of God and all that He has revealed and taught to us will lead us down the path of righteousness and grace, and through that path, we shall enter into a new life blessed and truly worthy of God, a path that he has exhorted, encouraged and reminded all the faithful people of God to follow.

It is in our Gospel passage today then that we heard parts of what each and every one of us are expected to follow and obey, in being good and dedicated followers and disciples of Our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. In the Gospel passage, we heard from the Lord Himself, speaking before all the people gathered to listen to Him, how He told them that He came into this world to fulfil the Law and the commandments of God, not to cancel or eradicate them. He came into this world to reveal the true meaning, purpose and intention of the Law, to purify the commandments and laws of the Lord from all the accumulated misinterpretations, misunderstandings and abuse from the people entrusted with their enforcement and preservation, those who had even appropriated the Law for their own selfish desires and benefits.

What the Lord presented before the people as we heard in our Gospel passage today, was the call to everyone to be truly faithful to God and to be devoted to Him out of genuine love and devotion, and not because one is just merely fulfilling the obligations or doing things out of fear or in desiring to maintain good and favourable appearances, or merely as a formality to be fulfilled and completed. In essence, the Lord told all of the people and hence all of us that being Christians means that we all have to be sincere in doing God's will and in obeying His Law and commandments, and most importantly, we must always be centred and focused on God as the focus, emphasis and the main reason of our lives and existence in this world. Each and every one of us are called to be truly righteous, good and just in the manner that our Lord Himself is all good and righteous.

The Lord made His comments and spoke before the people with the context that the people had been making excuses and trying to find and exploit loopholes in the Law, and not truly believing in the Lord or not truly having faith in Him, and not loving Him as they should have. They were focused more on themselves and their selfish desires and wants, their ambitions, pride, ego and worldly achievements, and as such, while they may outwardly appear to be faithful, but inside, their faith are truly found wanting and lacking. Unless they are more faithful than just being superficial and outwardly faithful, and truly develop a strong and dynamic faith in God, then it may be hard for one to come closer to the Lord and to be worthy to receive His grace and salvation. This is why the Lord reminded all of us this Sunday through these readings, so that all of us may develop the right attitude in life, and nurture in our lives the love that we ought to have for the Lord, as well as for our fellow brothers and sisters, just as the Lord has taught us.

Essentially, as Christians we cannot be idle in our lives, and we must make good use of whatever we have been blessed and given, so that our lives may be fruitful and filled with love for both God and for our fellow men, and that we resist the temptations to sin and to disobey the Lord. When the Lord mentioned in our Gospel passage today, the rather intriguing advice to the people to cut off their hands and to pluck out their eyes if those things led them all to sin, what He actually meant was that, first of all, sin is harmful and dangerous, and if we are not careful and if we do not take the necessary steps to resist the temptations to sin, those sins may end up leading us down the path towards damnation, out of which there is no hope and escape for us, if we realise it too late that we have allowed sin to jeopardise and destroy us.

We should not be complacent and remain vigilant against the temptations all around us, and against the vile efforts and works of Satan and all of his wicked allies, the fallen angels, demons and evil spirits, all of whom are always hard and busy at work in trying to destroy us and to mislead us all down the path towards damnation and destruction. We must also remember again, just as I had mentioned in the beginning of this Sunday's discourse, that God has given us the free will and the freedom to choose our path in life. At the same time, we have also been given the means and the opportunities to do either what is good and just in the sight of God and man alike, or instead to do what is wicked and evil. The choice is ours, and God has given us that choice to make. And now, can we discern well our path so that we will make the right choice?

Brothers and sisters in Christ, let us all hence listen to the Lord calling on us to follow Him, and let us all commit ourselves to live our lives henceforth in a most Christian manner, doing wholeheartedly all that the Lord has shown and taught us to do, in loving Him and in loving our fellow brothers and sisters, generously offering ourselves and our love for the glory of God and for the wellbeing of our fellow brethren all around us. May God continue to guide us all in our every actions and efforts in life, and may He bless us all in our endeavours and good works, now and always, evermore. Amen. BY [PETERCANISIUSMICHAELDAVIDKANG](#).

Men of St Joseph Retreat Minsteracres Fri 10th 6pm to Sun 12th March 2pm, 2023

Arise From Your Slumber – A Retreat for Men This new and unique retreat for men, facilitated by the national organisation of “The Men of St Joseph”, aims to both equip and motivate men to live out their Christian vocation to responsive manhood/fatherhood in their families, workplaces and church communities. Identifying potential trigger points for inertia and dormancy, we will explore a deeper Son-ship with the Father and subsequently our brotherhood with men. We will be energised to live, with passion, our vocation as men, drawing on the effectiveness of how collaborative working supports change and transformation. The weekend will include talks, workshops, testimonies, prayer and social time.

More Information and Booking

<https://www.minsteracres.org/product/catholic-mens-retreat/> £170 residential £60 non-residential shorter options available by contacting Minsteracres. www.minsteracres.org Cath Manley 01434 673248 E-mail info@minsteracres.org Minsteracres Retreat Centre, near Consett, County Durham, DH8 9RT

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2023

Can you help the Pilgrimage to Lourdes or know of someone who can? They need nurses, healthcare assistants, doctors and volunteers to provide care to the assisted pilgrims who travel with them. The Pilgrimage hopes to travel on Friday 28th July 2023. If you would like to find out more email lourdes@rcdhn.org.uk or look at their website...

www.hexhamandnewcastlelourdespilgrimage.co.uk

Vocations to the Priesthood

The Priesthood Vocations Team invite men aged 18+ who might be experiencing the call from God to discern priesthood to join the Vocations Team in finding out more.

Discernment Evenings

Tuesday 14th February, Tuesday 4th April, Tuesday 27th June, Tuesday 3rd October and Tuesday 5th December. These will be held at the Cloister Café - St Mary's Cathedral Clayton Street West, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 5HH from 6pm - 8pm. There will be a time of Prayer, talk/discussion, followed by a meal together.

Overnight Retreat

Friday 3rd March 2023, 5pm to Saturday 4th March 2023 (after lunch) Place Emmaus Youth Village Pemberton Rd, Allensford, Consett DH8 9BA Cost £50 (including all meals and ensuite accommodation) Spaces are limited.

Please contact Fr Shaun Purdy to book a place or for more information:

Email: - vocationspromoter@diocesehn.org.uk
Telephone: - 01670 812 200.

Bookings for the retreat are to be made by Thursday 16th February.

Please look at the Diocesan website for the latest news about events and courses in and around the Diocese

[News - Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle](#)

Holy Island SVP Vinnie Camp 2023

Are you interested in your child having a holiday in 2023?

Let them join us for a week on Holy Island; they'll stay in our Centre and be looked after by DBS checked and trained helpers who will ensure they have a safe, fun time. We do lots of interesting and enjoyable activities such as rock pooling, longball, football, rounders, walking, craft and art, table tennis, long ball, Quizzes and competitions and marathons as well as laser tag, silly sports, sand castle building, swimming and scavenger hunts. Girls and boys can be aged 9-12 and it is a great way for them to meet new people and make friends from all over the North East. A week's all-inclusive holiday costs £150 and can be paid in installments. In some circumstances children may be able to receive partial or full funding to attend. If you're interested, or know of a child who could benefit from such a holiday, please visit our website for further details at <https://www.svp.org.uk/microsite/holy-island> Applications open from 10th February 2023

Job Vacancies

Centre for Catholic Studies, Durham University

The Centre for Catholic Studies (CCS) are seeking to appoint a part-time Administrator, 21 hours per week, whose work will focus on CCS events and communications. Do you know anyone who might be interested in applying? Full details can be accessed at “Job Description - CCS Administrator (22001983)” (taleo.net) the closing date for applications is midnight on Monday 20th February 2023.

SVP Newcastle St Vincent de Paul Society (England & Wales) are seeking a Support Centre Manager in Newcastle upon Tyne. View full job details and apply here: <https://www.svp.org.uk/work-with-us>, looking for the Newcastle Centre Manager (scroll down the page) Closing date for applications is Friday 17th February 2023.