

Parishes of St John XXIII & St Joseph, Birtley



Incorporating: **Our Blessed Lady Immaculate**, Washington;
Our Lady Queen of Peace, Penshaw; **St Bede**, Usworth;
St John Boste, Oxclose; **St Joseph**, Birtley
 Fr Martin Morris, Parish Priest, Tel: 01916498257
 Administrator: Audrey Huntley tel: 0191 4163583
 (Tuesday & Wednesday 8am—1pm, Thursday 11am—4pm & Friday 12– 5pm)
 Email: sj23office01@gmail.com



In the Partnership of Benedict

Birtley, Chester-le-Street, Penshaw, Sacriston, Washington

THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, 13TH - 14TH JULY 2024, Year B

Saturday 13th July	St Joseph	5pm	Fr Tony Duffy RIP
Vigil	St Bede	5pm	Margaret Hodgson (CH) (Recently Deceased)
Sunday 14th July	St John Boste	9:30am	People of the Parish
15th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Our Lady Queen of Peace	10am	Linda Harrigan RIP
	Our Blessed Lady Immaculate	11am	John Barker RIP

First Reading: The Unwilling Messenger

Amos 7:12-15

Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, said to Amos, "Go away, seer; get back to the land of Judah; earn your bread there, do your prophesying there. We want no more prophesying in Bethel; this is the royal sanctuary, the national temple." "I was no prophet, neither did I belong to any of the brotherhoods of prophets," Amos replied to Amaziah. "I was a shepherd, and looked after sycamores: but it was the Lord who took me from herding the flock, and the Lord who said, 'Go, prophesy to my people Israel.'"

Response to the Psalm: Let us see, O Lord, your mercy, and give us your saving help.

Second Reading: The Cosmic Plan of God

Ephesians 1:3-14

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with all the spiritual blessings of heaven in Christ. Before the world was made, he chose us, chose us in Christ, to be holy and spotless, and to live through love in his presence, determining that we should become his adopted sons, through Jesus Christ for his own kind purposes, to make us praise the glory of his grace, his free gift to us in the Beloved in whom, through his blood, we gain our freedom, the forgiveness of our sins. Such is the richness of the grace which he has showered on us in all wisdom and insight. He has let us know the mystery of his purpose, the hidden plan he so kindly made in Christ from the beginning to act upon when the times had run their course to the end: that he would bring everything together under Christ, as head, everything in the heavens and everything on earth. And it is in him that we were claimed as God's own, chosen from the beginning, under the predetermined plan of the one who guides all things as he decides by his own will; chosen to be, for his greater glory, the people who would put their hopes in Christ before he came. Now you too, in him, have heard the message of the truth and the good news of your salvation, and have believed it: and you too have been stamped with the seal of the Holy Spirit of the Promise, the pledge of our inheritance which brings freedom for those whom God has taken for his own, to make his glory praised.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia! Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life; you have the message of eternal life. Alleluia!

The Gospel: Mark 6:7-13: Instructions for Missionaries

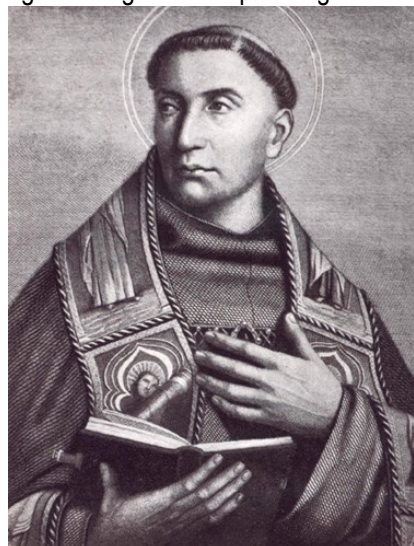
Jesus summoned the Twelve and began to send them out in pairs giving them authority over the unclean spirits. And he instructed them to take nothing for the journey except a staff - no bread, no haversack, no coppers for their purses. They were to wear sandals but, he added, "Do not take a spare tunic." And he said to them, "If you enter a house anywhere, stay there until you leave the district. And if any place does not welcome you and people refuse to listen to you, as you walk away shake off the dust from under your feet as a sign to them." So they set off to preach repentance; and they cast out many devils, and anointed many sick people with oil and cured them.

Fr Martin Morris	0191 649 8257	Deacon Frank O'Neill	0779 115 5845
Fr Martin Wheaton	0770 996 1040	Deacon Peter Lavery	0730 505 9297
Fr Luke Wilkinson	0191 649 8257	Deacon Tony Joy	0779 989 3419

Mass Times & Intentions - Week Beginning Monday 15th July 2024

Day	Church	Time	
Monday 15th July St Bonaventure	St Bede	10am	Norah Morris RIP
	Our Lady Queen of Peace	7pm	Margaret Hodgson & Deceased Stephenson Family
Tuesday 16th July Our Lady of Mount Carmel	Our Blessed Lady Immaculate	10am	Jim Irving & Clark Family RIP
	St John Boste	11.30am	Requiem Mass for Lesley Thompson
	Our Blessed Lady Immaculate	5pm	Reception - Alan Callaghan
	St Joseph	7pm	C J Joseph RIP
Wednesday 17th July	St Bede	10am	Fr Tony Battle RIP
	Our Blessed Lady Immaculate	10am	Requiem Mass for Alan Callaghan
	St John Boste	7pm	Fr Ernie Donnelly RIP
Thursday 18th July	Our Lady Queen of Peace	10am	In Loving Memory of Teresa Curran
	St Joseph	12 Noon	Deceased members of the Coates & Duffy Families
Friday 19th July	St John Boste	10am	Lesley Thompson RIP
	St Joseph	10am	Deceased members of the McLaughlin Family
Saturday 20th July St Apollinaris	Our Blessed Lady Immaculate	10am	Margaret Hodgson RIP
	St Joseph	5pm	Brian & Susan Towns RIP
	St Bede	5pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 21st July 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time	St John Boste	9:30am	Rita & Jim Kirkwood RIP
	Our Lady Queen of Peace	10am	Joan Fairweather
	Our Blessed Lady Immaculate	11am	Nancy & Bernard Hodgson RIP

On the 15th July we celebrate the Feast of St. Bonaventure, the Seraphic Doctor, so called for he is said to have burned with love for God equal to that of the highest choir of Angels! One of the great minds of his time St. Bonaventure taught alongside St. Thomas Aquinas and is one of the shining lights of the Franciscan tradition. Unlike St. Thomas much of St. Bonaventure's work is difficult to find translated into English. In light of his upcoming feast here is a brief section of his great work 'the Journey of the Mind to God':



Christ is both the way and the door. Christ is the staircase and the vehicle, like the throne of mercy over the Ark of the Covenant, and the mystery hidden from the ages. A man should turn his full attention to this throne of mercy, and should gaze at him hanging on the cross, full of faith, hope and charity, devoted, full of wonder and joy, marked by gratitude, and open to praise and jubilation. Then such a man will make with Christ a pasch, that is, a passing-over. Through the branches of the cross he will pass over the Red Sea, leaving Egypt and entering the desert. There he will taste the hidden manna, and rest with Christ in the sepulchre, as if he were dead to things outside. He will experience, as much as is possible for one who is still living, what was promised to the thief who hung beside Christ: Today you will be with me in paradise.

Please keep the Franciscan Orders very much in your prayers as we approach this significant feast!

St Francis of Assisi, Pray for us.

St Bonaventure, Pray for us.

All Holy Angels and Saints of God, Pray for us.

Fr Luke

Masses are live-streamed daily at 10am everyday, except Monday when Mass is live-streamed at 7pm

Please click the link <https://www.churchservices.tv/penshaw> to view from one of our Churches.

In addition, we live-stream Mass from St Joseph's, Birtley on: Tuesday at 7pm; Thursday at 12 Noon; Saturday at 5pm.

To access live streaming from St Joseph's Birtley, please click the link <https://www.churchservices.tv/birtley>.

What's On in the Parish

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

Our Lady Queen of Peace each Friday 2-3pm;

St Bede's each Wednesday 9.15am - 9.50am;

St. Joseph's (until November) each Thursday evening 6.30pm - 7.30pm. I do encourage as many of you as possible to spend some time in quiet prayer with Jesus in Eucharistic Adoration in response to Bishop Stephen's appeal. Thank you, Fr. Martin Morris

Eucharistic Exposition at Our Lady Queen of Peace, this Sunday 14th July, 4 - 5pm followed by Rosary and Benediction.

Refreshments in the hall afterwards. All welcome.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is now available in all of our Churches:

Our Lady Queen of Peace - Thursday morning, after Mass and Saturday morning from 10am-11am.

St Joseph -Thursday after noon Mass.

St John Boste - Friday morning, after Mass.

Our Blessed Lady Immaculate - Saturday morning, after Mass.

St Bede's – Saturday after Vigil Mass.

OLOF - Please note, the club is on a Tuesday at 1pm in the Emmaus Room, at Our Lady's in the Village! All most welcome!

NEW SONG!

Join us for our next family-friendly New Song prayer event at Our Blessed Lady Immaculate Church Today, Sunday 14 July at 4pm. We'll give praise to our loving God, be inspired by praying and reflecting on God's Word and build friendship and community with others. We look forward to welcoming back Fr Mark Millward to talk to us about God's love. All are welcome - see you there!

Where: Our Blessed Lady Immaculate Church NE38 7HS.

When: 14 July and 11 August @ 4pm.

Email: newsongne@gmail.com **Instagram:** [@newsongne](https://www.instagram.com/newsongne)

Deacon Frank O'Neill

Special Collection – This Week - Apostleship of the Sea: It is amazing when we think of it that 80% of our 'white goods' come into this country by sea... and most of us don't have a clue that this happens. When we turn on the kettle in the morning, open the fridge, use the microwave, wash our clothes, dry them and iron them ... all these items arrive by sea. Our seafaring brothers have a really tough life – we need to support them as much as we can.

Today is Sea Sunday, let us pray for seafarers, fishers, and the work of Stella Maris. When seafarers and fishers arrive in a foreign port, they are strangers, often thousands of miles from home.

Stella Maris' chaplains and volunteer ship visitors welcome them, listen to their concerns, and help provide what they need. Stella Maris' chaplains and volunteer ship visitors answer Jesus' call to give hospitality to the stranger. Stella Maris is appealing to readers to support its ministry with fishers and seafarers by praying for them. Donations are requested through its [website](#). For more information, [please click here](#).

Congratulations to Francesca Maria Valente & Riccardo Michele Dunnigan who were married in Our Lady Queen of peace yesterday. We wish them every happiness and blessings in the years to come. Congratulations Also to John and Jane

Prendergast who celebrated sixty years of Marriage last Thursday 11th July. God Bless! Let us also pray for all couples preparing for Marriage in the coming Month's; Adam Michael Gilmartin & Alexandra Cox. & Gabriella Di Giorgio & Kevin Felix Ange Tita. May the Lord's Blessing be upon them all.

The Parish Safeguarding Representatives (PSR)

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency(CSSA) and Diocese's policies and procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative's names are displayed on church notice boards, or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding Team can be contacted on 0191 2433305 or

at safeguarding@diocesehn.org.uk

St Bede's Church - If you know someone who can no longer get to Holy Mass because they are sick or housebound, and would like to receive Holy Communion at home, please contact Marian Fletcher Tel: 01914174413. We also would like to encourage those from **all our churches** that are no longer able to attend mass to have a **Special Minister** call with **Holy Communion**, Please ask or get in touch with any of our Priests or Deacons.

Strawberry Tea - Come and join us for a strawberry tea in the garden and Dryburn Room of St John Boste church at 2pm on Saturday 20th of July. Tickets £3 including refreshments. There will be a craft stall and tombola. All money raised will go to Manzini Youth Care in Swaziland to provide clean water in rural areas.

The 40th St John Boste Walk will take place on Sunday 28th July. The bus will leave at 10.45 and return at approx. 6pm. The walk will start at Waterhouses and follow the route along the Deerness Valley taken by John Boste after his arrest. There will be the opportunity for a well-earned rest and a picnic lunch. Then on to Durham Cathedral for the rosary in the Galilee Chapel at 4.30pm and finally the walk to Dryburn (St Leonard's School) where St John Boste was executed in 1594. The walk is about 9 miles. If, for any reason, you are unable to join us for the walk, we would be delighted to see you for the rosary at 4.30. For a place on the mini-bus add your name to the list at the back of St John Boste Church or telephone 4168693 for further information.

Fr Jim has compiled a short booklet on his pilgrimage in the **"Footsteps of St Paul"** – a trip enabled by the generous donation of parishioners and friends. A small number of the booklets will be available in each church this weekend and it is also available on the parish website by [clicking here](#). Additional copies can be made available.

St Vincent de Paul Society - You are cordially invited to the 52nd Annual Blessed John Ingram walk, which takes place on Sunday 28 July 2024 led by Fr Luke Wilkinson. Meeting and starting from St Andrew's Anglican Church, the walk will end at St Edmund's Chapel, High Street, Gateshead for an ecumenical service followed by refreshments (non-walkers can meet there at 3.30pm). This event is organised by the St Vincent de Paul Society with the help of clergy and parishioners of both churches. For more information, please [click here](#).

World Day for Grandparents - *'Loneliness' at heart of Pope's theme for 4th Grandparents Day.* On Sunday 28 July, Catholics around the world will be invited to take time to reflect on the great heritage and wisdom passed on by their grandparents and the elderly. The Pope has chosen the theme, *"Do not cast me off in my old age"* (cf. Psalm 71: 9). According to a press release from the Dicastery, it is meant *"to call attention to the fact that, sadly, loneliness is the bitter lot in life of many elderly persons, so often the victims of the throw-away culture."*

Read more about this [here](#).

Congratulations to Ann Marshall from St Joseph's, Birtley, who received a "Lifetime Achievement Award" for "outstanding services to the community", in Gateshead Council's Awards Ceremony at the Marriott Hotel, Metrocentre, on Wednesday 26th June. The Award was mainly for Ann's continuous commitment for 52 years as a Founder Member of St Joseph's Young Mothers Guild. Additionally, over the years, Ann has been greatly involved with organising the Annual Church Fayre, Raffles, Celebratory Picnics in the Church Grounds, was a prominent member of the Guiding organisation in the past and is presently a volunteer for Macmillan Cancer Support, where she helps individuals faced with Cancer, offering them an understanding listening service. Well done Ann!

SVP 200 Club - The July draw for the July winner of the SVP 200 Club has now been made. We again have a winner from our partnership – congratulations to Teresa Brooks from St Joseph's, Birtley.

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Washington

From September, St Joseph's Catholic Primary School will be offering 30 hour nursery places for children who are three years old with either an eligible voucher code or paid 30 hour places. Further information and application forms can be obtained by contacting the school office. The school newsletter can be found [here](#).

Priestly Ordination– Please pray for Deacon Joe O'Brien who will be ordained to the Priesthood in St. Mary's Cathedral on Saturday 20th July.

Other News

"Then he summoned the Twelve and began to send them out in pairs giving them authority over the unclean spirits." The Lord called the twelve to minister within the communities he sent them to. Might God be calling you to discern serving Him as a priest? If you would like more information, Speak to your Parish Priest or contact the Vocations Promoter: 01207 299 012 or [click here](#)

Would you like to take part in the Great North Run for CAFOD? If so, we'd love to invite you to take on the challenge. The Great North Run happens on Sunday, September 8th in Newcastle and is the biggest Half Marathon in the world! If you'd like a place to run for CAFOD, please follow this link here: [Great North Run](#) or [click here](#).

Peace vigil for Palestine and Israel - Since January a small group from different faith backgrounds hold a vigil for peace every Saturday morning from 9.30am until 10.00am outside Hexham Abbey. Stand in silence for peace for Palestine and Israel in particular, but not exclusively. We stand outside the abbey. We are not shut away inside nor totally away from the abbey either. Working for justice and peace requires contemplation and action. You are very welcome to join us, even if it is just for 5 minutes.

New Dawn in the Church - We are delighted to announce that registration is open for the annual New Dawn Walsingham Catholic Pilgrimage. Come and join us at the Catholic National Shrine & Basilica of Our Lady of Walsingham from Monday 5 to Friday 9 August 2024. The full programme will be available shortly, but you will be joined by the Apostolic Nuncio for Great Britain, His Excellency Archbishop Miguel Maury Buendia, Michelle Moran and Fr Cliff Fumbelo among others. Wednesday afternoon will be dedicated to Blessed Carlo Acutis with a special visit to the pilgrimage of his Pericardium Relic. For more information, please [click here](#).

Love's Urgent Longings Led Gillian Coxhead - £190 Friday 19th July 2024 from 6:30pm to Sunday 21st at 2:00pm. St John of the Cross wrote; 'I looked at your Cross, O Christ, and there read the song of your love.' On this retreat we will have the opportunity to explore what it is to be 'fired by loves urgent longings', to go out into the 'Night', to sing Christ's song of love in the World. For more information, [please click here](#).

Deliver Us From Evil - A set of useful prayers and supplications, humble requests for the Lord's help, that can be used by Catholics in times of fear, distress and temptation. The Catholic Truth Society (CTS) has published a new booklet by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales offering a treasury of prayers drawn from Holy Scripture and Sacred Tradition that can be used by Catholics to protect themselves from the powers of darkness. Discover the new booklet [here](#).

Northumbrian Water – Local Action, Washington - Here's your chance to find out what we have been doing and what our plans are to regenerate your local environment and rivers. We will be making some big investments in your water and wastewater system in the years ahead. This is your chance to ask questions and find out more about what it will mean for your community and your local environment. There is also an opportunity to take a tour of the treatment works (tour must be booked). Pop in to talk with some of our experts at our Local Action community information event at **Northumbrian Water, Leat House, Pattinson Road Washington, NE388TE** between **3.00pm and 7.00pm**, on **Tuesday 23 July, 2024**.

Reflections

Diocesan Weekly reflections can be found by [clicking here](#).

Examen -Please follow the links to go to Pray as You Go

[Saturday Examen](#) [15th Sunday in Ordinary Time](#)

Catholic Social Teaching

For the Newsletter, [click here](#).

Prayers - If you would like to request prayers from the parish community for someone who is sick, or recently deceased, please click on the links below and complete the necessary forms. This will enable their names to be included in private prayer and during various Masses.

[For Prayers for the Sick](#)

[For Prayers for the Deceased](#)

or ring 0191 4163583

Finance - Standing Order forms and Gift Aid forms are available by clicking on the following links:

[For St John XXIII](#) [For St Joseph's](#)

or ring 0191 4163583.

Sick and Recently Deceased -

To view the sick and recently deceased list [please click here](#). To amend the information on the list [click here](#).

Parish Newsletter If you have any comments you wish to make about the Parish Newsletter, [please click here](#).

For the latest information, please go to any of the following Websites:

[Parish of St John XXIII](#)

[Parish of St Joseph's](#)

[Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle](#)

All the Links you will ever need!



Please [click here](#) or Scan the QR Code with your mobile phone to go to a site containing **All the Links You'll Ever Need.**

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