

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, NE8 1LX
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Parishes of the John Ingram Partnership

29th March 2026 – Year A – Palm Sunday

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

Saturday	28 th March	5.00pm	Fred, Ellen and Michael Barker
Sunday	29 th March		
Monday	30 th March	10.00am	John Devitt
Tuesday	31 st March		
Wednesday	1 st April		
Thursday	2 nd April		
Friday	3 rd April	10.00am	NO MASS
Saturday	4 th April	5.00pm	NO MASS
EASTER Sunday	5th April	10.00am	Kathleen Derrick

Confessions: After Mass on Saturday

Sanctuary Candle:

St Joseph's Mass Times and Other Services

DAY	DATE	TIME	INTENTION
Sunday	29 th March	10.00am 12.00pm (EF)	Priest's intention People of the Parish Sunday
Monday	30 th March		
Tuesday	31 st March	12.05pm	Joe Murphy and members of Murphy family
Wednesday	1 st April	12.05pm	Special Intention (RP)
MAUNDY Thursday	2nd April	7.00pm (EF)	Bart & Irene Fryer
GOOD FRIDAY	3rd April	11.00am 3.00pm	Stations of The Cross Friday Commemoration of the Lord's Passion
EASTER VIGIL	4th April	7.00pm	People of the Parish
EASTER Sunday	5 th April	10.00am 12.00 (EF)	Priest's Intention Winifrid Rainbow

(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: Violet Calligham

'Triduum office'

On Friday and Saturday morning at 10am the Office of Readings and Morning Prayer will be said in St Joseph's church.

All welcome and all that is needed will be provided, please join in.

African Community Mass 2.00pm last Sunday of every Month
followed by social gathering in the hall – all are welcome.

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

February Income & Outgoings

Income: £4769.96
Outgoings: £6968.00

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

February Income & Outgoing

Income: £1631.10.
Outgoings: £623.58

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.

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

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

Book Club will meet on **Tuesday 31st March** at 7pm at St Joseph's to discuss the film The Stations of the Cross. All welcome.

BAPTISM

The baptism preparation meeting will take place for parents and Godparents in the presbytery on Wednesday April 1st at 6.30pm. Anyone wishing their child to be Baptised in the next few months **MUST** attend this session. If you have not yet completed the application form please do so before Wednesday.

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 Preparation Classes

Preparation classes begin on Saturday 11th April at 9.15am for those who have submitted application forms.

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.

Young Persons' Social Group (formally Youth Club)

We will meet very soon

Free Refreshments & Social

Tea/Coffee/soft drink & biscuits served with a smile.
TODAY after the 12.00pm Mass and on the following dates: 26th April, and 10th 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

NO refreshments TODAY after 10.00am Mass.

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

Please park in marked parking bays only, if the car park is full please find an alternative parking area.

PASTORAL STRATEGY Meetings

Thank you to those few people who came along to the meetings, with approximately **10** present at **St Wilfrid's** we will be able to send in some feedback to the diocese reflecting the passion held for this parish community and making a good case to keep the church open.

However, with only **3** in attendance at the meeting for St Joseph's there was not a fair representation of the parish dynamic and therefore anything submitted to the diocese will not be a true reflection of the state, hopes, strengths and weaknesses of St Joseph's, unless of course, there are none of those values, in which case the question must be asked – **what is the future for the Church and Parish of St Joseph's?**

Please complete the questionnaire attached to this newsletter and return it as soon as possible – the future of your church may very well depend upon your answers – do not just leave it up to someone else!

Saint Benedict the African's Story

Benedict held important posts in the Franciscan Order and gracefully adjusted to other work when his terms of office were up.

His parents were slaves brought from Africa to Messina, Sicily. Freed at 18, Benedict did farm work for a wage and soon saved enough to buy a pair of oxen. He was very proud of those animals. In time, he joined a group of hermits around Palermo and was eventually recognized as their leader. Because these hermits followed the Rule of Saint Francis, Pope Pius IV ordered them to join the First Order.

Saint Benedict the African was eventually novice master and then guardian of the friars in Palermo—positions rarely held in those days by a brother. In fact, Benedict was forced to accept his election as guardian. And when his term ended, he happily returned to his work in the friary kitchen.

Benedict corrected the friars with humility and charity. Once he corrected a novice and assigned him a penance only to learn that the novice was not the guilty party. Benedict immediately knelt down before the novice and asked his pardon.

In later life, Benedict was not possessive of the few things he used. He never referred to them as “mine,” but always called them “ours.” His gifts for prayer and the guidance of souls earned him throughout Sicily a reputation for holiness. Following the example of Saint Francis, Benedict kept seven 40-day fasts throughout the year; he also slept only a few hours each night.

After Saint Benedict the African's death, King Philip III of Spain paid for a special tomb for this holy friar. Canonized in 1807, he is honoured as a patron saint by African Americans.

Feast Day 4th April

franciscanmedia.org

DATES for YOUR DIARIES

Tuesday 31st March – Book Club – 7.00pm – John Ingram Room, St Joseph's Presbytery

Saturday 11th April - First Holy Communion Preparation Classes begin – 9.15am – St Joseph's

Saturday 28th November – Almost a Christmas Ceilidh is back

VOLUNTEERS

We need volunteers to help clean the church on a regular basis, if you are interested and can give some time each week please ask for a volunteer registration form.

Health and Safety regulations mean cleaning volunteers must not work alone.

If you would like to volunteer to serve refreshments after the midday Mass please speak to Canon Michael and collect a volunteer form.

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
- Access it via the website;
www.stjosephscatholicchurchgateshead.org.uk

Or scan the QR code on the poster at the back of church.

Mass Intentions

Recently there has been a falling off in the number of Mass intentions. However, we have a good number of intentions for Saturday night and Sunday Masses. Please remember a priest can only take one Mass offering per day and Saturday night counts as a Sunday Mass. Apologies if you have put in an intention for a Saturday night or Sunday morning and, as no specific date was asked for, you have been waiting a long time. All Masses will eventually be said

PARISH LIBRARY

PLEASE LEAVE BOOKS you are DONATING to the LIBRARY in the OFFICE, NOT on the SHELVES. THANK YOU.

St Joseph's

Our Catholic Primary Schools

St Wilfrid's

A Catholic school is not sustained by buildings or budgets, but by the faith of a community willing to pass the Gospel on to the next generation. If we want our children to grow in faith, we must be willing to stand behind the places where that faith is taught, the future of a Catholic school depends not on how many Catholics live nearby, but on how many are willing to care.

We can build a stronger bond with our parish primary schools through prayer and active participation. PLEASE come along to the School Masses which are held periodically throughout the year.

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.