

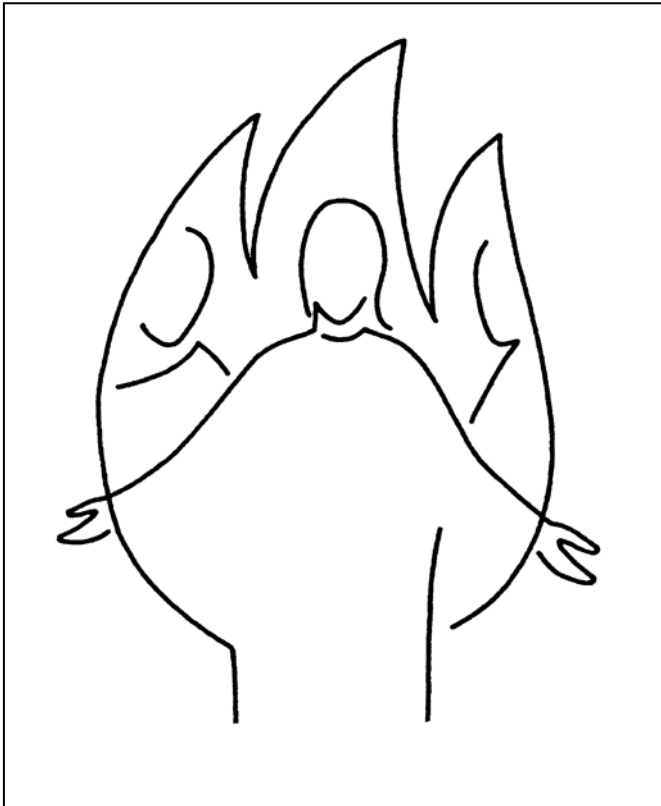
ST JOSEPH'S R.C. CHURCH, BIRTLEY

(Part of the St Benedict Partnership of Parishes)

Rev. Fr Tony Duffy 0191 410 2923

Deacon Peter Lavery 0191 410 2530

www.stjosephs-birtley.co.uk



**NEWSLETTER - SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT, YEAR B -
25 FEBRUARY 2018**

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| MON | 26 Feb | CWG | Meet as usual. |
| TUE | 27 Feb | CMS | |
| WED | 28 Feb | YMG | Book Swap. |
| THU | 01 MAR | 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.

JOURNEY OF FAITH Ten members of the program met the Bishop in St Mary's Cathedral last Sunday. See the photograph at the back of church

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

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.

BEING A YOUNG DISCIPLE On Tuesday evening, 27 February, after Mass some of our young people will explore how we can work together to build up the church. See the poster at the back of church.

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.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER At 2.00 pm on Friday, 2 March in Birtley Community Church, Edward Road. The 2018 WDP Service has been prepared by the Christian Women of Suriname in South America and urges us "To cherish God's gift of creation" and "Commit ourselves to caring for God's world responsibly". This Friday, the service will be celebrated in 170 countries and islands throughout the world, with some 6,000 services taking place in the UK. "Birtley Churches Together" invite you to join them in this great network of prayer. Everyone welcome!

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.

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.

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

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| 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 |
| MON | Weekday | | |
| TUE | Weekday 7.00 pm - C | Margaret McHale | |
| WED | Weekday 9.00 am - BS | Kevin Gardner | |
| THU | St David 12.05 pm - C | William and Anne Hogg | |
| FRI | Weekday 9.00 am -JS | Dennis Welsh | |
| SAT | Weekday 3rd Sunday of Lent 6.00 pm - C | John Callaghan | P. Pestell, J. Mulcahy |
| SUN | 8.15 am - C 10.00 am - C | People of the Parish Elijah Jackson | A. Welsh, C. Brennan J. Sexton, S. Neal |

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 Grayson Armstrong

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