

ST JOSEPH'S NEWS
5th & 6th October 2024
27th Sunday of Ordinary Time (Cycle B)

DEACON PETER LAVERY, RIP

Deacon Peter's body will be received into St. Joseph's Church on Tue 15th October at 6:15pm, and a Requiem Mass will be held at St Joseph's on Wednesday, 16th October, at 10.30am celebrated by Bishop Stephen.

As the initial shock of Deacon Peter's death begins to subside, we now move into a time of prayer and reflection. We pray for him and his family and we reflect on all the good he achieved in his ministry, for the parish of St Joseph and our partnership as a whole. It is difficult to recall one instance when Peter said "No" to any request - far from it, he always went further than requested. His work with those couples preparing for marriage covered the whole diocese and will have lasting effects. Peter touched so many lives for the better, well beyond our partnership boundary. He will be sorely missed but we have great confidence that his work will be eternally rewarded. May he rest in Peace.

Fathers Morris, Wheaton & Wilkinson

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 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, 27th September – **see precise funeral arrangements above**
- **Margaret Gaffney**, died 24th Sept, 94 years, Requiem St Wilfred's Gateshead, 15th Oct at 2pm Fr MW Celebrant
- **Rita Kennedy**, died 17th Sept in QE with her family at her side, aged 85 years (She was widow of Tom)
- **Sarah Jane Armstrong Beveridge (Sadie)**, died 14th Sept, aged 93, Requiem Mass 11th Oct 11.45am
- **William (Billy) Gaff**, died 11th Sept, aged 71 years, Requiem Mass Thursday 3rd October at 11.00am
- **Francis (Frankie) James Knox**, died 1st Sept, aged 74 years, Requiem Mass 17th Sept 10.00am

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

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

05 & 06 October - CAFOD Harvest Fast Day: envelopes were given out last weekend but also available today

HOLY COMMUNION FROM THE CHALICE

Due to the present rise in COVID infections and other viruses in the area, with effect from Saturday, 5th 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

Pope Francis has asked the faithful to make **Monday, 7th October (Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary) a day of prayer and fasting for peace in the world.** In his recent letter to the whole world, the Holy Father is also 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 until November. This is a wonderful opportunity to spend a few minutes or an hour in silent prayer with our Blessed Lord.

DIOCESAN VOLUNTEER CENSUS

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 12th/13th and 19th/20th 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 or Monica Kelsey 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

1 st October	"Welcome, Introduction and Prayer"	- Fr Martin Morris
8 th October	"The Church"	- Fr Martin Wheaton
15 th October	"Sacrament of Baptism"	(193-202) - Fr Luke Wilkinson
22 nd October	"Sacrament of Confirmation"	(203-207) - Sophie Taylor
29 th October	"Sacrament of the Eucharist"	(208-213) - Fr Martin Morris
5 th November	"How the Mass is Structured"	(214-223) - Fr Martin Morris
12 th November	"Sacrament of Penance"	(224-239) - Fr Martin Wheaton
19 th November	"Sacrament of Holy Orders"	(249-259) - Fr Luke Wilkinson
26 th 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. Thank you for all your support.

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 (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)