

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



**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, NE8 1LX

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Parish website: - [www.stjosephscatholicchurchgateshead.org.uk](http://www.stjosephscatholicchurchgateshead.org.uk)

Hall Bookings contact: - [gateshead.stjoseph@rcdhn.org.uk](mailto:gateshead.stjoseph@rcdhn.org.uk)

*4th Sunday in Ordinary Time (OF) Fourth Sunday after Epiphany (EF) 29<sup>th</sup> January 2023*

MASS TIMES, INTENTIONS AND SERVICE TIMES

Day	Date	Saint Wilfrid's	Time	Saint Joseph's	Time
Saturday	Jan 28 <sup>th</sup>	Priest's Intention	5.00pm		
Sunday	Jan 29 <sup>th</sup>			People of the Parish Maria (Molly) Scott	10.00am 12.00 noon (EF)
Monday	Jan 30 <sup>th</sup>	Special Intention	10.00am		
Tuesday St John Bosco	Jan 31 <sup>st</sup>			Violetta Galarusa	12.05am
Wed	Feb 1 <sup>st</sup>			Barbara Gailand	12.05pm
Thursday Presentation of the Lord	Feb 2 <sup>nd</sup>			Anne Southern	12.05pm
Friday St Blasé St Ansgar	Feb 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Priest's Intention	10.00am	Annastecia Ukah	12.05pm
Saturday	Feb 4 <sup>th</sup>	Special Intention	5.00pm	Joan Murray	11.00am (EF)
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> in ordinary Time	Feb 5 <sup>th</sup>			Len Pygall People of the Parish African Community Mass	10.00am 12.00 noon (EF) 2.00pm

"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 on February 19<sup>th</sup> at the 10.00am Mass in St Joseph's Church

Thank You

**Second Collection THIS WEEKEND for LEPRO**

a charity which aims to educate everyone about the awful disease of leprosy which is diagnosed in 600 people per day with over 50 of these being children.

The charity improves the lives of those affected by this curable illness and helps to discover treatments for other tropical diseases.

Please give generously to this appeal and help to treat and rehabilitate all those affected by leprosy.

Thank You

**St Joseph's**

**RED MISSIONARY BOXES**

Would anybody like to take on the co-ordination of this?

**Leaflets, Prayer cards, literature**

Please DO NOT place anything at the back of church without first speaking to Canon Michael and gaining his permission.

If you have books you wish to donate to the libraries please bring them into the office where Canon Michael will decide whether or not they are suitable and Shauna can mark them as belonging to the church.

**Christmas Raffle**

Unclaimed prizes **must** be collected from the office by Wednesday

The winning tickets are:

**405/393/404**

**Piety Stall**

Will be opened every 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the Month. There are some cards for sale, 10p each, at the back of church, please put money in the box

**Tuesday Club**

Straight after 12.05 Mass in the hall.

**Children's Library**

Parents please feel free to allow your children to look at the books during Mass, either in the porch or take them to your pew – but please return books to the shelves after use.

Please help your child to put books back carefully and to leave the library tidy and ready for the next child to use. You may borrow up to three books to take home for a fortnight, please sign the list in the file near the adult library.

If you have any books you would like to donate to the library please bring them to the office.

Thank You

**Income 22nd January 2023**

£632 of which £146 was Gift Aided and £120 was a donation for church repairs

Thank You

**Baptism Preparation**

If you have a child you would like to be baptised at either St Joseph's or St Wilfrid's please come along to the first preparation class Thursday **February 9<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm.**

**First Holy Communion Class**

Wednesday at 4,30pm

**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 26<sup>th</sup> February at 5.00pm.**

**Becoming a Catholic**

If you or someone you know would like to be received into the Catholic Church please speak to Canon Michael

**St Wilfrid's**

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

**Christmas Raffle Prizes.**

528/ 981/ 2057/ 2105/ 2769.

**Heating Fund**

Thank you to all who contributed to the heating fund

**Income 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2023**

Loose Plate £145 Gift Aided- £45.50 Donation - £20 Heating Collection - £14

Thank You

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?

***“He began to teach them, saying: ‘Blessed are the poor in spirit ...’”***

Today’s Gospel passage is the first twelve verses of the fifth chapter of Matthew: the start of the Sermon on the Mount. In our own day, preachers often start a sermon with a story or a joke. Jesus decided to begin His Sermon on the Mount with the Beatitudes.

However, before he starts giving us Jesus’ sermon, St. Matthew the Evangelist mentions a few interesting details about Jesus. He tells us that when ***“Jesus saw the crowds, He went up the mountain, and after He had sat down, His disciples came to Him.”*** Consider just two points here: that Jesus went up the mountain, and that He sat down there.

Why did Jesus have to go up a mountain in order to preach a sermon? Obviously, He didn’t have to. Jesus preached many other sermons during the three years of His public ministry, and most of them were preached in other settings. But in St. Matthew’s account of the Gospel, the Sermon on the Mount is Jesus’ first sermon, so Jesus is teaching us here not only by His words, but also by the setting that He chose, and by choosing to sit down.

Why did Jesus choose a mountain to be the site of His first sermon? St. Matthew clarifies this throughout the course of his Gospel account. Through the way he structures his Gospel account, St. Matthew portrays Jesus as a New Moses. Both the mountain setting and act of sitting to reach His disciples reflect this. One reason for portraying Jesus as the New Moses is that unlike many other New Testament books, Matthew’s Gospel account was written for converts from Judaism.

Moses was, for the Jewish people, the Prophet without peer. In the last chapter of the last book of the Jewish Law, following the description of Moses’ death, it says ***“there has not arisen a prophet since in Israel like Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face, none like him for all the signs and the wonders which the Lord sent him to do in the land of Egypt, ... and for all the mighty power and all the great and terrible deeds which Moses wrought in the sight of all Israel”*** [Deut 34:10-12].

Yet even more important than all the signs and wonders and all the great and terrible deeds which Moses worked was the fact that the Lord chose him to bear the Ten Commandments to His People. During the course of their Exodus from slavery in Egypt to freedom in the Promised Land, God’s People stopped at Mount Sinai. There, while the rest of God’s People remained below, Moses alone ascended Sinai to receive from God His Ten Commandments. Moses then had to descend the mountain to give to God’s People this Law, the means by which His People might keep right with God.

But here in St. Matthew’s account of the Gospel, it’s not only Jesus who ascends the mountain. Jesus draws His disciples up with Him. In turn, it’s not a voice from the heavens that speaks there to a prophet. Instead, the New Moses, God in the Flesh, speaks to His people face to face. Jesus gives to us, His people, not Ten Commandments, but nine beatitudes.

There is a wealth of spiritual riches within the beatitudes. But keep in mind that Jesus put the Beatitudes at the start of the Sermon on the Mount because a good teacher puts the most important lesson first. Likewise, then, we ought to consider the first of the nine beatitudes as being first for a reason.

Maybe as you ponder all nine of the Beatitudes, another of them—not the first—will strike you. Meditate on that beatitude during the week. But meditate nonetheless on the first beatitude: first to fall from Our Lord’s lips because He wants it first to shape our hearts.

The Lord has given us everything we need for the journey to Heaven. He’s given us life, grace to strengthen us for the journey, and the journey’s roadmap in these nine beatitudes. The first, upon which all the others rest, is humility: poverty of spirit. The Lord has even helped us to acquire humility. We do so by gazing upon the humility He shows in His compassion, His Divine Mercy, and His self-sacrifice on the Cross.

**Fr. Thomas Hoisington**

**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 per person.

**Candlemas Day Thursday 2nd February** is the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, Candlemas Day, the day that Mary and Joseph took Jesus to the Temple to be presented to the Lord and it celebrates also the purification of Our Blessed Lady, 40 days after the birth of Jesus. Candlemas Day is one of the oldest feasts, celebrated since the 4th century in Jerusalem. Mass on Thursday will begin with the Blessing of Candles. Come along to Mass and share this Feast with everyone else present and then at home, light a candle that day to remember the light of the world, Jesus and the difference he made to the lives of Simeon and Anna.

**Feast of St Blaise** the patron Saint of throats, there will be a blessing of throats at the Mass on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> February at the 12.05 Mass.

**Lost Property**

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

**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

Please take this Newsletter home with you, so that you know what's happening in your parish this week

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

[News - Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle \(diocesehn.org.uk\)](http://www.diocesehn.org.uk)

**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.

**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** are planned for: 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](mailto:vocationspromoter@diocesehn.org.uk)  
Telephone: - 01670 812 200.

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

**Vocations Weekend for Women**

The Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ), are holding a weekend on "Discerning God's Call in your life" from 3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> February in London, giving the opportunity to explore the vocation to religious life and to reflect on God's call to you. If you are wondering if God is calling you to religious life and would like to find out more why not come along? You are welcome to stay for the weekend or just come along on Saturday for the day. There will be opportunity for prayer, reflection and input, chance to ask questions and to meet others who are also wondering where God is calling them. For more information contact

Sr Lynne: - [fcjvocationeurope@gmail.com](mailto:fcjvocationeurope@gmail.com) or visit our website [www.fcjsisters.org](http://www.fcjsisters.org)