

St Joseph's News
13th July 2024
15th Sunday of Ordinary Time (Cycle B)

PRAYERS OF THE MASS

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

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 WHO HAVE RECENTLY DIED:

- **Edwin Thomas** (son of Mary Thomas) – died on 9th July.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE IN OUR PARISH WHO ARE SICK:

Maureen Joyce (nee Casey), Jean Greenwood, Bob Fish, Valerie Waggott and Elaine Hannon
NB. Please let us know if anyone else wishes to ask for prayers from our parish.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

- **13th July: Apostleship of the Sea (Stella Maris)**

Sea Sunday is an opportunity for us to remember and say prayers for all the brave men and women who work at sea to make sure we have all that we need. Our donations help to provide essential support and services for seafarers who often work in dangerous and lonely conditions.

- **27th July: SVP (St Joseph's Parish)**

SVP 200 CLUB - The results of the July draw are displayed at the back of the church. We again have a winner from our parish – congratulations to Teresa Brooks.

NORTHERN CROSS – the July edition is on sale at the back of the church @ £1.50

MANY THANKS to our wonderful young people who have been printing our Weekend Newsletters and have now completed this task as part of their John Paul II award. However, we need more volunteers to carry forward this work. Please contact Deacon Peter (07305-509297)

FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS

Congratulations to all of our Year 4 children who have celebrated the sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist and then their '*Going Forth*' Masses in recent weeks.

Many thanks to the wonderful partnership of Home - School - Parish who have all worked together to prepare our children – especially their families, Year 4 teachers, parish catechists and prayer partners. It has truly been an amazing year!

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Our parishioners who have travelled today to Holy Island on our CAFOD pilgrimage.

All those going on pilgrimage to Lourdes in the next few weeks.

All of our school-children who will be celebrating their School Leavers masses next week:

- **Thursday 18th @ 9.15** in St Benet's school.
- **Friday 19th @ 10.00** in St Joseph's church

BREAST CANCER - you're invited to an Afternoon Tea in the Methodist Church (Station Lane, Birtley) on **Wednesday 7th August @ 2.00pm** to raise money to support people affected by Breast Cancer. The £1 entry includes your raffle ticket.

GREAT NORTH RUN - CAFOD would love to invite you to take on this challenge.

The Great North Run happens on **Sunday, September 8th** in Newcastle and is the biggest Half Marathon in the world! If you'd like a place to run for CAFOD, please follow this link here: [Great North Run](#) or email events@cafod.org.uk.

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD - Congratulations to Ann Marshall from St Joseph's, Birtley, who received a "Lifetime Achievement Award" for "*outstanding services to the community*", in Gateshead Council's Awards Ceremony at the Marriott Hotel (Metrocentre) on Wednesday 26th June. The Award was mainly for Ann's continuous commitment for 52 years as a Founder Member of St Joseph's Young Mothers Guild. Additionally, over the years, Ann has been greatly involved with organising the Annual Church Fayre, Raffles, Celebratory Picnics in the Church Grounds, was a prominent member of the Guiding organisation in the past and is presently a volunteer for Macmillan Cancer Support, where she helps individuals faced with Cancer, offering them an understanding listening service. Well done Ann!

HYMN BOOKS – some of our hymn books are missing! Perhaps, you've mistakenly taken one home? Please return them, as soon as possible.

FOOTSTEPS OF ST PAUL- Fr Jim O'Keefe has compiled a short booklet on his pilgrimage – a trip enabled by the generous donation of parishioners and friends. You can view this on the St John XXIII website www.washingtoncatholic.org.uk/Publisher/File.aspx...

CHURCH PARKING – please be considerate when parking beside the flats in St Joseph's Court. You can park in the public car-park and on the road in front of the flats – but please avoid parking on the access road into the private car-park to the rear of the flats.

NEW LECTIONARY- A new edition of the Lectionary, the book which contains the readings which are proclaimed at Mass, will come into use in England and Wales on the First Sunday of Advent 2024. Visit the CBCEW website to find out more.

ADORATION and BENEDICTION

As part of our partnership worshiping schedule, Adoration and Benediction which began last Thursday from 6.30 till 7.30 will continue until November. This is a wonderful opportunity to spend a few minutes or an hour in silent prayer with our Lord.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS - Our parish is already blessed with many long-serving Eucharistic Ministers. We now need to appeal for other parishioners to volunteer and share this wonderful ministry – assisting during Mass and/or visiting the Sick & Housebound. We anticipate a training day in the Autumn and we hope, amongst others, to enrol parishioners who are younger and/or newly-arrived into our parish – please contact Fr Martin or Deacon Peter for more information.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

The priests of St John XXIII & St Joseph's will be available directly after the following masses:

- Thursday @ 10.00 – Our Lady Queen of Peace (Penshaw DH4 7JZ)
- **Thursday @ 12.00 – St Joseph's (Birtley)**
- Friday @ 10.00 – St John Boste (Oxclose Village NE38 0LB)
- Saturday @ 10.00 – Our Blessed Lady Immaculate (Washington Village NE38 7HS)
- Saturday @ 5.00 – St Bede's (Coach Road Estate NE37 2HE)

PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVE (PSR)

Our parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (CSSA) and Diocese's policies and procedures at all times. Our PSR is Pauline Lavery and her contact details & photograph are displayed in the church porch, or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding Team can be contacted on 0191 2433305 or at safeguarding@diocesehn.org.uk