

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, NE81LX  
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Parishes of the John Ingram Partnership

**22<sup>nd</sup> February 2026 – Year A – First Sunday of Lent**

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

DAY	DATE	TIME	INTENTION
Saturday	21 <sup>st</sup> Feb	5.00pm	Joan Neil
Sunday	22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb		
Monday	23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb	10.00am	No Mass
Tuesday	24 <sup>th</sup> Feb		
Wednesday	25 <sup>th</sup> Feb		
Thursday	26 <sup>th</sup> Feb		
Friday	27 <sup>th</sup> Feb	10.00am	Peggy and Billy Mohan
Saturday	28 <sup>th</sup> Feb	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	22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	10.00am 12.00pm(EF)	People of the Parish Priest's Intention
Monday	23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb		
Tuesday	24 <sup>th</sup> Feb	12.05pm	No Mass
Wednesday	25 <sup>th</sup> Feb	12.05pm	Joseph T V
Thursday	26 <sup>th</sup> Feb	12.05pm	Margaret Finn
Friday	27 <sup>th</sup> Feb	12.05pm	Peggy and Billy Mohan
Saturday	28 <sup>th</sup> Feb	11.00am (EF)	Holy Souls
Sunday	March 1 <sup>st</sup>	10.00am 12.00 (EF)	Elspeth Hatwood People of the parish

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

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

**Sanctuary Candle:**  
Soy's family

**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** 11.00am – 11.55am

## Parish Finances

### St Joseph's

#### Account Details

Account Name: DHN Gateshead St Joseph

Account Number: 31164066

Sort Code: 40-34-18

Cheques made out to:

**DHN Gateshead St Joseph**

#### January Income & Outgoings

**Income: £4,820.28**

**Outgoings: £9,002.20**

### St Wilfrid's

#### Account Details for

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**

**Income: £1,034.30**

**Outgoings: £3,383.62**

Please consider signing up to the Gift Aid scheme which enables the parish to claim back tax on the money donated, it costs nothing extra to you but can add a lot to parish funds.

## Saint Joseph's Primary School

**We are hoping to build a stronger bond with our parish primary school and ask everyone to pray for the success of this.**

**The school has begun to create a prayer garden and grotto, they need help – can you volunteer some of your spare time to do some gardening, space clearing, building/creating this space for the children of our parish? Do you have a large outdoor statue of Our Lady you could donate to the school?**

Please email

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

If you can help in any way.

## Book Club

Reading **Lord of the World** by R.H. Benson

To be discussed at next meeting on **Tuesday March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7.00pm.**

The book club meetings are very relaxed, we share a glass of wine, (tea or coffee) and nibbles as we share thoughts about the book we have been reading in our own time.

ALL are welcome

## Young Persons' Social Group (formally Youth Club)

Next Meeting **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March at 6pm** come along to relax with your friends. Anyone aged 11yrs – 16yrs is very welcome; there is no ongoing commitment to this group, just email to say you are coming. The format changes each time – sometimes we have benediction, sometimes we have a film about the life of a saint, we always have snacks, free time, games and activities and we always finish with a prayer. Why not come along and see what you think?

## Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Continues each Friday at 4.30pm

Held in St Joseph's presbytery, run by the Missionaries of Charity

Open to all children aged 3 -10yrs

## First Holy Communion

Any child aged 6+ or turning 6 this year who is attending Mass regularly can be registered to make their first Holy Communion. Please register your child as soon as possible, preparation classes will begin soon.

## Confirmation

Any young person aged 12+ who would like to be confirmed may fill in an application form and once we have a minimum of 8 young people we will begin preparation classes.

## Baptism, First Holy Communion and Confirmation Application Forms

If you would like to register for one of the above sacraments please ask for the relevant forms, available from the office

## Altar Servers

We are always happy to welcome new altar servers to our teams, if you are interested in serving please speak to Canon Michael

## Free Refreshments & Social

Tea/Coffee/soft drink & biscuits served with a smile. Available in the hall **EVERY SUNDAY** straight after the 10.00am Mass.

**After the 12.00pm Mass NEXT Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March and on the following dates: 15<sup>th</sup> March, 29<sup>th</sup> March, 26<sup>th</sup> April, 10<sup>th</sup> May**

**These sessions could become a weekly occurrence if we had some more volunteers to run them – please speak to canon Michael if you can help**

Please come along to support the parish, build the community and strengthen friendship bonds and support networks.

## PIETY STALL

**Will be open again NEXT Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March**

## Saint Polycarp's Story

Polycarp, bishop of Smyrna, disciple of Saint John the Apostle and friend of Saint Ignatius of Antioch, was a revered Christian leader during the first half of the second century.

Saint Ignatius, on his way to Rome to be martyred, visited Saint Polycarp at Smyrna, and later at Troas wrote him a personal letter. The Asia Minor Churches recognized Polycarp's leadership by choosing him as a representative to discuss with Pope Anicetus the date of the Easter celebration in Rome—a major controversy in the early Church.

Only one of the many letters written by Saint Polycarp has been preserved, the one he wrote to the Church of Philippi in Macedonia.

At 86, Polycarp was led into the crowded Smyrna stadium to be burned alive. The flames did not harm him and he was finally killed by a dagger. The centurion ordered the saint's body burned. The "Acts" of Saint Polycarp's martyrdom are the earliest preserved, fully reliable account of a Christian martyr's death. He died in 155.

Polycarp was recognized as a Christian leader by all Asia Minor Christians—a strong fortress of faith and loyalty to Jesus Christ. His own strength emerged from his trust in God, even when events contradicted this trust. Living among pagans and under a government opposed to the new religion, he led and fed his flock. Like the Good Shepherd, he laid down his life for his sheep and kept them from more persecution in Smyrna. He summarized his trust in God just before he died: "Father... I bless Thee, for having made me worthy of the day and the hour..." (Acts of Martyrdom, Chapter 14).

Feast Day 23rd February

[franciscanmedia.org](http://franciscanmedia.org)

## White Flower Appeal

There will be a second collection at the end of each Mass next weekend. Please give generously to this very worthy cause which is dedicated to protecting unborn children and promoting the right to life. The donations received allow SPUC to continue their tireless work to build a culture of life by educating, lobbying politicians, providing support to students facing crisis pregnancies, mobilising pro-life activities in the community and much more.

## DATES for YOUR DIARIES

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March - Book Club – 7.00pm**

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March – Young Person's Social – 6.00pm**

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March – Piety Stall open – after each Mass**

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March – White Flower Appeal – Second Collection after each Mass**

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March – Snacks and Sewing – 2.00pm**

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> November – Almost a Christmas Ceilidh is back**

If you have anything you would like to be included in the newsletter please ask Canon Michael if it is possible and then, with his go ahead only, submit your article before mid-day on a Thursday.

## PLEASE READ the NEWSLETTER

- TAKE the paper copy HOME with you
- Have it emailed out to you, just email your request to;  
[stjosephstwilfridgateshead25@outlook.com](mailto:stjosephstwilfridgateshead25@outlook.com)
- 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.

### Snacks and Sewing Social Afternoon

Can You Sew? And/or Iron? Would you like to join us for an afternoon of chatter, coffee/tea/snacks and sewing? We would like to mend the Altar Servers vestments before Easter and need some helpful hands. Please come along to the presbytery on **SATURDAY MARCH 14<sup>th</sup> at 2.00pm.**

### Volunteers

We need more volunteers to give time and energy to a variety of roles.

Speak to Canon Michael for more information and to collect the relevant paperwork to be completed.

**PLEASE leave NO LITERATURE, BOOKLETS, PAMPHLETS, MAGAZINES, POSTERS, PRAYER CARDS etc. are to be left at the back of church without the **prior consent** of Canon Michael Brown – Parish Priest.**

### PARKING

Our car park is small, with limited room for maneuvering, **it is essential we leave access** for any **emergency services** which may be needed.

Last year the ambulance service and the police service were called to the premises on a Sunday morning.

PLEASE PARK in the **marked bays only**, giving consideration to others and leaving access for emergency services if required.

### Hall Roof Repairs

At long last the hall roof is to be replaced; work will last approximately three weeks. During this time there will be scaffolding up around the building so please take extra care when entering and exiting the premises. The capacity of the car park will be reduced, please make alternative arrangements for your vehicle if possible.

### Partnership Lenten Courses

Fr Christopher Warren is offering a time of reflection and a book group for Lent based on the book 'Easter in Disguise' The 2026 Lent Book published by Bloomsbury. This book is a companion to the six weeks of Lent, with each week and its gospel focus corresponding to one of Jesus' six spiritualities of social justice. It culminates in a fresh look at the traditions of Holy Week. Everyone is welcome at Corpus Christi on Wednesdays during Lent (25 Feb onwards) at 18.30 for a time of prayer and reflection on the chapter. Contact St Peter's Parish Office to reserve a copy or source your own copy (available in a variety of formats).

**Something to Follow for Lent:** A Partnership Wide Lenten Course focussed on helping people enter more deeply into prayer will be offered on Wednesday evenings during Lent in St Patrick's Parish Centre, Felling at 6.30pm, starting Wed 25th February. The course will offer lots of practical tips, wisdom from the bible, stories from the saints, and advice about common difficulties people face when praying. Each hour long session is based on a short filmed presentation by Fr. Stephen Wang, (Who is also the author of the Sycamore RCIA Course). Topics covered include:

Session 1 PRAYER FOR BEGINNERS

Session 2 SEVEN RULES OF PRAYER

Session 3 PRAYING WITH THE BIBLE

Session 4 HOW TO PRAY THE MASS

Session 5 SILENT PRAYER AND THE PRESENCE OF GOD

All are most welcome to attend all or any of these sessions.

### First Friday Devotions - Praying For Our Priests

The parish of Christ the King, Newcastle would like to invite you and your parishioners to come along on the First Friday of every month to pray for the sanctification of our priests and to pray for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. It will take place at St Teresa's Church, Heaton at 6.30pm and will take the form of a Holy Hour, which will include prayers for our priests and for vocations. There will also be the opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The evening will conclude with Vespers at 7.15pm.