

ST JOSEPH'S NEWS

7th & 8th June 2025 – Pentecost Sunday (Cycle C)

Jubilee Year 2025 – Pilgrims of Hope

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: Children's Liturgy is now 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 10am at St Joseph's Church. Our celebrations will continue with tea and coffee in the Parish Centre.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

7th & 8th June - Lay Training Fund (Open to 6th July - see more information on the main Newsletter)
14th & 15th June - Day for Life (see more information on the main Newsletter)

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

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: Each Thursday evening 6.30pm – 7.30pm.

ST BENET'S FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS: Please pray for our First Holy Communion children from St Benet's who will receive their First Holy Communion this morning, Saturday, 7th June, at 10.00am at St Joseph's Church. Everyone welcome. "Thank you" to all those who have been praying for our children as they have been preparing this year.

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

- Peggy Finnigan, aged 95, died 12th May, Requiem Mass at St Joseph's on Tuesday, 27th May at 1.30pm
- Keith John Slater, aged 73, died 7th May, Funeral Service Birtley Crematorium Wednesday, 28th May at 11am

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE IN OUR PARISH WHO ARE SICK:

Maureen Joyce; Bob Fish; Lin McDonnell; Nancy Loughlin; Molly Peter;

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 Telephone No. to Fr Martin Wheaton or contact Anne Welsh (07801 481021).

BIRTLEY CHURCHES TOGETHER – ECUMENICAN PENTECOST SERVICE:

Birtley Methodist Church, 6pm on Sunday, 8th June. Everyone welcome.

ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH PASTORAL COUNCIL:

The next CPC Meeting will be held at 7pm this Sunday, 8th June, in the Presbytery. If you would like the Council to discuss a particular subject relating to St Joseph's, please speak with a Council Member prior to the Meeting – names can be found on the notice board at the back of Church.

MAINTENANCE GROUP:

We are hoping to set up a Maintenance Group for St Joseph's Parish. The members of this group will be asked to support Father Martin in identifying maintenance tasks that need doing in the church and presbytery and arranging for the works to be done as necessary. If you have any experience in building and property maintenance and are willing to help, please give your name and contact details to Father Martin.

SVP MASS FOR THE SICK & HOUSEBOUND:

St Joseph's Annual Mass for the Sick and Housebound will be celebrated at 2.00pm on Saturday 21st June, 2025. Individual letters for Eucharistic Ministers giving further details are available at the back of the Church. Any parishioners who are not being visited by a Eucharistic Minister and who would like to come, would also be very welcome and should either contact Peter Monaghan on 0191 4108103 or speak with any member of the SVP.

CORPUS CHRISTI – EUCHARISTIC PROCESSION & ADORATION AT USHAW:

On Sunday 22nd June, Ushaw will be hosting a Eucharistic Procession with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, led by Bishop Stephen Wright, and starting at 3pm in St. Cuthbert's Chapel. Please see more details on the main Newsletter. If you intend going, please indicate on the sheet at the back of Church as this will help Ushaw manage car parking requirements. For those without transport, you will see from the main Newsletter that the Parish is providing coach travel to this event, the cost is £10 per head. Please sign the list at the back of church.

NORTHERN CROSS:

June edition of the Northern Cross now on sale at the back of Church. Please place money in the wall safe at the side of the entrance door – beside the choir loft stairs.

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES:

If you haven't already collected your Offertory Envelopes, new boxes are available at the back of church. For those who have a Gift Aid agreement in place, your envelopes (1-50) will have your name on the box, otherwise please take a set of envelopes from the other box (51 and above). If you do not have a Gift Aid agreement but are a UK taxpayer, please consider signing a Gift Aid form as this will enable the parish to claim back from the Government 25p for every £1 you give to the parish. For further information about the Gift Aid scheme, please contact Mick Davison (mdavison.1953@gmail.com or mobile 07774-768578)

LIVE-STREAMED SERVICES:

Unfortunately, we are still encountering problems with live-streamed services from St Joseph's. Apologies for any inconvenience caused.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

The Partnership Development Group will soon be providing details of plans for the "Year of Jubilee" but in the meantime, here are a few dates for your diary:-

- Friday, 11th July, Feast of St Benedict, St Mary's Cathedral, 11.15am, Prayers, Process through Holy Door, Mass.
- Sunday, 20th July, Walking Pilgrimage to Durham Cathedral (non-walkers to meet there)
- Saturday, 6th September, Walking Pilgrimage (2 legs) with refreshments 4pm Birtley, prior to 5pm Mass (option)
 1. St Bede's, Sacriston, walking via St Cuthbert's to St Joseph's
 2. OLQP Peshaw, walking via OBLI, St Bede's & St John Boste, to St Joseph's
- Saturday, 13th September, Holy Island, CAFOD/Romero Pilgrimage (2 coaches from Partnership)

JUBILEE YEAR 2025 – PILGRIMS OF HOPE:

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.

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.

MASS INTENTIONS:

If you wish to arrange a Mass Intention at St Joseph's, special envelopes are available at the back of Church and in the Sacristy. We already have bookings many months in advance so, if you want to pick a particular day, please give as much notice as possible to save disappointment.

ST JOSEPH'S NEWS:

The deadline for entry is midday the previous Wednesday. Please send by email to cath.tumelty@btinternet.com (it is easier to cut and paste!) or phone 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.