

ST JOSEPH'S NEWS

28th February – 7th March 2026 – 2nd Sunday of Lent (Cycle A)

Fr Martin Wheaton 07709 961040

MASSES AT ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH, BIRTLEY				
DAY	DATE	FEAST	TIME	INTENTION
Saturday	28 th February	Vigil: 2nd Sunday in Lent	5.00 pm	Pat McAdam R.I.P
Tuesday	3 rd March		7.00 pm	Deceased members of the Hattam Family
Thursday	5 th March		12 noon	Elaine Hannon R.I.P
Friday	6 th March		9:30 am	@ <i>St Benet's</i> Priests Intention
Saturday	7 th March	Vigil: 3rd Sunday in Lent	5.00 pm	Pat & Bill Stobbart R.I.P

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: Children's Liturgy is celebrated at our main Vigil Mass at 5.00pm each Saturday.

SPECIAL RETIRING COLLECTIONS
28th February – CAFOD Lenten Fast Collection
7th March – No Special Collection

Throughout Lent, Lenten Alms can be placed in the wall safe near the entrance door

STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT: Stations of the Cross will be held on a Thursday at 11:30am before the 12 noon Mass. Various groups in the parish will be asked to lead the stations each week

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

A Penitential Service will take place at **St John Boste on Wednesday the March 25th at 7pm, All are welcome**

Confessions: As well as the Penitential Service at St John Boste, confessions are available during Lent at St Joseph's after each Mass during the week and during Adoration each Thursday and on request to Fr Martin

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: Held in the front room of the presbytery during winter months each Thursday evening 6.30pm–7.30pm. You are welcome to sit with the Lord in silence for a few minutes or the entire hour.

ROSARY: Prayed for world peace at St Joseph's every Tuesday at 6.40 pm, prior to the evening Mass. If you would like to help lead the Tuesday night Rosary at St Joseph's, please come along any Tuesday evening and join in with our small group to help share this vital prayer vocation

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE IN OUR PARISH WHO ARE SICK:

Joe Tyrrell, Bob Fish; Pat Lamb; Mick Davison; Ursula Duru; Claire Avery; Beverley Homes
Please let Fr Martin know of any sick or housebound within the parish who would like to see a priest.

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

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).

St Joseph's Church Pastoral Council:

The next CPC Meeting will be held at 7pm Sunday, 8th March, 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.

We are delighted to have recently welcomed four new CPC Members: Gary Bartlett (Health & Safety); Pauline Lavery (Safeguarding); Shirley Ennis; and Michael Jacques, and their photos will be added soon. Notes taken at the last meeting are displayed on the Church Noticeboard - to be agreed at the next meeting.

LOURDES YOUTH SPONSORSHIP:

The Group have arranged a **Race Night on this Saturday, 28th February. 7pm-11pm** *Tickets on sale after mass and Afternoon Tea from 2-4pm on Sunday, 22nd March* (Gifts for the Raffle would be appreciated) both in the Parish Centre. Please support them if you can.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER – FRIDAY, 6TH MARCH

"Birtley Churches Together" invites you to join them at Birtley Community Church, Edward Road, Birtley, **on Friday, 6th March at 2.00pm** for this year's World Day of Prayer service prepared by the Christian Women of Nigeria. The same service will be celebrated in over 146 countries and islands throughout the world, with some 6,000 services taking place in the UK. Refreshments afterwards – everyone welcome.

A COFFEE MORNING WILL CONTINUE IN THE PARISH CENTRE EACH SUNDAY MORNING, AT 10.30 AM, WHICH WILL NOT ONLY BRING PARISHIONERS TOGETHER, BUT WILL HELP RAISE FUNDS FOR VARIOUS CHARITIES. HOPEFULLY, ONCE THE OLD PARISH HALL IS RENOVATED, THIS COFFEE MORNING CAN BE REINSTITATED.

NORTHERN CROSS:

The March edition now on sale at the back of the Church. There are always extra copies left over each month so please support the publication by buying a copy, or why not write an article and send it by email to the editor, Emma Little, at editor@northerncross.org.uk, but please seek approval before submitting photos of someone else, especially children. It is always nice to see some photos from St Joseph's in the publication. Please place money in the wall safe at the side of the entrance door – beside the choir loft stairs.

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.

Streaming of Masses: We need volunteers to stream our masses at St Joseph's. The streaming will be via Youtube and training will be given. This is primarily for our housebound parishioners. Please speak to Fr Martin if you are able to help.

ARTICLES FOR ST JOSEPH'S NEWS – NEW ARRANGEMENTS:

In future, if you wish to include an item in St Joseph's News, please send it direct to Pauline Lavery laverypauline9@gmail.com (it is easier to cut and paste!) or phone 0191-4102530 or text 07906906559. The deadline for entry is midday the previous Wednesday. 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.