

Saint Joseph's Catholic Church
High West Street
Gateshead
NE8 1LX



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

Parishes of the John Ingram Partnership Gateshead

Parish Priest: Canon Michael Peter Brown

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Parish website: - www.stjosephscatholicchurchgateshead.org.uk

Hall Bookings contact Mr. Alan Telford Tel:-07989734644

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C (OF) Third Sunday after Epiphany (EF)
23rd January 2022

"If you want to be free, begin by accepting the truth, living by it and giving it to others."

Today's readings challenge us to hear, read and put into practice the saving and liberating word of God, thus transforming our lives and to convey the salvation and liberation of Christ to others around us through our renewed lives.

As a leader during His earthly life, Jesus' inaugural speech was a theology of total liberation hence the emergence of what we call the liberation theology. This liberation: "to bring glad tidings to the poor, liberation to captives, recovery of sight to the blind and freedom for the oppressed" is primarily based on the truths of the gospel. It was this "dangerous" truth of the gospel, that would someday make Jesus a target of the religious authorities. HIS MISSION WAS A LIBERATING ONE.

Speaking in the synagogue in Nazareth, Jesus used Isaiah's prophetic terms, long since seen as referring to the coming Messiah, to describe his own mission. Jesus said he had been sent, among other reasons, "to bring Good News to the poor." The success of Jesus' mission, particularly with the poor who had no political power except that conferred by their sheer numbers, made Jesus a "dangerous" person to the religious authorities of Israel and eventually resulted in his crucifixion. *The Christian Gospel is still dangerous when its truth is really put into practice.*

In the first reading, after rebuilding the Temple and restoring the city, Ezra leads the people in a "Covenant renewal" ceremony by reading and interpreting the Law.

The Second Reading, taken from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians, reminds us that "together we are Christ's Body, but each of us is a different part of it." This suggests that, as different parts of Christ's Body, each of us has a share, as instruments in God's hands, in bringing the freeing and saving mission of Christ to our world in our times.

In a world blinded by the darkness of falsehood, today's gospel is a challenge to us all. As St. Paul rightly points out, we are all sharers in the saving and liberating mission of Christ.

The truth is our tool for liberation. Nothing holds a person in captivity than the ignorance of the truth. There is so much falsehood in our society that we have become captives in our land. We claim to be free when in reality we are in bondage. Freedom without living in the truth is slavery. The truths of the gospel are often described as "dangerous" because they are like a double edge sword that pierces the human heart. They are bitter truths, but they offer life everlasting. Jesus' mission is to convey this eternal truth to humanity. He became the enemy of the Jewish authorities because the liberation and the truth He preaches challenge the cultural, political and religious atmosphere and ideologies of the time. His mission transcends earthly ambitions. He came to establish a new order of creation founded on the truths of the gospel. His preference for the poor and marginalized was unparalleled. His compassion for them is comparable to none.

Can we say we a liberating people when we ignore the poor amongst us? Jesus came to restore the sight of the blind. He does it through His miracles by healing physical blindness but more the spiritual blindness of the people of this time by teaching the eternal truths. God continues to heal but now He uses us. We may not perform miracles of healing the physically blind among us, but we can restore the sight of those living in the darkness of falsehood and ignorance by teaching them and practicing the liberating truths of the gospel.

Let us hold on to the immutable truths of the gospel and practice its principles. Participate in the sacraments and your life will be renewed to renew others. Many are dying, many are imprisoned for doing nothing wrong. Many were falsely accused and are paying the price of an offence they did not commit. It is time we speak out and liberate those in captivity. *Those who have suffered captivity at the hands of others—whether it is abuse of any sort, dishonesty, slander, gossip, or unfair judgment—can take comfort in the truth that Christ has the power to take those burdens from us and liberate us from the damaging effects they cause*

May God continue to inspire you and fill your heart with love so as to be a source of liberation for others, May we be liberated from the captivity of sinful habits and blindness to the truth. May God open our eyes to see His good works. May we become agents of liberation in our enslaved world.

Fr. Clem C. Aladi

MASS TIMES, INTENTIONS AND SERVICE TIMES

Day	Date	Saint Wilfrid's	Time	Saint Joseph's	Time
Saturday	22 th Jan	Priest's Intention	5.00pm		
Sunday	23 th Jan			People of the Parish	10.00am
				Frederico Arevalo	12.00
Monday	24 th Jan	Holy Souls	10.00am		
Tuesday	25 th Jan			Intentions of EB	12.05pm
Wednesday	26 th Jan			Exposition of Blessed Sacrament	11.00am
				Intentions of Jonathon Devitt	12.05pm
Thursday	27 th Jan			Holy Souls	7.45am
Friday	28 th Jan	Fr Richard Harriott	10.00am	Billy and Anne Sheridan	12.05pm
Saturday	29 th Jan	Priest's Intention	5.00pm	Joan Murray	11.00am
Sunday	30 th Jan			People of the Parish	10.00am
				Maria Scott	Midday (EF)
				African Mass	2.00pm

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

Confessions: - St Joseph's: Wednesday after Mass; Saturdays from 12-12.30
St Wilfrid's - before Mass on Saturday

Prayers for: - anniversaries occurring at this time; the sick and recently deceased
Exposition of Blessed Sacrament @ St Joseph's Wednesday 11.00
Vespers and Benediction every First Sunday of the Month at 3pm
African Mass last Sunday of the Month at 2pm

The Good Shepherd Catecheses Programme for children aged 3-7years will resume at the beginning of **September 2022**, places are limited. If you would like to register your child please do so at the office on Wednesday afternoons or Friday mornings, or give details to Canon Michael. The sessions, which will take place on a weekly basis, are delivered by Mr Peter Armstrong with the help of another adult.



First Holy Communion Preparation: the classes will begin towards the end of this month. Individual families who have signed up will be contacted shortly.



Have you ever wanted to serve on the Altar?

Are you interested in finding out a little bit more about what is involved? Please come and speak to Canon Michael or Peter Armstrong or any of the Altar Servers who will happily talk to you about this important role of service. Don't be afraid to ask questions, speak to our current Servers after any Mass, or if you would just like to try it out come along **15 minutes before the start of Mass** and tell Peter Armstrong (10am Mass (girls and boys)) or Canon Michael (Mid-Day Mass (boys only)) and they will help you get ready and show you what to do., you will learn as you go along.

CHURCH HALL: In light of the governments relaxing of restrictions concerning the spread of covid we expect the Bishop to make an announcement very soon regarding the hall and other meeting spaces within parishes. Please continue to be patient and understanding of your parish priest as he follows the instructions given.

PARISH GROUPS: If you run/organize/lead a parish activity or group which has been suspended during covid restrictions and would like to re-start your activity please let the office know and details can be shared on the newsletter.
Email: gateshead.stjoseph@rcdhn.org.uk



Support for Families

[Growing Together in Faith and Prayer as a Family - Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle \(diocesehn.org.uk\)](#)

Weekly Income for 16th January 2022

St Joseph's

Loose Plate Collection: £251.44
Gift Aid Envelopes: £81.30 Votive Candles: £29
Rental income: Room: £12 Car-park - £23
White Flower: £170 Donation: £10

St Wilfrid's

Loose Plate: £151 Gift Aid: £47 Candles: £20.16
White Flower: £28.50 Donation: £



Book Club: the next date for discussing the book: "The Jesuit Guide to (almost) everything", will be provided as soon as restrictions on using Parish rooms are lifted by the Bishop. Thank you for your patience.



PARTICIPATING IN THE SYNODAL PROCESS:



We are ALL asked to respond to the SYNOD, please see the Diocesan Website for further information and ways to have your voice heard
[Synod 2021 - 2023 - Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle \(diocesehn.org.uk\)](#)

A GUIDE FOR CATHOLICS ATTACHED TO THE TRADITIONAL LATIN MASS FROM THE LATIN MASS SOCIETY

Please make your views known
[Synod on Synodality | Latin Mass Society \(lms.org.uk\)](#)

The deadline is 2nd March 2022: Ash Wednesday 2022



Young Adults are invited for a time of Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament interspersed with some music.

Every Monday, (term time), 7.00pm to 8.00pm, at St Andrew's Church, Worswick Street, Newcastle

Spring Term dates: Monday 10 January 2022 - Monday 21 March 2022.

Also see our Face book page ([Holy Ground - Young Adults Prayer](#)).



Do you identify as LGBT+ or are you questioning your sexual or gender identity? Would you like to attend a support group run by and for LGBT+ Catholics in the North East? We meet on the **third Tuesday** of the month at 7.30pm at **St Andrew's RC Church, Worswick Street.**

<https://www.proud Catholics.co.uk/>.

Is God calling you to be a Priest?

The Diocesan Vocations Team have organised an overnight retreat for men aged 18+ to discern whether God is calling them to the Priesthood.

Date: Friday 25th February 2022 5.00pm to Saturday 26th February (after lunch)

Place: Minsteracres Retreat Centre, Minsteracres, Consett, DH8 9RT

Cost: £50 (including meals and accommodation)
Spaces are limited.

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

vocationspromoter@diocesehn.org.uk

01670 812 200

Bookings to be made by Thursday 10th February.

VACANCIES

Diocesan Health and Safety Vacancy: to co-ordinate and manage all aspects of health and safety across the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle. This will include, but is not limited to, ensuring that all Diocesan personnel are kept safe and that Diocesan properties and projects, and the associated activities are safe and without risk as far as is reasonably practicable. Full-time, permanent. Closing date for applications is 27th January.

Diocesan Department of Education Vacancy: Senior Administrator in the Department for Education in Newcastle. Closing date for applications is Monday 31st January.

For further information and details of how to apply please visit the website: www.diocesehn.org.uk or, contact HR on 0191 243 3301

Pope's Intention for the Month of January *For true human fraternity*

We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.