

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

12TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, 22ND - 23RD JUNE 2024, Year B

Saturday 22nd June Vigil	St Joseph	5pm	Mark Forsyth RIP
	St Bede	5pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 23rd June 12th Sunday	St John Boste	9:30am	Peter & Sid McElhenny RIP
	Our Lady Queen of Peace	10am	For the Living and Deceased members of the Guthrie Family and In Thanksgiving for the Golden Wedding Anniversary Mol & Matthew Thomas
	Our Blessed Lady Immaculate	11am	Harold & Catherine Leeder

First Reading: God Responds to Job's Agony

Job 38.1. 8-11

From the heart of the tempest the Lord gave Job his answer. He said: Who pent up the sea behind closed doors when it leapt tumultuous out of the womb, when I wrapped it in a robe of mist and made black clouds its swaddling bands; when I marked the bounds it was not to cross and made it fast with a bolted gate? Come thus far, I said, and no farther: here your proud waves shall break

Response to the Psalm: O give thanks to the Lord, for his love endures for ever.

Second Reading: The New Creation

2 Corinthians 5:14-17

The love of Christ overwhelms us when we reflect that if one man has died for all, then all men should be dead; and the reason he died for all was so that living men should live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised to life for them. From now onwards, therefore, we do not judge anyone by the standards of the flesh. Even if we did once know Christ in the flesh, that is not how we know him now. And for anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia! May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our mind, so that we can see what hope his call holds for us. Alleluia!

The Gospel: (Mark 4:35-41): Jesus Calms the Storm

With the coming of evening, Jesus said to his disciples, 'Let us cross over to the other side.' And leaving the crowd behind they took him, just as he was, in the boat; and there were other boats with him. Then it began to blow a gale and the waves were breaking into the boat so that it was almost swamped. But he was in the stern, his head on the cushion, asleep. They woke him and said to him, 'Master, do you not care? We are going down!' And he woke up and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, 'Quiet now! Be calm!' And the wind dropped, and all was calm again. Then he said to them, 'Why are you so frightened? How is it that you have no faith?' They were filled with awe and said to one another, 'Who can this be? Even the wind and the sea obey him.'

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 24th June 2024

Day	Church	Time	
Monday 24th June The Nativity of John the Baptist	St Bede	10am	People of Ukraine and Gaza
	Our Lady Queen of Peace	7pm	Christine Jeffrey RIP
Tuesday 25th June	Our Blessed Lady Immaculate	10am	Catherine Naughton RIP
	St Joseph	7pm	Special Intention (Susan)
Wednesday 26th June	St Bede	10am	Kieran & Gerard Cushlow (deceased 77th birthdays)
	St John Boste	7pm	Holy Souls.
Thursday 27th June St Cyril of Alexandria	Our Lady Queen of Peace	10am	Thanksgiving for the gift of Priesthood
	St Joseph	12 Noon	In Thanksgiving (DD)
Friday 28th June St Irenaeus	St John Boste	10am	Owen Edgar RIP
	St Joseph	10am	Special Intention (MK)
Saturday 29th June Vigil	Our Blessed Lady Immaculate	10am	Carl Poulter (Poorly)
	St Joseph	5pm	Michael Johnson RIP
	St Bede	5pm	Margaret Hodgson RIP
Sunday 30th June Ss Peter and Paul 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time	St John Boste	9:30am	Fr. Graham William's (RIP)
	Our Lady Queen of Peace	10am	People of the Parish
	Our Blessed Lady Immaculate	11am	35th Wedding Anniversary Marie and Chris OLeary and Bill Gaffney (RIP)

When I was a young child, I never used to like storms, especially the wind, particularly if my family and I were in the car travelling. Those who are familiar with the movie 'Up' might sympathise with me – I was terrified that the wind would lift us into the air, in a similar way to the balloons in the film. To this day, as a driver myself, travelling in storms is scary, and I often will avoid driving in such conditions.

In today's Gospel, the disciples are faced with a similar dilemma. Jesus has lead them out from the crowd and into a boat, where they cannot control the events which will occur. Jesus leads the disciples from a place of comfort and familiarity, to a place of discomfort and chaos, even danger. The wind picks up, and the boat starts sinking. All the while, Jesus is asleep on the boat, and is, in the disciple's eyes, totally un-phased by the events going on around them. Yet, here we see something beautiful take place, and Jesus allows his power as the Son of God to present itself. Jesus calms the storm with four words, and questions the disciples, asking them why, when they were supposed to have faith, they were so frightened.

Quite often, in Biblical literature, the sea represents chaos and turbulence, something the disciples experience in this passage. Yet, whilst Jesus calms the physical storm, he also calms the mental turmoil of the disciples by rebuking the wind and waves. Indeed, we can read this in both a physical and spiritual sense. Jesus calms the physical storm on the sea, but he also calms the storms in our lives. He silences the lies that tell us we are not worthy, or not good enough, and reminds us time and time again that we are beloved children of the Father. While the disciples fear they are drowning, Jesus, even appearing to be asleep, has control of the situation the entire time. I wonder, how often do we lean on our own understanding instead of trusting in the Lord? In the eye of the storm, this is something really difficult to do, but perhaps the Lord is calling us to trust and have faith in Him, remembering that Christ does not abandon the disciples in the storm; rather, He is in the boat, close beside us as He calms the rocky seas.

Hannah Bartlett

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 Church is open on Friday from 2pm - 3pm for quiet prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. All welcome.

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

Our Lady Queen of Peace - Thursday morning, after Mass

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!

Each Wednesday morning there will be silent Eucharistic Exposition at St Bede's before Mass from 9.15am - 9.50am. A time for quiet prayer with Jesus in the Holy Eucharist.

NEW SONG!

Join us for our next family-friendly New Song prayer event at Our Blessed Lady Immaculate Church on 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

Deacon Frank O'Neill

Special Collection - Next Week - Peter's Pence: In the year 725, the Saxon king, Ina, brought a 'contribution' to the Pope Gregory II for him to use to help poor people. Wealthy landowners were charged 'one penny' each to make up the donation to the Pope. Over the centuries this custom, which probably started in this country spread throughout the world so that the Pope can make emergency grants to people suffering terrible hardship, resulting from earthquakes, famine and violent aggression.

Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help and Candlelit Vigil

The Novena takes place each Thursday at 7pm at Our Blessed Lady Immaculate, until the 27th June. A petition box will be at the back of Church each week for personal petitions to be inserted. At the end of the Novena it will be taken to Lourdes on the Diocesan Pilgrimage. After the Resurrection Jesus appeared to his disciples. He told them to wait in Jerusalem for the descent of the Holy Spirit. A Novena echoes this prayer of waiting and is a traditional way of coming together to pray. Together with Our Lady of Perpetual Help, we too pray to God, in thanksgiving, in petition and in praise. All welcome to make the Novena.

On Thursday 27th June our final Novena will followed by a time of individual quiet prayer by candlelight until 10pm. The evening will end with refreshments in the Emmaus room. You are welcome to join us for all or part of the evening. *Fr Martin Morris*

From the Bishop

Dear Sisters & Brothers, in order to grow as a synodal Church it is important that we all have a chance to pray and discern how the

Holy Spirit is inviting us to grow in mission in our parishes and communities. To facilitate this, I together with others, offer an initial Diocesan vision for your prayerful reflection. Our discerned Diocesan commitments are: To Walk with Jesus and Enable Others to Encounter Him; To grow as One Diocesan Family-Rebuilding Relationships; Forming and Developing People for Mission; Living Justly and Caring for Our Common Home. Each of these commitments are developed in the vision. It is not my intention to impose this vision. It is offered for further reflection and I invite all of our parishes and communities to prayerfully reflect on them. We offer accompanying resources and support to enable this reflection. Please contact your parish office if you would like hard copies of these materials which are all available on the diocesan website. With assurances and prayers + **Stephen**

Marriage

"Congratulations to Mol & Matthew Thomas who celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary this weekend, & To Marie & Chris O'Leary who celebrate thirty Five years of Marriage next Weekend." Let us also pray for all couples preparing for Marriage in the coming Month's "Riccardo Michelle Dunnigan & Francesca Marie Valente," "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.

Little Sister's of the Poor would like to invite everyone to their Summer Fayre on Saturday 29th June at St. Joseph's Home, Westmorland Road at 1pm. There will be lots of fun and games, cakes and fancy goods, something for everyone. We hope to see you all there.

ADORATION FOR VOCATIONS. Bishop Stephen , Writes,

"We continue to pray for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. I am very grateful to the many parishes who set aside a dedicated time of prayer for these intentions. We may all wish to consider a regular publicised time of adoration before the Blessed Sacrament praying that the Lord will send labourers into his harvest." We now have Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at Our Lady Queen of Peace each Friday 2-3pm. Each Wednesday morning at St. Bede's 9.15am - 9.50am. & St. Joseph's (**starting 4th July**) 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

Congratulations - to all our Children making their First Holy Communion during June. Please keep them and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

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.

THE 40th ST JOHN BOSTE WALK will take place on Sunday the 28th of July.

Further details coming soon.

Benedict Partnership—Our Partnership of Parishes is under the patronage of St. Benedict. To mark St. Benedict's Feast Day, and ask the Lord's Blessing on our two communities there will be a Mass in St. Bede's on Thursday July 11th at 7pm. Refreshments in the hall afterwards. All are welcome.

PILGRIMAGE TO HOLY ISLAND – Saturday 13th July

The coach for the above has now been booked for our Parish and will be leaving from Our Lady Queen of Peace at 8.00 prompt. Please make sure you arrive in plenty of time.

A reminder that if you are walking across the sands as part of the Pilgrim's walk then please ensure you bring additional clothing with you. For those not walking there will be a service held in St Aidan's Catholic Church on the island at 12.00 noon.

Mass will be celebrated in **St Mary's church at 3.00 pm by Bishop Stephen and Fr Jim O'Keefe**. The coach will be departing from Holy Island at 17.30.

There are still a few places available on the coach. If you would like to go, please contact Malcolm Bengston on 07746 973132.

What is the Lord Calling Us to Be and Do?: Engaging with the Synodal Vision for the Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle

Modelling Spiritual Conversation Workshop: Wednesday 10 July, Washington

Location: Our Blessed Lady Immaculate, Village Lane, Washington, NE38 7HS

Time: 6.30pm – 7.45pm. Please arrive early for refreshments.

Booking link: <https://bit.ly/MSCWorkshop-Washington1> **Cost:** Free.

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](#).

Other News

Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies (CCRS) 2024-2025

The Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies is managed and awarded by the Board of Religious Studies on behalf of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. The programme seeks to ensure that participants have a basic understanding of the central beliefs of the Catholic faith. This programme is available for catechists, lay leaders and other adults wishing to deepen their understanding of the Catholic faith and Catholic education, serving teachers in Catholic and other schools, and teachers in training preparing to take up posts in Catholic schools. The 2024-2025 CCRS course programme is now available on the Diocesan website: <https://diocesehn.org.uk/education/professional-development-and-formation/#ccrs>. If anyone would like further information, they can contact Eamonn Diffley at the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle, Department for Education on 0191 243 3313 or email education@diocesehn.org.uk.

Significance Festival Weekend - 29 June 2024: We look forward to welcoming you to the Significance Festival Weekend this June, in particular for the main event on Saturday 29 June, from 10.00am onwards. There will be stalls and activities, sessions for children and young people, guest speakers and live music spread across the Emmaus Youth Village, which will be open for you to enjoy in the beautiful Derwent Valley! We welcome everyone to gather for Mass for the Feast of St Peter and Paul at 3.15pm, with Bishop Stephen Wright, followed by a BBQ and Ceilidh in the evening. Individuals, families, and parish groups are all welcome. For additional details and to book, [please 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 email events@cafod.org.uk.

New Lectionary - A new edition of the Lectionary, the book which contains the readings which are proclaimed at Mass, will come into use in England and Wales on the First Sunday of Advent 2024. Visit the CBCEW [website](#) to find out more.

The Medjugorje Centre (North East) has organised a MEDJUGORJE RETREAT AT MINSTERACRES from Friday 25th - Sunday 27th October. The Spiritual Director for the weekend is Fr. Martin Morris. The weekend is an opportunity to come together for prayer, talks and friendship. The cost is £195 per person. A £48 Deposit is required and booking forms are available from Marian Fletcher (St Bede's) Telephone 01914174413

Reflections

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

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

[Saturday Examen 12th 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.**

[To post a notice on this Newsletter, please click here](#)