

ST JOSEPH'S NEWS
Saturday 3rd February 2024
5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

PRAYERS OF THE MASS

You will find these prayers, especially the Nicene Creed, on **pages 4-10 of our Hymn Books**

ORDINARY TIME

We celebrate Ordinary Time until Ash Wednesday on 14th February.

The readings for Mass are as follows: **Sundays Year B** and **Weekdays Year 2**

Sunday morning Celebration in St Joseph's Birtley

Every Sunday, there will be a Service of The Word, Prayer and Music, including Children's Liturgy, at **10am in St Joseph's Church**. Our celebrations will continue over tea and coffee in the Parish Centre.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE IN OUR PARISH WHO HAVE RECENTLY DIED:

- **Billy Wilson** – died on 5th January aged 86 years.
- **Mary Ann Grieveson** – died 13th January aged 90 years.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE IN OUR PARISH WHO ARE SICK:

- Maureen Joyce (nee Casey)
- Jean Greenwood
- Bob Fish

Please let us know if anyone else who is sick wishes to ask for prayers from our parish community.

SPECIAL COLLECTION - SVP

Today we collect for the invaluable work of our parish-based SVP group. Your continuing generosity enable them to help those in our own community who are in desperate need.

NORTHERN CROSS NEWSPAPER –the February edition is now on sale @ £1.50.

LOURDES YOUTH GROUP invites you to Afternoon Tea in the **Parish Centre on Sunday 17th March from 2.00 till 4.00**. Tickets are £5 and available from Christine Johnson, Bernadette Bartlett and Margaret Taylor. Any donations for the tombola and raffle would be greatly appreciated.

CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE & FAMILY LIFE - Bishop Stephen will be celebrating Mass in **St Mary's Cathedral on Saturday 17th February @ 12.00** to give thanks for the sacrament of Marriage & Family Life. Everyone is welcome. If you need transport, contact Deacon Peter.

SEASON OF LENT

The Season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday (14th February) and next weekend there will be full details of all celebrations and resources both in St Joseph's Parish and St Benedict's Partnership.

PRAYER FOR THE EARTH

There will be a Vigil outside Parliament from **14th to 23rd February** which is supported by **CAFOD**. They are asking us to offer the prayer from Pope Francis entitled Prayer for the Earth for five minutes on each of these dates. Prayer cards are available at the back of church.

MASS INTENSIONS - If you have a Mass Intention, please contact Deacon Peter (07305-059297)

WHEELCHAIRS - if anyone has a wheelchair which is no longer needed, please contact Deacon Peter.

PASTORAL COUNCIL - meets in the presbytery @ 7.00pm on the 2nd Sunday of each month to discuss the pastoral needs of our parish and we need someone to prepare the minutes of our meeting. If you're willing to help, please contact Deacon Peter