

**ST JOSEPH'S NEWS**  
**26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> October 2024**  
**30<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time (Cycle B)**

**END OF BRITISH SUMMER TIME:** Just a reminder that the clocks turn back 1 hour at 2am this Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> October.

**FEAST OF ALL SAINTS, HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION, FRIDAY, 1<sup>ST</sup> NOVEMBER:** Mass at St Joseph's 10.00am.

**CHURCH HYMN BOOKS:** We seem to have lost a good number of Hymn Books at Church. If anyone has borrowed a copy or accidentally taken one home, would you please return them as soon as possible. Thanks! Incidentally, you will find Prayers of the Mass, especially the Nicene Creed, on pages 4-10 of our Hymn Books.

**SUNDAY MORNING CELEBRATION IN ST JOSEPH'S, BIRTLEY**

Every Sunday, there is a Service of The Word, Prayer and Music, including Children's Liturgy, at 10.00 am at St Joseph's Church. Our celebrations will continue with tea and coffee in the Parish Centre.

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

- **Jean Greenwood**, died 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 93 years, Requiem Mass Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> November at 11.15am
- **Deacon Peter Lavery**, died 27<sup>th</sup> Sept, 73 years, Body into Church 15<sup>th</sup> Oct, Requiem 16<sup>th</sup> Oct at 10.30am
- **Margaret Gaffney**, died 24<sup>th</sup> Sept, 94 years, Requiem St Wilfred's Gateshead, 15<sup>th</sup> Oct at 2pm Fr MW Celebrant

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE IN OUR PARISH WHO ARE SICK:**

John Comerford; Dorothy Hattam; Maureen Joyce (nee Casey); Bob Fish and Valerie Waggott  
NB: 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:** We would like to update our Holy Communion lists. 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 Tel. No. to Fr Martin Wheaton or contact Anne Welsh (07801 481021). Thank you.

**SPECIAL COLLECTIONS**

**26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> October - Clergy Training Fund (open throughout November)**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> November - SVP (St. Joseph's Parish)**

**MASSES AT ST BENET'S SCHOOL:** With effect from Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> November, Mass will be held at St Benet's School, Ouston, on alternative Friday mornings, at 9.15am, as detailed below. Parents, Guardians and Parishioners will be most welcome to attend.

Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> November - St Benet's School @ 9.15 am  
Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> November - St Benet's School @ 9.15 am  
Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> December - St Benet's School @ 9.15 am

**POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER FOR WORLD PEACE:** In his recent letter to the whole world, the Holy Father is encouraging us to pray the Rosary throughout the month of October for the gift of peace in our world. Rosary is prayed at St Joseph's every Tuesday at 6.40 pm, prior to the evening Mass.

**ADORATION & BENEDICTION:** As part of our Partnership-wide worshiping schedule, an hour of Adoration & Benediction will continue in St Joseph's on Thursday evenings from 6.30pm-7.30pm. This is a wonderful opportunity to spend a few minutes or an hour in silent prayer with our Blessed Lord. If any older person wants to come but is concerned about the dark nights or cold, if they make it to church, Fr Martin has offered to take them home in his car.

**CHURCH FUNDRAISING COFFEE MORNING:** Following the tremendous success of last year's Christmas Coffee Morning to bring parishioners together and raise desperately needed funds for St Joseph's, this year's event will be held immediately after the Sunday morning service on **SUNDAY, 24<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER, 10.45am-1.00pm**. We would be most grateful for donations of items for the Raffle, Tombola, Bottle and Cuddly Toy Stalls (good opportunity to clear out formerly loved cuddly toys). A box will be available at the back of Church for the next few weeks for these items. Cakes will be gratefully received on the day. Many thanks in advance for your support!

**DIOCESAN CENSUS OF PARISH VOLUNTEERS:** If you haven't already done so, can parish volunteers please complete a form at the back of Church or use the QR code provided. Many thanks!

**APPEAL FOR NEW VOLUNTEERS:** Many thanks for those who have already added their names to the "Be Like Peter Sign Up Sheets", which will be discussed at our next Pastoral Council Meeting on Sunday, 10<sup>th</sup> November. Lists will remain open at the back of Church until then. We would welcome new members of the Church Pastoral Council and, if you would be interested in joining this group and perhaps help bring new life into our Parish, please contact Fr Martin Wheaton or email our Chairperson, Tom Quigley at [tomquigley44@gmail.com](mailto:tomquigley44@gmail.com)

**IT SUPPORT TO ACCESS WEBSITE, LIVE-STREAMING SERVICES & OUR SOCIAL MEDIA:** Please see Main Newsletter, Page 3, Column 2, for details of small informal IT sessions at the four Washington Churches, to help parishioners stay connected during the winter months. If there was sufficient interest, a similar session could be arranged for St Joseph's, probably at the Sunday Coffee Morning in the Parish Centre. If you are interested, please contact Catherine Tumelty [cath.tumelty@btinternet.com](mailto:cath.tumelty@btinternet.com) or Tel: 07512 101206. Otherwise, you will be very welcome at any of the sessions listed on 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> November.

**NORTHERN CROSS:** The October edition of the Northern Cross is now on sale at the back of the Church, price £1.50. Please place money in wall safe at the side of the Entrance door – beside the choir loft stairs.

**JOURNEY OF FAITH – RCIA:** For those who have already registered, this year's programme is being held in the Meeting Room at Our Blessed Lady Immaculate, Washington Village, NE38 7HS on a Tuesday evening at 7.00pm. Please contact Fr Martin Wheaton if you require any further information: [martinwheaton1@gmail.com](mailto:martinwheaton1@gmail.com) / 07709 961040.

**MASS INTENTIONS:** If you wish to arrange a special Mass Intention at St Joseph's, "Mass Intention Envelopes" are available at the back of church and in the Sacristy.

**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.

**BIRTLEY HERITAGE GROUP – MARIA HAVERTY 1894-1917:** BHG are trying to find descendants of this young lady who was born at Oil Mills, Lamesley, died as the result of munition poisoning (First World War Effort), and was buried in our Church Grounds. Her parents were Peter & Annie (nee Henry) and siblings were Mary Ellen, Bridget Ann, Margaret, John, Catherine, Joseph & Julia. Kindly forward any information to [birtleyheritagegroup@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:birtleyheritagegroup@hotmail.co.uk) or leave a message for Jean Atkinson at Birtley Library. Many thanks!

**VINNIES ANNUAL SLEEPOUT:** Thanks to everyone who sponsored Sophie Taylor last weekend for Vinnie's annual sleepout. If you missed this, you can still donate to support the cause by using the JustGiving link which will stay live for the next few weeks: <https://www.justgiving.com/page/vinniesnew-newcastle-1726490687951>

**VINNIES (SVP BLACKFRIARS):** Vinnies, St Vincents Newcastle, are looking for support with their Christmas appeals. There are several ways that you could help :-

- For £6.50 you could sponsor a Vinnies 4 course Christmas dinner and a gift.
- Donate Christmas hamper items – there is a list of suggestions on the poster.
- Give a gift or toy for children of all ages, teens, a young adult, lady or gent.
- Complete the Reverse Advent Calendar, set up a box at home or work and add an item every day.

Donation boxes are at the back of church and there is more information on the posters on display. Many thanks!

**SVP 200 CLUB:** The results from the SVP 200 Club draw for October are now at the back of Church. Congratulations to Maureen Laverick who was one of the winners.

**SVP SUMMER RAFFLE:** The results from the SVP Summer Raffle are now at the back of Church. Although there were winners from the North East, there were none from St Joseph's.

**ST JOSEPH'S NEWS:** In the short-term Catherine Tumelty will produce the St Joseph's News with the deadline for entry midday the previous Wednesday. Please send by email to [cath.tumelty@btinternet.com](mailto:cath.tumelty@btinternet.com) (it is easier to cut and paste!) or m. 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 and should be submitted by clicking the link on the main Parish Newsletter.