

St Joseph's News

6th July 2024 - 14th 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:

- Jimmy Wardle – died on 24th June

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE IN OUR PARISH WHO ARE SICK:

Maureen Joyce (nee Casey), Jean Greenwood, Bob Fish, Valerie Waggett,
John Comerford, Edwin Thomas and Elaine Hannon

NB. Please let us know if anyone else wishes to ask for prayers from our parish.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

- **13th July: 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.

CONGRATULATIONS

Yesterday (Friday 4th July) Fr Martin celebrated the 10th Anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. Many thanks to him for his faithful ministry to our parish community!

ADORATION and BENEDICTION

As part of our partnership worshiping schedule, Adoration and Benediction began on **Thursday (4th July) from 6.30pm to 7.30pm** at St Joseph's, Birtley and then every following Thursday at the same time until November. This is a wonderful opportunity to spend a few minutes or an hour in silent prayer with our Lord. Father Martin

WHAT IS THE LORD CALLING US TO BE and DO?

Engaging with the Synodal Vision for the Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle

Modelling Spiritual Conversation Workshop

- **Date:** Wednesday 10 July from 6.30 till 7.45 - Please arrive early for refreshments!
- **Location:** Our Blessed Lady Immaculate, Village Lane, Washington, NE38 7HS
- **Booking link:** <https://bit.ly/MSCWorkshop-Washington1>
- **Cost:** Free! Contact Deacon Peter if you need transport.

BENEDICT PARTNERSHIP

Our Partnership of Parishes is under the patronage of St. Benedict. To mark St. Benedict's Feast Day, and ask the Lord's blessing on our two communities there will be a Mass in St. Bede's (Washington) on **Thursday July 11th at 7pm**. Refreshments in the hall afterwards. All are welcome.

PILGRIMAGE TO HOLY ISLAND - CAFOD, in Partnership with the Archbishop Romero Trust, invite you to join the pilgrimage on **Saturday 13th July**. There will be no charge for the buses – children will travel free but a donation of £10 per adult would be appreciated. A coach has been booked for our Parish and will be leaving from St Joseph's at **8.30 prompt**.

A reminder that if you are walking across the sands as part of the Pilgrim's walk then please ensure you bring additional clothing with you. For those not walking there will be a service held in St Aidan's Catholic Church at **12.00 noon**. Mass will be celebrated in St Mary's church at **3.00 pm** by Bishop Stephen and Fr Jim O'Keefe.

The coach will be departing from Holy Island at 17.30. There are still a few places available on the coach. If you would like to go, please contact Deacon Peter on **07305-059297**

YOUTH 2000 is holding an afternoon of prayer & praise, reflection and social on **Sunday 7th July from 2.00pm to 4pm** at St Cuthbert's R C church Durham. Open to Young people aged 16-35 (under 16s will need to request a Parent Consent form from frnickjennings@uwclub.net) Further enquiries email irishanthony12@gmail.com Don't forget to book for the Youth2000 Summer festival in Ampleforth Abbey on August 23-26 <https://www.youth2000.org/events/summerfestival2024>

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!

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.

BISHOP'S HOUSE ADDRESS – from Monday 17th June, the new address for Bishop Steven, Bishop's PA and the Diocesan Chancellor will be: **Bishop's house, St Aidan's, Coach Lane, Benton NE12 8AD** There is no change to the telephone number and email address.

With assurance of prayers + Stephen

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