

**ST JOSEPH'S NEWS**  
**1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2025 - The Presentation of the Lord (Cycle C)**  
**Jubilee Year 2025 – Pilgrims of Hope**

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY:**

We are starting s Children's Liturgy at our main Vigil Mass at 5.00pm on a Saturday, commencing with immediate effect.

**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 10.00am at St Joseph's Church. Our celebrations will continue with tea and coffee in the Parish Centre.

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

- **Dorothy Hattam**, died 23<sup>rd</sup> December, aged 81 years, Requiem Mass Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> January at 10.45am
- **Christine Anne Bradley**, died 23<sup>rd</sup> December, aged 80 years, Requiem Mass Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> January at 1.30pm

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

Maureen Joyce (nee Casey), 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:**

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).

**SPECIAL COLLECTIONS**

**1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> February – SVP (St Joseph's)**  
**8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> February – Lourdes Youth Sponsorship**

**JUBILEE YEAR 2025 – PILGRIMS OF HOPE – POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER:**

A special prayer has been composed for this Jubilee Year and will be recited after the Vigil Mass each Saturday evening at St Joseph's. Prayer cards are available at the back of church so you can say it regularly at home too during the week.

**NOVENA TO THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS:**

To mark the Holy Year of Jubilee, you are invited to follow a Novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus each First Friday of every month commencing this Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> February, and ending Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2025. This will be recited after our First Friday morning Mass (including any School Masses which may fall on a first Friday of a month). The Novena is printed below so that if anyone is unable to attend Mass that day, they could say the Novena at home. In addition to this devotion, parishioners may wish to attend Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament the previous evening, held each Thursday from 6.30-7.30pm in the Front Room of the Presbytery (main door will be open, first room on the left).

**1.** O my Jesus, you have said: 'Truly I say to you, ask and you will receive, seek and you will find, knock and it will be opened to you.' Behold I knock, I seek and ask for the grace of..... *(here name your request)*

Our Father... . Hail Mary... . Glory Be to the Father... .

**Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in you.**

**2.** O my Jesus, you have said: 'Truly I say to you, if you ask anything of the Father in my name, he will give it to you.' Behold, in your name, I ask the Father for the grace of..... *(here name your request)*

Our Father... Hail Mary... . Glory Be To the Father... .

**Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in you.**

**3.** O my Jesus, you have said: 'Truly I say to you, heaven and earth will pass away but my words will not pass away.' Encouraged by your infallible words I now ask for the grace of... . *(here name your request)*

Our Father... . Hail Mary... . Glory Be to the Father...

**Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in you.**

**O Sacred Heart of Jesus**, for whom it is impossible not to have compassion on the afflicted, have pity on us miserable sinners and grant us the grace which we ask of you, through the Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary, your tender Mother and ours.

**Conclude by saying the "Hail, Holy Queen" and add: "St. Joseph, Foster Father of Jesus, pray for us".**

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PRAYER PARTNERS:**

There is a list of prayer partners on the notice board at the back of church. Thank you to those who have agreed to do this. All that is asked is that you pray for your partner and in return they will pray for you. Thank you for your continued support for the children who are preparing to receive their First Holy Communion.

**PIETY STALL:**

Please note that there is a new stock of cards and rosary beads available – why not take a look?

**ST JOSEPH'S LOURDES YOUTH GROUP:**

St. Joseph's Lourdes Youth Group are holding their annual Afternoon Tea, Raffle and Tombola on Sunday, 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2pm–4pm in the Parish Centre. Tickets will be on sale after Mass £5. Donations of prizes for the raffle and tombola would be greatly appreciated and can be given to Bernadette Bartlett, Christine Johnson or Margaret Taylor. Many thanks for your support!

**ROSARY:**

Prayed for world peace at St Joseph's every Tuesday at 6.40 pm, prior to the evening Mass.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:**

At St Joseph's, Birtley, directly after Thursday's 12.00 noon Mass. Please see main Newsletter for details at other St John XXIII parishes.

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:**

Thursday evenings from 6.30pm-7.30pm, held in the Front Room of the Presbytery (main door will be open, first room on the left).

**NORTHERN CROSS:**

January edition now on sale at the back of Church, price £1.50. Please place money in the wall-safe at the side of the entrance door, beside the choir loft stairs.

**SVP 200 CLUB:**

The results of the SVP 200 Club draw for January are now at the back of Church. There were no winners from the Parish or Partnership.

**OFFERTORY PROCESSION ROTA:**

A new rota will be drawn up soon for the Saturday Vigil Mass Offertory Procession. If you, along with a family member or friend, would like to join this group, please contact Catherine Tumelty either by email [cath.tumelty@btinternet.com](mailto:cath.tumelty@btinternet.com) or mobile 07512 101206. This will help you feel part of our parish community and works out just once every three months.

**MASS INTENTIONS:**

If you wish to arrange a special Mass Intention at St Joseph's, "Mass Intention Envelopes" are available at the back of church and in the Sacristy.

**ST JOSEPH'S NEWS:**

The deadline for entry is 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.