

# ST JOSEPH'S NEWS

12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> October 2024 : 28<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time (Cycle B)

## DEACON PETER LAVERY (RIP)

Please note a time change of when Deacon Peter's body will be received into St. Joseph's Church on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October: this is now 6.00pm (formerly announced at 6.15pm). His Requiem Mass will be held at St Joseph's on Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> October, at 10.30am celebrated by Bishop Stephen. You will find further details on Page 3 of the main Parish Newsletter.

## CHURCH HYMN BOOKS

We seem to have lost a good number of Hymn Books at Church and indeed ran out of them at a recent funeral. If anyone has borrowed a copy or accidentally taken one home, would you please return them as soon as possible. Thanks! Incidentally, you will find Prayers of the Mass, especially the Nicene Creed, on pages 4-10 of our Hymn Books.

## SUNDAY MORNING CELEBRATION IN ST JOSEPH'S, BIRTLEY

Every Sunday, there is a Service of The Word, Prayer and Music, including Children's Liturgy, at 10.00 am at St Joseph's Church. Our celebrations will continue over tea and coffee in the Parish Centre.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE RECENTLY DIED, MAY THEY REST IN PEACE:

- **Deacon Peter Lavery**, died Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> September – see funeral arrangements above
- **Margaret Gaffney**, died 24<sup>th</sup> Sept, 94 years, Requiem St Wilfred's Gateshead, 15<sup>th</sup> Oct at 2pm Fr MW Celebrant

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE IN OUR PARISH WHO ARE SICK:

John Comerford; Dorothy Hattam; Maureen Joyce (nee Casey); Jean Greenwood; Bob Fish and Valerie Waggott  
NB: Please let Fr Martin W know of anyone within the parish who is sick or housebound and would like to see a priest.

**HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE SICK & HOUSEBOUND:** We would like to update our Holy Communion lists. If you know of any parishioners who are unable to get to mass and would like holy communion brought to them at home, please give their name, address and Tel. No. to Fr Martin Wheaton or contact Anne Welsh (07801 481021). Thank you.

## SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> October - **Mission Sunday (APF)** – Envelopes available this week for collection next week  
26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> October - **Clergy Training Fund**

## NORTHERN CROSS

The October edition of the Northern Cross is now on sale at the back of the Church, price £1.50. Please place money in wall safe at the side of the Entrance door – beside the choir loft stairs.

## HOLY COMMUNION FROM THE CHALICE

Due to the present rise in COVID infections and other viruses in the area, with effect from Saturday, 5<sup>th</sup> October 2024, Holy Communion will be distributed to the congregation in one form only, i.e. the Host, without the precious blood.

**POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER FOR WORLD PEACE:** In his recent letter to the whole world, the Holy Father is encouraging us to pray the Rosary throughout the month of October for the gift of peace in our world. Rosary is prayed at St Joseph's every Tuesday at 6.40 pm, prior to the evening Mass.

**ADORATION & BENEDICTION:** As part of our Partnership-wide worshipping schedule, an hour of Adoration & Benediction will continue in St Joseph's on Thursday evenings from 6.30pm-7.30pm indefinitely, as the response has been quite positive. This is a wonderful opportunity to spend a few minutes or an hour in silent prayer with our Blessed Lord. If any older person wants to come but is concerned about the dark nights or cold, if they make it to church, Fr Martin has offered to take them home in his car.

## DIOCESAN CENSUS OF PARISH VOLUNTEERS:

The Diocese is currently carrying out a "volunteer census" in our parish. This is to ensure we identify all our volunteers, to offer support and appropriate training and recognition for the important part all play in the life of our parish. A volunteer is anyone who gives their time freely and regularly to assist anywhere within the Parish, School or Diocese. During weekends 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> October the census will be explained in more detail after the weekend Masses. **If you volunteer within the Parish/School/Diocese, please complete one of the forms which will be available at the back of church or complete your details via the QR code on Page 3 of the main Newsletter.**

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2025

If your child, or someone that you know, is in Year 4 or above and has not made their First Holy Communion but would like to, our preparation programme begins soon. If you would like more information, please email Bev Wildish [beverley.wildish@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:beverley.wildish@yahoo.co.uk) or Monica Kelsey [monicakelsey82@outlook.com](mailto:monicakelsey82@outlook.com). We will also once again be asking the parish to support the programme by signing up to be prayer partners. If you know anyone who would like to do this, please ask them and watch out for the sign-up sheets arriving at the back of church.

## JOURNEY OF FAITH – RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

For those who have already registered, this year's programme is as follows, **all held in the Meeting Room at Our Blessed Lady Immaculate, Washington Village, NE38 7HS on a Tuesday evening at 7.00pm**. Please contact Fr Martin Wheaton if you require any further information: Mobile 07709 961040 E.mail [martinwheaton1@gmail.com](mailto:martinwheaton1@gmail.com)

15 <sup>th</sup> October	"Sacrament of Baptism"	(193-202) – Fr Luke Wilkinson
22 <sup>nd</sup> October	"Sacrament of Confirmation"	(203-207) – Sophie Taylor
29 <sup>th</sup> October	"Sacrament of the Eucharist"	(208-213) – Fr Martin Morris
5 <sup>th</sup> November	"How the Mass is Structured"	(214-223) – Fr Martin Morris
12 <sup>th</sup> November	"Sacrament of Penance"	(224-239) – Fr Martin Wheaton
19 <sup>th</sup> November	"Sacrament of Holy Orders"	(249-259) – Fr Luke Wilkinson
26 <sup>th</sup> November	"Sacrament of Marriage"	(261-271) – Sophie Taylor

## VINNIES (SVP BLACKFRIARS)

Vinnies, St. Vincents Newcastle, are looking for our support with their Christmas appeals (know it's only September sorry!) There are several ways that you could help :-

- For £6.50 you could sponsor a Vinnies 4 course Christmas dinner and a gift.
- Donate Christmas hamper items – there is a list of suggestions on the poster.
- Give a gift or toy for children of all ages, teens, a young adult, lady or gent.
- Complete the Reverse Advent Calendar, set up a box at home or work and add an item every day.

Donation boxes are at the back of church and there is more information on the posters on display. Many thanks!

**MASS INTENTIONS:** St Joseph's Mass Intention envelopes are now available at the back of church and in the Sacristy and we would encourage everyone to use them, if at all possible. Your offering can be placed in the envelope, sealed and then either handed in at Church or posted through the Presbytery letter box. If you would like a special date, we will try to accommodate this on a first come basis. Anyone may request a Mass Intention for: a deceased loved one (Catholic or non-Catholic); a living person who is sick or suffering; a living person who is celebrating a birthday, anniversary or other special moment in their life; in thanksgiving to God (including the Lord Jesus or the Holy Spirit); in thanksgiving for a prayer from a Blessed or a Saint; or for a prayer intention. A special intention appropriate to the celebration of the Eucharist e.g.: World Peace, Vocations, Respect for Life, Souls in Purgatory, etc. These intentions should be general and not specific to an individual. Mass intentions are published weekly in the bulletin and on a poster at the back of church.

**SPECIAL COLLECTION NEXT WEEK – WORLD MISSION SUNDAY:** We live in a privileged part of the world. Throughout the year we are reminded that we are not meant to be a 'cosy' local Catholic Community but have to look to support our fellow Christians throughout the world who witness to their faith in very difficult circumstances. Some people reckon that 1 in 10 Christians are persecuted throughout the world. This Collection helps us to help others to continue witnessing to the Lord in very poor parts of the world.

## ST JOSEPH'S NEWS

In the short-term Catherine Tumelty will produce the St Joseph's News with the deadline for entry midday the previous Wednesday. Please send by email to [cath.tumelty@btinternet.com](mailto:cath.tumelty@btinternet.com) (it is easier to cut and paste!) or m. 07512 101206. Fr Martin Wheaton will approve a draft copy before printing. Please note that "Sick & Recently Deceased" notices must have the approval of a family member and should be submitted by clicking the link on the main Parish Newsletter.

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

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

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