

ST JOSEPH'S R.C. CHURCH, BIRTLEY

(Part of the St Benedict Partnership of Parishes)

Rev. Fr Tony Duffy 0191 410 2923

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www.stjosephs-birtley.co.uk



NEWSLETTER - FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT, YEAR B

18 FEBRUARY 2017

MON	19 Feb	CWG	Meet as usual.
TUE	20 Feb	CMS	
WED	21 Feb	YMG	Meet at The Waggon Inn, Eighton Banks, 7.30 pm for 8.00 pm
THU	22 Feb	SVP	Meet at 8.00 pm every second Thursday of the month in The Presbytery.
		PM CLUB	Meet as usual.
FRI		PARISH CENTRE	FIRST FRIDAY of every month, 8.00 pm Quiz. £1 per person.

OFFERTORY Many thanks for last week's collection. Next weekend there is a special collection for CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY.

BIRTLEY CHURCHES TOGETHER Prayers for Birtley at 10.00 am every Monday here in the Lady Chapel of our church.

LENT Lent is a time of preparation for the celebration of Easter; details are on the poster at the back of church. We are asked to pray, during Lent, for Candidates for the Sacraments, Women, the Needy & Hungry of the World and Penitents & Wanderers.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS Every Thursday evening at 7.00 pm and Friday afternoon at 2.30 pm during Lent in church. They will be led by various parish groups and booklets and resources are at the back of church and in the Lady Chapel.

LENTEN ALMS APPEAL 2018 Why not consider supporting St Cuthbert's Care Hardship Fund? This offers financial assistance to older people with limited means who wish to move into Catholic nursing homes. Parishioners of all ages are also invited to volunteer in the two residential and nursing homes during Lent. The only skills required are a smile, friendliness and a little free time. Please contact Nicola Milne on **(0191) 242 4809** or nicola.milne@stcuthbertscare.org.uk if you can help.

LENTEN REFLECTIONS There is a program of speakers for the six Tuesdays in Lent. An invitation has also been given to all of the parishes in our partnership. After 7.00 pm Mass on Tuesday 20 February Deacon Andrew Brookes OP will lead the first reflection on BEARERS OF THE WORD as we explore the call to be disciples of Christ. See poster at the back of church.

ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL Today, 18 February, the Bishop will welcome ten members of our Journey of Faith program as they enter the final months of their preparation for Baptism and Confirmation after Easter. Please keep them in your prayers.

CAFOD The Lent Fast Day will be held this Friday 23 February. “Fast, Pray, Give”.

PARISH CENTRE MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS 2018 subscriptions are now due and must be paid by 28 February. £3 for all members under 65 years and free for over 65s. Subscriptions can be paid on Friday 7.00 - 9.00 pm and Sunday 12 noon - 1.00 pm, or you can leave your card with your subscription with the bar staff at other times. Over 65s don't need to pay but need to collect their 2018 stickers.

PARISH COUNCIL The next meeting will be held on Sunday 11 March 2018 at 7.00 pm in the presbytery.

DAY OF SPECIAL PRAYER On Sunday 18 March we are encouraged to pray for all of our candidate for the sacraments.

CONFIRMATIONS These will be held on Wednesday 21 March 2018.

HOLY HOUR at 3.00 pm Sunday 25 March. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with Benediction, followed by Afternoon Tea in the parish centre. All welcome!

CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP There are a number of booklets at the back of church and in the entrance to the parish centre which set out Pope Francis's thoughts on our Role as disciples. Please feel free to take them home to read but return them for others.

NORTHERN CATHOLIC CALENDARS On sale at the back of church; price £3.00. A valuable source of information about our diocese and its parishes.

SPECIAL OCCASIONS The parish centre is open at all times for your special occasions: engagement parties, weddings, baptisms, funerals and so on. Why not make use of your OWN parish venue? Please note that the parish centre now has its own web site (www.birtleycatholicclub.com) where you can find out about all the facilities and events that the venue has to offer. There is also a link on the parish web site.

HYMN BOOKS There is a large reduction in the number of hymn books in church; if you have one at home please return it as as soon as possible.

OFFERTORY PROCESSION If any persons could help in participating in the 6.00 pm Saturday evening Vigil Mass please contact Moira Baggott know at Mass or on (0191) 370 3111. A new rota starts on 18 March and it would mean taking part about once every nine weeks.

CAFOD SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT With recent news reports about abuse in the charitable aid sector **Chris Bain, CAFOD Director, has stated that CAFOD take a zero tolerance approach to misconduct. A copy of his message is displayed at the back of church.**

MASS TIMES & FEAST DAYS

C - Church, BS - St Benet's School, IS - St Joseph's Infant School, JS - St Joseph's School, PC - Parish Centre, P - Presbytery, SC - Saltwell Crematorium

SAT	Weekday 1st Sunday of Lent 6.00 pm - C	Derek Lowther	B. Bailes, T. McEnaney
SUN	8.15 am - C 10.00 am - C	John Lee People of the Parish	C. Brennan, W. Thompson P. Lavery, E. Fenton
MON	Weekday 12.30 pm - C		
TUE	Weekday 7.00 pm - C	Fenton Family	
WED	Weekday 9.00 am - BS	Kevin Gardner	
THU	The Chair of St Peter 12.05 pm - C	Margaret Bradley	
FRI	Family Fast Day 9.00 am -JS	Joe Tracey	
SAT	Weekday 2nd Sunday of Lent 6.00 pm - C	Dennis Welsh	W. Thompson, T. Quigley
SUN	8.15 am - C 10.00 am - C	People of the Parish Lucy Murphy	A. Blankley, P. Monaghan S. Tweedy, D. Tweedy

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

Sick Bernard Brennan, Teresa Brooks, Paul Younger, Terry Gorman, David Tanner, Cliff Burton, Ron Fryer, Margaret Cookson, Jordan Daniels, Louie 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 and all our long-term sick and housebound.

Baptisms

Marriages

Deceased

Hospital Chaplains Please ask the Ward Sister for the ON-CALL Roman Catholic Chaplain if you want a visit for one of your family in hospital. The chaplains' new telephone numbers are:

Durham 0191 333 2333, Gateshead 0191 482 0000 Newcastle 0191 233 6161