

*St Joseph's R.C. Parish Birtley*  
*(Part of the Benedict Partnership of Parishes)*

*Father Tony Duffy (410-2923)*

*Deacon Peter Lavery (410-2530)*

[www.stjosephs-birtley.co.uk](http://www.stjosephs-birtley.co.uk)

**MASS TIMES AND FEAST DAYS**

**Passion Sunday (Palm Sunday)**

Sat 6.00pm – C	Ray Walker	S Neale & B Bailes
Sun 8.15am – C	Dennis Welsh	C Brennan & W Thompson
10.00am – C	People of the Parish	C Cowie & D Duffy

**Tuesday in Holy Week**

7.00pm – C Joan Callaghan

**Wednesday in Holy Week**

9.00am – BS Fenton Family  
11.45 am – C Requiem Mass – Winnie Hogg

**Maundy Thursday**

10.30 am – C Requiem Mass – William McCormick  
7.30 pm – C Joan Callaghan

**Good Friday**

3.00pm – C Celebration of the Lord's Passion

**Holy Saturday**

**Easter Sunday**

Sat 8.30pm – C	Elphin Conroy	
Sun 8.15am – C	DM of the Fenton Family	A Blankley & P Monaghan
10.00am – C	People of the Parish	S Neal & K Okoji

KEY: C: Church BS: St Benet's School JS: St Joseph's Junior School

Reconciliation Saturday (11.00-12.00noon),but not on Holy Saturday.

Please see notice at 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.

Deceased William McCormick

Hospital Chaplains Please ask the Ward Sister for the on-call RC Chaplain if you want a hospital chaplain to visit one of your family in hospital. The chaplain's telephone numbers are: Durham: (0191)-333-2333, Gateshead: (0191)-482-0000 and Newcastle: (0191)-233-6161

## THIS WEEK

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> CWG Meet as usual in the Parish Centre  
Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> Lenten Talk 7.45pm in Parish Centre  
Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> YMG Bring a decorated egg for competition

## LENT

**Parish Amnesty** – This Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> March at 5.00pm

**Birtley Churches Together** – Prayers for Birtley at 10.00am every Monday in the Lady Chapel of St Joseph's Church.

**Lenten Talks** – on Tuesday this week (7.45 in the Parish Centre) Fr Jim O'Keefe, following his recent pilgrimage to El Salvador, will speak about Archbishop Oscar Romero.

**St Josephs Junior School** – a Lenten Liturgy in Church on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> at 2.30pm. Everyone is welcome.

## HOLY WEEK & EASTER

**Holy Week and Easter Ministries** - everyone is invited to volunteer by putting their name on the lists at the back of church.

**Choir practice** – 6.00pm Sunday (25<sup>th</sup>) in Church.

**Altar Servers** – Practices: 4.00pm on Thursday for Maundy Thursday; 10.00am on Friday for Good Friday; and 10.00am Saturday for the Easter Vigil.

**Easter Flowers** – there is a donation box at the back of church.

**MAUNDY THURSDAY** – Mass of the Lord's Supper 7.30pm

**GOOD FRIDAY** – Celebration of the Lord's Passion 3.00pm

**EASTER VIGIL** - Vigil Service and First Mass of Easter 8.30pm

**BENEDICT PARTNERSHP** – as you are hopefully aware our parish is part of the Benedict Partnership and a team of people representing the nine churches in the partnership have been meeting as the Partnership Development Group (PDG). It is intended to produce a newsletter to keep everyone informed of plans, opportunities and progress in the programme of working closer together as a partnership of churches and parishes. The first edition should be available shortly after Easter.

**PARISH BULLETIN** – many thanks to Jim McLean who for a number of years has compiled and printed the weekly bulletin.

We are now looking to assemble a team of people who are willing to produce the bulletin – if you can help please give your name to Mick Davison (4106823) or Deacon Peter.

**PASTORAL COUNCIL** – The next meeting is on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> April at 7.00pm in the Presbytery.

**OFFERTORY** Many thanks for last week's collection. Special Collection after all Masses this weekend for the Holy Places.

**GIFT AID ENVELOPES** – Boxes of envelopes for those in the Gift Aid scheme are available for collection at the back of church. If your box is missing, if you have changed your address or no longer pay tax, please contact the Gift Aid Organiser, Lucy Rutherford, on 0191-410-0507.

**CONFIRMATIONS** – Congratulations to the young people from the Parish who were confirmed last week. A big thank you to Bishop Seamus, everyone who helped in the preparation and making Wednesday such a wonderful celebration for the young people, their families and the parish.

**2018 WEDDINGS** – Please prayer for our engaged couple who plan to marry during this year – please see the poster at the back of church.

## **PARISH CENTRE**

The Parish Centre is your Centre to gather together with family and friends to relax and enjoy a comfortable and safe environment.

Rooms are available for all your special occasions: christenings, birthday parties, engagements, weddings and funerals. If you wish to book the Parish Centre after a funeral on a day or time when the Centre is normally closed we will open for you.

Have a look at the web site to see what is available:

[www.birtleycatholicclub.com](http://www.birtleycatholicclub.com)

**Parish Centre Fridays** – Why not start the weekend by socialising with family and friends in the Parish Centre?

**Quiz night** - First Friday of the month, 8.00pm bring your friends

**GIN night** - Second Friday of the month

**Prosecco night** - Third Friday of the month

**Bingo** – Saturday and Sunday evening at 9.00pm

**Lourdes Afternoon Tea** – rescheduled for this Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> March. We hope everyone can make the new date.

### **Parish Centre Membership Subscriptions**

2018 subs open until 31st March. Please leave your card and subs with the bar staff. Subscriptions are £3 for all members under 65 years and free for members over 65. Members over 65 do not need to pay but still need to collect their 2018 sticker.

**Jazz in Birtley** – First Thursday each month, 8.00pm. Come along and enjoy a great night of live music with Maureen Hall and the Rendezvous Jazz Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> April at 8.00pm, admission £5.

**Social night in aid of CAFOD** - Friday 27<sup>th</sup> April – fantastic live band “Second Wind” – Tickets £5 (available from Kevin Haigh and Jim Tumelty)