

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
St Joseph's Presbytery, High West Street, Gateshead, NE8 1LX
Tel 0191 4771631 | Email gateshead.stjoseph@rcdhn.org.uk | michaelbrown6@btconnect.com
Parish website: - www.stjosephscatholicchurchgateshead.org.uk
Hall Bookings contact Mr. Alan Telford Tel:-07989734644

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C (OF) Fourth Sunday after Epiphany (EF)
30th January 2022

Responding to God's Call with Love

Fr. Njoku Canice Chukwuemeka

On this fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time, the church reminds us that we are privileged to be called by God to be his prophets. Through our baptism as Christians, God called each one of us to take His word and proclaim it to the world. However, we cannot succeed in this call without love for God, his Word, and his people

The focus of today's first reading is principally on a call to action and to proclaim the good news to all nations. This call is both an imperative and a privilege God gave us. This mission is very important to God. Hence, He warns us: Do not be afraid or in their presence, I will make you dismayed. On the other hand, He promises to provide the strength and protection we require to accomplish our call, "I for my part today will make you into a fortified city, a pillar of iron, and a wall of bronze to confront all these lands.

These show that the call to this prophetic ministry is not solely our business. Instead, it is a collaborative ministry between God and us. We make ourselves available while God provides strength and protection. He is the owner of the message and the mission. He will also provide all that it takes to succeed in his mission.

One important point to note in this reading is that God did not call us by accident. Instead, He reflected on it very well before calling us. He knew each one of us personally and still knows us now very well. Also, he knows what he wants us to do for him. Hence, He calls us by our personal names and reminds us: "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; before you came to birth I consecrated you; I have appointed you as the prophet of the nations. This means that we are not strangers to God and His call. He knows us personally.

In the second reading, Paul reminds us that the driving force for this prophetic mission must be the following cardinal virtues: Love, Faith, and Hope. Faith in God sustains us in our prophetic ministry despite the obstacles we encounter. Also, hope for a bright future motivates us to remain focused and believe that our efforts will not be vain. A prophet or Christian who has these cardinal virtues will succeed in his ministry.

Saint Augustine of Hippo once said: "Love and do whatever you want to do." This simply means that love is the greatest and most important of these virtues. If love is not at the base of our mission, all our efforts might be in vain. A prophet who lacks love for God, the good news, and for the people he called to prophesy is a clashing cymbal. Love must motivate us to follow God's initiative to be his prophets for the salvation of all nations and people.

In today's gospel, Christ demonstrated great love for his people. Therefore, "He won the approval of all, and they were astonished by the gracious words that came from his lips. Without these gracious words motivated by love for the salvation of the people, all his efforts would have been in vain. Life is not always easy for a true prophet. He faced persecutions rejections and was eventually crucified. Despite all these, Christ did not relent. Instead, he continued to cherish God's call. Like Christ, we must remain faithful to God who called us.

So, we are privileged to be called by God to be his prophets. We must do this both through the words of our mouths and through our actions. So, it is essential to know that a prophet or missionary without commitment to the good news is simply a tourist. Therefore, with the psalmist, let us proclaim: "My lips will tell of your justice, and I will proclaim your wonders."

MASS TIMES, INTENTIONS AND SERVICE TIMES

Day	Date	Saint Wilfrid's	Time	Saint Joseph's	Time
Saturday	29 th Jan	Priest's Intention	5.00pm		
Sunday	30 th Jan			People of the Parish Maria Scott African Mass	10.00am 12.00 2.00pm
Monday	Feb 1 st	Intentions of Paula and the Homeless	10.00am		
Tuesday	Feb 2 nd			Billy and Anne Sheridan	12.05pm
Wednesday	Feb 3 rd			NO Exposition of Blessed Sacrament NO MASS	11.00am 12.05pm
Thursday	Feb 4 th			NO MASS	7.45am
Friday	Feb 5 th	NO MASS	10.00am	NO MASS	12.05pm
Saturday	Feb 6 th	Abigail McVeigh	5.00pm	NO MASS	11.00am
Sunday	Feb 7 th			People of the Parish Fr Kevin Daly Vespers and Benediction	10.00am Midday (EF) 3.00pm

"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 Catechesis 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 sessions for children not attending Catholic schools will begin on February 9th at 3.30pm. Families who have registered have been contacted, if there is anyone else who would like to attend these sessions please contact Canon Michael before 6th February. Thank You

Do you feel God is calling you 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.

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

Some of the activities we used to have:-

- Altar Servers Social
- Book Club
- Community Choir
- CMUK
- Good Shepherd
- Young Catholic's Lunch

Hopefully all of these groups will resume and if you have any ideas for a group you would like to see taking place please email the above address and share your thoughts and we will see what can be done!

Please take a newsletter home with you in order that you can refer to it during the week to remind yourself of anything taking place in our Parishes and the diocese.

OR

Alternatively please sign up for the newsletter to be emailed out to you each week, just contact the office gateshead.stjoseph@rcdhn.org.uk giving your email address and details and let us know you would like to be included on the list.

Weekly Income for 23rd January 2022

St Joseph's

Loose Plate Collection: £305

Gift Aid Envelopes: £82.50 Votive Candles: £32.91

Rental income: Room: £24 Car-park - £30

Donation: £20

St Wilfrid's

Loose Plate: £142.50 Gift Aid: £37 Candles: £

Donation: £



Book Club: the next date for discussing the book: "The Jesuit Guide to (almost) everything", will be held in the John Ingram room at St Joseph's Presbytery on **Wednesday 16th February at 7.00pm**. ALL are welcome to this informal, fun, lively discussion group.



Although the mandatory use of Face coverings and other covid restrictions have been lifted both by the government and the Bishop's of England and Wales, we have to remember that COVID still remains a threat to the vulnerable and unvaccinated and that many people remain very cautious and nervous about being in enclosed public spaces, we therefore ask that everyone thinks carefully about those around them and takes precautions to encourage and support those who are still finding the return to a normal life difficult.

Thank you

[Guidance for Communal Worship during the COVID-19 Pandemic - Catholic Bishops' Conference \(cbcew.org.uk\)](#)

If you know of anybody who is ill or housebound and would like a visit from Canon Michael for confession or to receive Holy Communion please notify the office.

Find Out About Courses and Events on the Diocesan Website:

[What's On - Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle](http://diocesehn.org.uk)
(diocesehn.org.uk)

Keep Up to Date with Diocesan News:-
[News - Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle](http://diocesehn.org.uk)
(diocesehn.org.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.

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](http://diocesehn.org.uk)
(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 \(lms.org.uk\)](http://lms.org.uk)

The deadline is 2nd March 2022: Ash Wednesday 2022



Support for Families

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

VACANCIES

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.