

**ST JOSEPH'S NEWS**  
**15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> March 2025 – Second Sunday of Lent (Cycle C)**  
**Jubilee Year 2025 – Pilgrims of Hope**

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY:**

Children's Liturgy will now be celebrated at our main Vigil Mass at 5.00pm each Saturday.

**SUNDAY MORNING CELEBRATION:**

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.

**PARISH MISSION WEEK SCHEDULE**

**Sr Briega & Fr Pablo to speak at the following weekend Masses to introduce the Mission Week:**

Sat 15<sup>th</sup> 5pm - St Bede's;    Sun 16<sup>th</sup> 9.30am - St John Boste;    Sun 16<sup>th</sup> 11am - Our Blessed Lady Immaculate

**Mon 17<sup>th</sup> Reconciliation**

10.00am    Our Lady Queen of Peace - Mass & Mission Talk

7.00pm    St Bede's - Mission Talk and Service of Reconciliation

**Tue 18<sup>th</sup> Prayer and the Power of the Holy Spirit**

10.00am    Our Blessed Lady Immaculate – Mass & Mission Talk

7.00pm    St Bede's – Mass & Mission Talk

**Wed 19<sup>th</sup> The Eucharist - The Source and Summit of our Faith**

**10.00am    St Joseph's – Mass & Mission Talk**

7.00pm    St John Boste – Mass, Mission Talk & Eucharistic Healing

See Fr Martin Morris's message about the Mission on Page 3 of the main Parish Newsletter  
Lenten Parish Mission Services will be live-streamed for those unable to attend in person

**LENTEN PENITENTIAL SERVICE:**

Our Partnership Lenten Penitential Service takes place at St Bede's on Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> March at 7.00 pm as part of our Mission (see above). Sr Briega McKenna will speak about "The forgiveness and Healing of Sins". There will be several Priests available to hear confessions. All welcome to what will be a beautiful celebration of the Lord's Mercy.

**FEAST OF ST JOSEPH:**

Usually, our school children would celebrate St Joseph's Feast Day with a School Mass in Church. Due to the Mission Mass and Talk at St Joseph's that day, there will be a special School Mass on Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> March at 2.00 pm when each child will be given a St Joseph prayer card during Mass. All welcome.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS:**

Will be held during Lent at 6pm each Thursday evening, followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, as usual, from 6.30pm - 7.30pm.

**SPECIAL COLLECTIONS**

**15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> March - CAFOD Family Fast Day Envelopes/Collection**

Lenten Alms will remain open throughout Lent - please place donations in wall safe near main door

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

Maureen Joyce; Bob Fish; Valerie Waggott; Lin McDonnell; Peggy Finnigan; Nancy Loughlin; Margaret Whitley;  
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).

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

A big 'thank you' to everyone who supported the Lourdes Youth Group at the Afternoon Tea last Sunday. An amazing total of £905 was raised.

**RED MISSION BOXES:**

John Stewart will be at Church at Mass on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> March for parishioners to bring their mission monies.

**SAFEGUARDING - THE ONLINE UPDATE SERVICE – EMAILS FROM DBS:**

The Update Service is a free online subscription service that allows you to keep your enhanced DBS certificates up to date. It enables the Diocese, with your consent, to complete your three yearly DBS check. Your Update Service subscription requires an annual renewal. When this is due, you will receive an email from DBS which will help you to do this. If you do not renew your subscription it will lapse and subsequently, when your DBS is due for checking, a full application will need to be completed, including identity verification. If you need any further information regarding this, please speak to Pauline Lavery, your Parish Safeguarding Representative.

**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.

**NORTHERN CROSS:**

March edition now on sale at the back of the Church, where you will find details of the Visitation of the Relics of Blessed Carlo Acutis to this area from 26-30 March, prior to Carlo's canonisation in April. You can also see photos of the beautiful wooden altar, reredos and panelling, formerly located in the Bishop's private chapel at Bishop's House, Denton Hall, now installed in St Aidan's Church, Holy Island. Please place money in the wall safe at the side of the entrance door – beside the choir loft stairs.

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION:** If anyone is interested in becoming an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, please speak with Fr Martin Wheaton. The diocese is running another course in March of this year. The dates and times at St Patrick's, Langley Moor, are given below.

**Venue: St Patrick, Goatbeck Terrace, Langley Moor, Durham DH7 8JJ**

- Session 1: Wednesday 19 March 2025 (Evening session) 7.00pm – 9.00pm
- Session 2: Wednesday 26 March 2025 (Evening session) 7.00pm – 9.00pm
- Session 3: Saturday 29 March 2025 (Day session) 10.30am – 3.15pm

**SVP 200 CLUB:** The results of the March 2025 draw are now at the back of church. Congratulations to Ann Marshall who was successful in the draw.

**PARISH REPRESENTATIVE ON THE PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT GROUP (PDG):**

We are looking for a representative from St Joseph's Parish to join the Partnership Development Group. The PDG meets about five times each year at one of the churches in the Benedict Partnership to discuss, plan and organise activities and events that are appropriate to Partnership level rather than Parish level. For more information please contact Mick Davison on [mdavison.1953@gmail.com](mailto:mdavison.1953@gmail.com) or mobile 07774 768578.

**PIETY STALL:** Please note that there is a new stock of cards and rosary beads available – why not take a look? Money can be placed in the clearly marked wall-safe near the main church door.

**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 6.30-7.30pm in Church, immediately after Stations of the Cross during Lent. A wonderful opportunity to spend a few minutes or an hour in silent prayer.

**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. These notices can be submitted by clicking the link on the main Parish Newsletter.