

ST JOSEPH'S NEWS
11th May 2024
Seventh Sunday of Easter

PRAYERS OF THE MASS

You will find these prayers, especially the Nicene Creed, on **pages 4-10 of our Hymn Books**

Sunday morning Celebration in St Joseph's Birtley

Every Sunday, there will be a Service of The Word, Prayer and Music, including Children's Liturgy, at **10am in St Joseph's Church**. Our celebrations will continue over tea and coffee in the Parish Centre.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE RECENTLY DIED:

- Father Phil Carroll – died 9th April.
- Deacon John Hawthorne – died 10th April.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE IN OUR PARISH WHO ARE SICK:

Maureen Joyce (nee Casey), Jean Greenwood, Bob Fish, Valerie Waggott, John Comerford, Edwin Thomas, Harry Daglish, **Kathleen Haigh and Elaine Hannon**
Please let us know if anyone else wishes to ask for prayers from our parish.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

- **11th May – World Communications Day**
- 18th May: Lay Training Fund
- 25th May: SVP (St Joseph's Parish)

BISHOP STEPHEN

Our bishop is gradually moving around the Diocese visiting as many parishes as possible. The bishop will visit St Joseph's on **Saturday 18th May** and celebrate our 5.00pm Vigil Mass for the solemn feast of Pentecost followed by a reception in our Parish Centre.
See the Newsletter for details of further celebrations within the parish of St John XXIII.

NORTHERN CROSS – the May edition is on sale @ £1.50.

See reports on St Benet's School (page 4) and Lourdes Youth Group (page 16)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

The priests of St John XXIII & St Joseph's will be available directly after the following masses:

- Thursday @ 10.00 – Our Lady Queen of Peace (Penshaw DH4 7JZ)
- **Thursday @ 12.00 – St Joseph's (Birtley)**
- Friday @ 10.00 – St John Boste (Oxclose Village NE38 0LB)
- Saturday @ 10.00 – Our Blessed Lady Immaculate (Washington Village NE38 7HS)
- Saturday @ 5.00 – St Bede's (Coach Road Estate NE37 2HE)

PILGRIMAGE TO HOLY ISLAND

CAFOD in Partnership with the Archbishop Romero Trust invite you to join the pilgrimage on **Saturday 13th July**. There will be no charge for the buses – children will travel free but a donation of £10 per adult would be appreciated. A list is provided at the back for church to add your name and contact details. Please note that places are limited. This list will remain open until **Sunday 12th May**.

HOLY WATER - If you want any Holy Water for your home, there is a pitcher of water next to the Baptism Font.

SVP MASS FOR THE SICK & HOUSEBOUND

This will be held on Saturday, 22nd June 2024 at 2.00pm. There are letters for the Eucharistic Ministers to pick up at the back of church.

SVP 200 CLUB

The results of the May draw are now at the back of Church. We have 2 winners for the parish this month, so congratulations to Margaret Lee and Mildred Farrer.

CAN YOU HELP?

Vinnies in St Dominics Newcastle are desperate for contributions to their emergency food bank. They particularly need coffee, tea, milk, sugar, soup, tuna, cereals, any kind of tinned meat, biscuits, dilute juice and any other food items. If you wish, you can donate via their Just Giving page and enable them to buy what is needed – search for [vinniesnew-newcastle](#).

DIOCESAN NEWSLETTER follow this link [Diocesan Newsletter - May 2024 \(mailchi.mp\)](#)

SICK AND HOUSEBOUND in St Joseph's

Fr Martin Wheaton is very happy to visit any sick or housebound parishioner with the Sacraments. The Sacrament of Holy Anointing and Confession can be a great help in such circumstances. Please contact Fr. Martin on 07709-961040 if you know of anyone who would appreciate a visit.

SAFEGUARDING – see the new poster at the back of church & in the porch.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and is a priority in every parish and diocesan organisation. The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle is fully committed in the church and operates a zero-tolerance approach. The safeguarding of children, young people and vulnerable adults is at the heart of the Church's mission. We adopt and implement fully the policies and procedures of the Catholic Church of England and Wales, which is committed to safeguarding as an integral part of the life and ministry of the Church. To discuss any safeguarding concerns please contact the safeguarding officer in any of our churches – their details are on the noticeboard in the porch. Details of our Diocesan policy can be found by [clicking here](#).

SIGNIFICANCE FESTIVAL WEEKEND

All are welcome to the Emmaus Village for the Significance Festival on **Saturday 29th June** from 10.00am. The day will offer a fayre of stalls and activities, sessions for children and young people, guest speakers and live music. Mass celebrated by Bishop Stephen Wright will take place at 3.15pm, followed by a Barbecue and Ceilidh in the evening. Entry is free with charges for accommodation and camping (self-catered) on Friday and Saturday nights. BBQ tickets will cost £10. All proceeds and any donations will support Significance, the charity founded by Fr Dermott Donnelly. Please support this vital work. To book email Nicole at nsalkeld@ymt.org or Tel. 01207 592244.

HOLY ISLAND SVP VINNIES CAMP

There are places still available for boys and girls in school years 5-7 (inclusive) at Holy Island Children's camp. A week's traditional holiday with meals and transport costs just £150! If you would like your child to have a week's holiday on Holy Island this Summer please visit our site <https://svp.org.uk/microsite/holy-island>.

If you know of any child who would benefit from this opportunity, but may need assistance in paying, please email holyislandapplications@svp.org.uk