

MASS TIMES & FEAST DAYS

JS - St Joseph's School , IS - St Joseph's Infant School, BS - St Benet's School , C - Church

SAT	St Augustine of Canterbury THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD 6.00 pm	Susan Towns	S. Neal, B. Bailes
SUN	8.15 am 10.00 am	People of the Parish CAFOD & Its Work	J. McLean, A. Blankley D. Duffy, C. Cowie
MON	Weekday		
TUE	Weekday 7.00 pm - C	NBF - Rev. P. Fitzpatrick	
WED	The Visitation of the BVM 9.00 am - C	Vocations to the Priesthood	
THU	St Justin 12.05 pm - C	Holy Souls	
FRI	SS Marcellinus & Peter 9.00 am - C	DM Duffy Family	
SAT	St Charles Lwanga PENTECOST SUNDAY 6.00 pm	Tim Waggot	T. McEnaney, T. Quigley
SUN	8.15 am 10.00 am	People of the Parish Vocations to the Priesthood	C. Brennan, W. Thompson P. Lavery, E. Fenton

Reconciliation Saturday (11.00 am - 12 noon). Please see notice at the back of church for extended times in nearby parishes.

Sick Imelda Graham, Paul Younger, Terry Gorman, Reg Hattam, David Tanner, Cliff Burton, Ron Fryer, Margaret Cookson, Rose Hall, Jordan Daniels, Louise Lonsdell, Margaret Whittleton, James Ruddick, Doris Hunter, Mary Elston, Shirley Ward, Deidre Turner, Dennis Duffy, Godfrey Keefe, Arthur Wardle, Betty Green, Mary Brennan, Millie McCormack, Molly Menim, Sarah Sables, Christopher Browne, Laurie Falloon and all our long-term sick and housebound.

Baptisms Charlotte Mary Hunt & Isaac Okongwu

Marriages

Deceased

Hospital Chaplains You must ask the Ward Sister for the ON-CALL Roman Catholic Chaplain if you want a visit for one of your family in hospital.

Durham 0191 526 5131, Gateshead 0191 445 2072, Newcastle 0191 232 6953

ST JOSEPH'S R.C. CHURCH, BIRTLEY

Rev. Fr Tony Duffy 0191 410 2923

Deacon Peter Lavery 0191 410 2530

<http://www.stjosephs-birtley.co.uk>



THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD YEAR A

28 MAY 2017

MON	29 May	CWG	Holiday
TUE	30 May	CMS	
WED	31 May	YMG	Holiday.
THU	01 June	SVP	Meet at 8.00 pm every second Thursday of the month in The Presbytery.
		PM CLUB	Meet as usual.

OFFERTORY Many thanks for last week's collection. This week there is a special collection for **WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY**. Next week there will be a special collection for the **LAY TRAINING FUND**.

READERS New rotas are available at the back of church.

WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY This weekend we are asked to recognise that we have been asked to be witnesses to Christ to the ends of the earth. We ask for guidance and courage to carry out our task.

BIRTLEY CHURCHES TOGETHER Prayer is now being held in St Joseph's every Tuesday morning at 10.00 am; all are welcome.

CYCLE OF PRAYER From Easter until Pentecost we are asked to pray for new members of the church, vocations, the correct use of the media, the church, human work. This weekend there is a day of special prayer for the dignity of human work.

GENERAL ELECTION The Bishops of England & Wales, in an open letter, encourage us to play an active part in the General Election; while our votes are a matter of conscience, we are urged to approach the election with positive determination and to consider what is at stake. We are reminded of key principles to guide our thinking in Pope Francis's **THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL**. Copies are at the back of church or it can be read online.

SYRIAN FAMILIES IN BIRTLEY There are six Syrian families living in Birtley who would benefit from our friendship and support. We are holding a Coffee Morning from 11.30 until 1.30 pm on Sunday 04 June in the Parish Centre. This is an opportunity to welcome them and help them to integrate into our community. There will be tasters of Syrian food and it would be a great help if you could bring cakes etc so that we can share food together. Also clothes, toys small household items and toiletries for anyone to buy at a small cost would be welcome. Please bring them along or leave them at the back of church after Mass. For more details please call Mary Foy on 07786 591 685.

MINISTRY OF CONSOLATION There will be a day on this ministry focussing on support for those terminally ill or suffering from dementia. It will be held at Ushaw College (10.00 am for 10.30 am start on Saturday 10 June 2017.) There is no charge for the day and lunch will be provided. Booking by 02 June is vital - please see **Deacon Peter**, or **spirituality @diocesehn.org.uk** or call **0191 243 3302**. There is a poster at the back of church.

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CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE Mass will be celebrated by the Bishop in St Mary's Cathedral at 11.00 am on Saturday 10 June to give thanks for the Sacrament of Matrimony. All are welcome. Please see the poster at the back of church and contact Deacon Peter if you need transport.

PARISH COUNCIL The next meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council will be held at 7.00 pm on Sunday 11 June 2017, in the Presbytery.

CAFOD Please put in your diary:

10 June - Social Night in the Parish Centre. Mainly sixties music to the 2nd Wind Band. Tickets are available from Kevin Haigh from this weekend - cost £3.00.

01 July - Pilgrimage to Holy Island; details later.

MASS FOR THE HOUSEBOUND This will be celebrated at 2.30 pm on Saturday 17 July 2017. Individual letters for eucharistic ministers are available at the back of church; these give further details and invitations for any parishioner not covered by a eucharistic minister.

PRIESTHOOD Fr Duffy will celebrate 55 years of priesthood on Saturday 17 June. On the same day Fr Brian Murphy will celebrate 50 years of priesthood (his Golden Jubilee). If anyone wants to contact him his address is Our Lady & St Thomas, Cumberland Terrace, Willington, Crook, DL15 0PB.

APOSTLESHIP OF THE SEA The annual pilgrimage to Holy Island will be held on Saturday 17 June 2017.

PARISH LOURDES YOUTH SPONSORSHIP Will you be between the ages of 16 and 25 on Friday 28 July 2017? Would you like to join over 100 other young people to share a week of hard work, prayer and fun? Then why not join the Diocesan Youth Pilgrimage to Lourdes in 2017? The parish will support you in raising funds to subsidise your fare. If you want to know more contact Mick Davison (410 6823) or Margaret Taylor (410 0776).

JUSTICE & PEACE REFUGEE PROJECT NEWCASTLE Those working with refugees and asylum seekers are always thankful for the donations received from St Joseph's. Apart from our normal food donations they would also welcome cooking oil, tinned tomatoes and corned beef. They have a shortage of toiletries, including toothpaste, shower gel and shampoo. Many young men in their twenties and thirties would be grateful for jeans, shirts, T shirts, shoes and trainers. If you can help, please leave any items at the back of church at any of the weekend Masses.