

# 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](mailto:sj23office01@gmail.com)



## In the Partnership of Benedict

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

### THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, 27TH - 28TH JULY 2024, Year B

|                                     |                             |        |   |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------|---|
| Saturday 27th July                  | St Joseph                   | 5pm    | <b>Cathy Lawton RIP</b>                     |
| <b>Vigil</b>                        | St Bede                     | 5pm    | <b>Norman Lamb &amp; Kevin Marriner RIP</b> |
| Sunday 28th July                    | St John Boste               | 9:30am | <b>Anne Defty RIP</b>                       |
| <b>17th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> | Our Lady Queen of Peace     | 10am   | <b>People of the Parish</b>                 |
|                                     | Our Blessed Lady Immaculate | 11am   | <b>Tom &amp; Tina Lamb RIP</b>              |

#### First Reading: Elisha Feeds the Crowds

##### 2 Kings 4:42-44

A man came from Baal-shalishah, bringing Elisha, the man of God, bread from the first-fruits, twenty barley loaves and fresh grain in the ear. "Give it to the people to eat," Elisha said. But his servant replied, "How can I serve this to a hundred men?" "Give it to the people to eat", he insisted, "for the Lord says this, 'They will eat and have some left over.'" He served them; they ate and had some over, as the Lord had said.

**Response to the Psalm: You open wide your hand, O Lord, and grant our desires.**

#### Second Reading: The Unity of the Church

##### Ephesians 4:1-6

I, the prisoner in the Lord, implore you to lead a life worthy of your vocation. Bear with one another charitably, in complete selflessness, gentleness and patience. Do all you can to preserve the unity of the Spirit by the peace that binds you together. There is one Body, one Spirit, just as you were all called into one and the same hope when you were called. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God who is Father of all, through all and within all.

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

#### The Gospel: (John 6:1-15): The Feeding of the Five Thousand

Jesus went off to the other side of the Sea of Galilee - or of Tiberias - and a large crowd followed him, impressed by the signs he gave by curing the sick. Jesus climbed the hillside, and sat down there with his disciples. It was shortly before the Jewish feast of Passover. Looking up, Jesus saw the crowds approaching and said to Philip, "Where can we buy some bread for these people to eat?" He only said this to test Philip; he himself knew exactly what he was going to do. Philip answered, "Two hundred denarii would only buy enough to give them a small piece each." One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said, "There is a small boy here with five barley loaves and two fish; but what is that between so many?" Jesus said to them, "Make the people sit down." There was plenty of grass there, and as many as five thousand men sat down. Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks, and gave them out to all who were sitting ready; he then did the same with the fish, giving out as much as was wanted. When they had eaten enough he said to the disciples, "Pick up the pieces left over, so that nothing gets wasted." So they picked them up, and filled twelve hampers with scraps left over from the meal of five barley loaves. The people, seeing this sign that he had given, said, "This really is the prophet who is to come into the world." Jesus, who could see they were about to come and take him by force and make him king, escaped back to the hills by himself.

|                   |               |                      |               |
|-------------------|---------------|----------------------|---------------|
| 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 29th July 2024

| Day   | Church                      | Time    |   |
|---|-----------------------------|---------|---|
| Monday 29th July<br><b>Ss Mary, Martha &amp; Lazarus</b>                      | St Bede                     | 10am    | <b>Kevin Marriner RIP</b>                     |
|   | Our Lady Queen of Peace     | 7pm     | <b>Joe &amp; Dorothy Carr RIP</b>             |
| Tuesday 30th July<br><b>St Peter Chrysologus</b>                              | Our Blessed Lady Immaculate | 10am    | <b>Peter Leeder</b>                           |
|   | St Joseph                   | 7pm     | <b>Deceased Members of the Waggott Family</b> |
| Wednesday 31st July<br><b>St Ignatius of Loyola</b>                           | St Bede                     | 10am    | <b>Joan Barrett (Deceased Anniversary)</b>    |
|   | St Bede                     | 11am    | <b>Funeral Service; Bill Wilson</b>           |
|   | St John Boste               | 7pm     | <b>Pat &amp; Kevin McMahon RIP</b>            |
| Thursday 1st August<br><b>St Alphonsus Mary de Liguori</b>                    | Our Lady Queen of Peace     | 10am    | <b>Alfie Cruddas RIP</b>                      |
|   | St Joseph                   | 12 Noon | <b>Mary Hutchinson RIP</b>                    |
| Friday 2nd August<br><b>Ss Eusebius of Vercelli &amp; Peter Julian Eymard</b> | St John Boste               | 10am    | <b>Paul Iley RIP (7th Anniversary)</b>        |
|   | St Joseph                   | 10am    | <b>Holy Souls</b>                             |
| Saturday 3rd August<br><b>St Germanus of Auxerre</b><br><br><b>Vigil</b>      | Our Blessed Lady Immaculate | 10am    | <b>Mary &amp; Bill O'Hara</b>                 |
|   | St Joseph                   | 5pm     | <b>Harriet Rowntree RIP</b>                   |
|   | St Bede                     | 5pm     | <b>Cath Beavers RIP</b>                       |
| Sunday 4th August<br><b>18th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>                      | St John Boste               | 9:30am  | <b>Lesley Thompson RIP</b>                    |
|   | Our Lady Queen of Peace     | 10am    | <b>David Bentham RIP</b>                      |
|   | Our Blessed Lady Immaculate | 11am    | <b>People of the Parish</b>                   |

In this Sunday's Gospel, John's version of the miraculous feeding reminds us of the Last Supper, when Jesus 'said the blessing' over the bread. Since John's gospel has no account of the institution of the Eucharist at the Last Supper, this feeding account is particularly significant. The feeding is also described as one of the 'signs' which Jesus works. The first part of the Gospel of John is often called 'the Book of Signs' because Jesus works a number of signs which show who he truly is. First there is the sign at the marriage-feast of Cana, where the sign of turning the water into wine is a sign of the messianic banquet. Other signs are the raising of the royal official's son, a sign of Jesus' gift of life, and the cure of the blind man in the temple, a sign of Jesus' gift of light and revelation. Several of the signs are followed by an extended discourse, explaining the meaning of the sign, as this feeding sign is followed by the discourse on the Bread of Life, explaining the significance of Jesus' gift of himself as the Bread of Life, the Wisdom of God received in the Eucharist. Why is this miracle called a sign? What is it a sign of?



**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

**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 (Our Lady's Over 50's Club)** - Please note, the club is on a Tuesday at 1pm in the Emmaus Room, at Our Lady's in the Village! All most welcome! **Note** - There will be no meeting on Tuesday 30th July.

**OLOF Mystery Trip** - Seats are available (£10), please contact Stewart for more details. Phone 07758:934818.

**NEW SONG!** Join us for the **NEW SONG GARDEN PARTY!** on Sunday 11 August 12.30 pm in the church grounds behind the Emmaus Room. Bring a picnic with beverages of your choice and something to sit on: games, music, raffle, fun and, most of all ... guaranteed sunshine!! Look forward to seeing you there!

**Where:** Our Blessed Lady Immaculate Church NE38 7HS.

**Email:** [newsongne@gmail.com](mailto:newsongne@gmail.com) **Instagram:** @newsongne  
Deacon Frank O'Neill

**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](mailto: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.

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.

**World Day for Grandparents - 'Loneliness' at heart of Pope's theme for 4th Grandparents Day.** Today, Catholics around the world are 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](#).

**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](#).

## Other News

**Diocesan Job Vacancies** - The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle is looking to appoint a full-time Property Surveyor on a two-year fixed-term contract. The role will be based in the Diocesan Offices in Newcastle, with travel throughout the Diocese. Please [click here](#) for full details or contact us on 0191 243 3301. Closing date for applications: 4 August.

**Prayer Vigil at Derwentside Immigration Removal Centre (DIRC)** - We started to hold in person prayer vigils at the Derwentside Immigration Removal Centre, Medomsley on the first Sunday of each month at 3.00pm. It is a powerful witness; we have between 25 and 35 people attending each month. **Our next vigil will be on Sunday 4 August 2024 at 3.00pm at Derwentside Immigration Removal Centre, Medomsley DH8 6QY.** It would be wonderful if you could join us there, but if not, perhaps you would consider joining us in prayer from home. The revised prayer vigil booklet can be found [here](#). Please contact Liz Archibald by [clicking here](#) if you would like more information.

**"I, the prisoner in the Lord, implore you to lead a life worthy of your vocation."** The Words of St Paul might lead us to asking what our vocation in life is. Might God be calling you to discern a vocation to the priesthood? Might God be calling you to discern a vocation to the priesthood in helping those who find themselves lost and without a shepherd? If you would like more information, Speak to your Parish Priest or contact the Vocations Promoter: 01207 299 012 or [click here](#)

**Newman Tyneside Circle** invites you to a **guided tour of St Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle** (with particular attention to the stained glass windows, including the new Kevin Nichols window). The tour will take place on **Tuesday 6 August, at 2pm** and will be followed by discussion, refreshments and an extraordinary general meeting of the circle.

### 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.



**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](#).

**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.

**Living the Rosary Led by the Minsteracres team** - Saturday 10th August 2024 from 11:00am to 3:00pm. A wonderful opportunity to gather in honour of Mary, Mother of God in this very prayerful and sociable day, which also provides the opportunity to take in the peace and ambiance of Minsteracres. Please bring a packed lunch. The day will commence with the celebration of the **Mass at 12 noon followed by the Rosary rally and Benediction from 2.00pm**. For more information, [please click here](#).

**Holy Island Camps** - The camp on Holy Island has been run by the St Vincent de Paul Society since 1954. The aim of the camp is to provide an enjoyable and affordable holiday for children from a variety of backgrounds, in a safe and caring environment and within a Christian ethos. For the first 16 summers, the camp was simply a number of tents in a field. The success and popularity of the camp led to a building programme which saw the first dormitories open in the summer of 1970. This was followed by the completion of the remaining dormitories and the dining room. This was all made possible thanks to the hard work of a number of volunteers who gave up numerous weekends to travel to Holy Island and help build the camp as we now know it. Many more improvements have been made since then, and today the children are accommodated in eight dormitories, each with four bunk beds for eight children. **Dates currently available for school years 5 – 7 inclusive:** Week 3: Saturday 3 August – 10 August 2024; Week 5: Saturday 17 August – Saturday 24 August 2024; Week 6 Saturday 24 August – Saturday 31 August 2024 **Download the information booklet for parents** [here](#) to find out more or [click here](#) to visit the SVP Camp website. The cost for a week at camp is a donation of £150.

**A Year of Prayer** - In preparation for the 2025 Jubilee Year 'Pilgrims of Hope', 2024 has been designated a Year of Prayer by Pope Francis. Please visit our Diocesan Year of Prayer [webpage](#) for more information and regular updates.

**The Justice and Peace Refugee Project** continues to welcome hundreds of people who use our services every month, with new clients registering each week from many places in the world. Your continued donations of food, toiletries and finance are very welcome. Items most urgently needed can be [found here](#). In addition to these items, we also try to source fresh produce, which is gratefully received by our clients. Unfortunately, *Lidl*, one of our supermarket contributors, recently stopped supplying food to the project, so we are now in contact with *FareShare* to ensure that we are able to continue to provide fresh food items to our clients. *FareShare* is a national network of charitable food redistributors, made up of 18 independent organisations, which takes good quality surplus food from across the food industry to community groups and charities. For more information please [click here](#).

**The Joy of the Gospel** "The Gospel, radiant with the glory of Christ's cross, constantly invites us to rejoice... Jesus himself "rejoiced in the Holy Spirit" **Luke 10: 21**. *Evangelii Gaudium*, the Joy of the Gospel, looks at the new evangelisation for the transmission of the faith and has chapters on the following subjects: The Church's Missionary Transformation; The Crisis of Communal Commitment; The Proclamation of the Gospel; The Social Dimension of Evangelization; Spirit-Filled Evangelizers. The full text of *Evangelii Gaudium* can be downloaded [here](#). Quick Link: [Sharing the Faith](#).

## Reflections

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

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

[Saturday Examen](#) [17th 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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