

St Joseph and St Wilfrid Weekly Newsletter

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

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Week commencing 23rd February 2020 7th Sunday in ordinary time (OF) Quinquagesima (EF)

Saint Peter Damian

Maybe because he was orphaned and had been treated shabbily by one of his brothers, Peter Damian was very good to the poor. It was the ordinary thing for him to have a poor person or two with him at table and he liked to minister personally to their needs.

Peter escaped poverty and the neglect of his own brother when his other brother, who was archpriest of Ravenna, took him under his wing. His brother sent him to good schools and Peter became a professor.

Already in those days, Peter was very strict with himself. He wore a hair shirt under his clothes, fasted rigorously and spent many hours in prayer. Soon, he decided to leave his teaching and give himself completely to prayer with the Benedictines of the reform of Saint Romuald at Fonte Avellana. They lived two monks to a hermitage. Peter was so eager to pray and slept so little that he soon suffered from severe insomnia. He found he had to use some prudence in taking care of himself. When he was not praying, he studied the Bible.

The abbot commanded that when he died Peter should succeed him. Abbot Peter founded five other hermitages. He encouraged his brothers in a life of prayer and solitude and wanted nothing more for himself. The Holy See periodically called on him, however, to be a peacemaker or trouble-shooter, between two abbeys in dispute or a cleric or government official in some disagreement with Rome.

Finally, Pope Stephen IX made Peter the cardinal-bishop of Ostia. He worked hard to wipe out simony—the buying of church offices—and encouraged his priests to observe celibacy and urged even the diocesan clergy to live together and maintain scheduled prayer and religious observance. He wished to restore primitive discipline among religious and priests, warning against needless travel, violations of poverty, and too comfortable living. He even wrote to the bishop of Besancon complaining that the canons there sat down when they were singing the psalms in the Divine Office.

He wrote many letters. Some 170 are extant. We also have 53 of his sermons and seven lives, or biographies that he wrote. He preferred examples and stories rather than theory in his writings. The liturgical offices he wrote are evidence of his talent as a stylist in Latin.

He asked often to be allowed to retire as cardinal-bishop of Ostia, and finally Pope Alexander II consented. Peter was happy to become once again just a monk, but he was still called to serve as a papal legate. When returning from such an assignment in Ravenna, he was overcome by a fever. With the monks gathered around him saying the Divine Office, he died on February 22, 1072.

In 1828, he was declared a Doctor of the Church.

Reflection

Peter was a reformer and if he were alive today would no doubt encourage the renewal started by Vatican II. He would also applaud the greater emphasis on prayer that is shown by the growing number of priests, religious, and laypersons who gather regularly for prayer, as well as the special houses of prayer recently established by many religious communities.

DATES for DIARIES

Speaking Truth to Power

23rd Feb

REGINA CAELI
29th February

SPUC Conference
7th March

Book Club
9th March

Confirmation Preparation
11th March

Sung Vespers
19th March

ROME Pilgrimage
4th-8th May

LENT begins with Ash Wednesday this week
ST WILFRID'S

Confessions: Before Mass on Saturdays

Exposition: Saturday 4.30 - 4.55

Baptism Mass

We welcome into our parish family all the children baptised here today and pray that they will grow in faith and love throughout their lives.

Piety Stall

Open every Saturday before and after Mass
Have a look at our new stock.

Anyone who would like to volunteer to help with the cleaning of the church please speak to Jenny Parkins

ST JOSEPH'S

Confessions: Wednesday after Mass & Saturday 12-12.30pm

Exposition: Thursday 11.00am

Mass on Thursday will take place **downstairs** in the **Presbytery. Enter by black door on High West Street**

Toilets are available in the church hall for use during Sunday Mass

Piety Stall

As Stella has stepped down from this role we require a volunteer to keep the stall going

GIFT AID

Mr Alan Young will be talking about Gift Aid at the end of Mass today

NEW to the Parishes of St Joseph and St Wilfrid?

If you have just moved into the area and St Joseph's or St Wilfrid's have become your new Parish please make yourself known to Fr Michael.

Parishioners Contact Details

Does Fr Michael have your current details? Perhaps you have moved house recently or changed your phone number? Had an addition to the family perhaps? Please let Fr know.

WHITE FLOWER APPEAL

A collection will be taken after each Mass for the work of the Society for the Protection of unborn children

PILGRIMAGE to ROME 2020

There are still some places remaining, if you are interested please speak to Fr Michael ASAP



COMMUNITY CHOIR

New members are always welcome, come along on Wednesday morning at 10 to the John Ingram Room, just ring the bell at the back of the presbytery and someone will let you in!

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YOUTH CHOIR

Anyone aged 7-18 is welcome to join this choir, please see Teresa Dewhurst, Fr Michael, Shauna Devitt or Paul Hammond for more information

THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Friday at 5pm

All children aged 3-6 are welcome
For more information speak to Fr Michael or Peter Armstrong

BECOMING a CATHOLIC

Fridays 5pm

BOOK CLUB

New members always welcome. We are reading 'No Place For God'. Copies available £10. Next meeting on March 9th at 7pm

CMUK

meets every third Saturday Next Meeting 21st March

Confirmation preparation

Next Session Wednesday 11th March - Theme - Baptism

INVITATION to VESPERS

For the Patronal Feast of St Joseph on March 19th, we are this year, celebrating the feast with '**SUNG LATIN VESPERS**'

Vespers, (evening prayer), is a beautiful service, consisting of five psalms and a hymn. The climax of the service is the singing of the Magnificat, (the hymn of Mary).

Vespers, which begins at 7.00pm, will conclude with the much loved service of **Benediction.**

There will be refreshments available afterwards.
Everyone is most welcome

PARTNERSHIP and DIOCESAN NEWS

CORONAVIRUS

The Bishops of England and Wales have said that anyone who is feeling unwell at any time needs to be mindful of fellow parishioners and refrain from receiving Communion on the tongue or partaking in the Chalice as well as opting out of the sign of peace.

Rededication of England to Mary

On Sunday 29th March at 12 noon we are asked to celebrate the rededication of England to Our Blessed Lady.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

31st July - 7th August Information now available on the diocesan website

HOLY FAMILY GUILD

Please see posters in church porch
Especially those with pre and school aged children

REGINA CAELI

Information Afternoon about a hybrid Academy in the Catholic Tradition in the North of England on 29th February

LOST/FOUND

There is a pushchair/buggy in the Sacristy does anyone know to whom it belongs? We would love to be able to reunite it to its lost family!

A waterproof jacket has also been found in the John Ingram room; again if you know how to reunite it with its rightful owner please do so.

Speaking Truth to Power

23rd February @ St Peter's Gateshead, an event organised by Church Action Poverty

Come and hear those in need or homeless giving witness to their plight

For more information please see posters in church porch

Building a Culture of Life

The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children is holding a one day conference and training event on Saturday 7th March 2020 9.30am - 4.00pm, at the Tyneside Irish Centre, 43 Gallowgate Street, Newcastle Upon Tyne Ne1 4SG. The cost of the conference is £30 per person, including lunch and refreshments.

Please come to this event if you would like to learn more about the threat of abortion decriminalisation and assisted suicide, how to take effective pro-life action locally and how to lobby to make a difference.

You can book a place using the booking form in the conference leaflet at the back of church, or you can call SPUC on 02070917091

Vacancies

Head of Communications

The Diocese is looking for an experienced and enthusiastic individual to take responsibility for shaping and delivering its Communication Strategy. The appointed person will lead on Diocesan communications activity and be passionate about the positive impact the Church can make. Full-time. 12 month contract with the potential for the role to become permanent.

MASS TIMES, INTENTIONS AND SERVICE TIMES

Day	DATE	St Wilfrid's	TIME	St Joseph's	TIME
Saturday	22 nd	Vocations to priesthood and religious life	5.00pm		
Sunday	23 rd	Polish Mass	11.00am	Angela Gardiner People of the Parish African Mass	10.00am Mid-Day (EF) 2.00pm
Monday	24 th	Souls in Purgatory	10.00		
Tuesday	25 th			Avril Gordon	12.05
Wednesday	26 th	Priest`s Intention	10.00	Pat Wallace Michael Dunn	12.05 7.00pm
Thursday	27 th			James Appleby	12.05
Friday	28 th	Joyce Hinksman	10.00	Priest`s Intention	12.05
Saturday	29 th		5.00pm	Living & deceased of Macgregor family	11.00 (EF)
Sunday	1 st March	Polish Mass	11.00am	People of the Parish Les Tayldor	10.00 am Mid-Day (EF)

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

Priest's sick communions: On Friday morning Fr Brown will take Holy Communion to Catholic residents in Fellingate home...

Remember in your prayers those who are sick; especially Pat Palmer, Bernadette Hand, Albert Hanley, Eva Barnwell, Mona Richardson and Sheila Gibertson.

COLLECTIONS: - ST JOSEPH'S £590.33
ST WILFRID'S £233.55 POLISH RENT £200
MANY THANKS.

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PLEASE NOTE ALL NOTICES FOR BULLETIN MUST BE SUBMITTED BY MIDDAY ON WEDNESDAY