

ST JOSEPH'S R.C. CHURCH, BIRTLEY

(Part of the St Benedict Partnership of Parishes)

Rev. Fr Tony Duffy

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NEWSLETTER - THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD, YEAR B

07 JANUARY 2017

MON	08 Jan	CWG	Meet as usual.
TUE	09 Jan	CMS	
WED	10 Jan	YMG	
THU	11 Jan	SVP	Meet at 8.00 pm every second Thursday of the month in The Presbytery.
		PM CLUB	
FRI	02 Feb	QUIZ	8.00 pm, FIRST FRIDAY of every month.

OFFERTORY Many thanks for last week's collection. There is a special collection this week for the SVP.

PARISH COUNCIL The next meeting will be held next Sunday, 14 January 2018, at 7.00 pm in the presbytery.

CYCLE OF PRAYER Leading up to Lent we are asked to pray for Peace on Earth, Christian Unity, The Sick and their Carers, Victims of Trafficking and those who work to combat it and, finally, the Unemployed.

CONFIRMATIONS These will be held on 21 March 2018. The introductory meeting was very well attended and the next preparatory session will be held today, Sunday 07 January, at 5.30 pm in the parish centre. Everyone, from Year 9 and above including adults who wish to be confirmed, is invited.

QUIZ On the **first Friday of every month** to be held in the Parish Centre. Entry is £1 per person and all entry fees will be paid out in prize money. Bring your friends and have a grand night. Next quiz on Friday 02 February. (See note above which will be a permanent insert in this newsletter from now on.)

AFTERNOON TEA will be served in the parish centre at 2.30 pm on Saturday 27 January 2018. There will be a variety of sandwiches, cakes, cream scones etc. Call or text 0779 024 7214 to book your place. If you would like to give someone a Christmas voucher then see Malcolm in the parish centre.

BIDDING PRAYERS The new rota is at the back of church.

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.

PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT GROUP Mick Davison has been elected as the lay chair of the group and so there is now a vacancy on the group for a parish representative. If anyone is interested in the role then speak to Mick Davison for more information.

CONSULTATION ON SCHOOL ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS When changes to admissions arrangements are intended all schools are required to consult before these are determined and published. The policy for consultation for each of our parish schools for 2019-20 is available on their web sites:

st-benets.durham.sch.uk
birtleysyjosephsjuniors.org
stjosephsinfantschool.org

The consultation will run from Monday 04 December 2017 until Monday 22 January 2018. A consultation response form is available by request from each school and the governing bodies will consider all comments before they determine the arrangements for 2019-20.

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

WEEKDAY READINGS These are now from Year 2.



*...The star, which they
saw in the east, went
before them...*

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 The Epiphany of the Lord 6.00 pm	Alan Roy	L. Cree, T. McEnaney
SUN	8.15 am 10.00 am	People of the Parish Linda Webster	P. Monaghan, A. Welsh D. Tweedy, S. Tweedy
MON	The Baptism of the Lord		
TUE	Weekday 7.00 pm - C	Lucy Murphy	
WED	Weekday 9.00 am - BS	Annie Duffy	
THU	St Aelred 12.05 pm - C 1.00 pm - C	Catherine & Norman Rebar Requiem - Mary Lucy Murphy	
FRI	St Benet Biscop 9.00 am - JS	Sister Veronica	
SAT	St Hilary 2nd Sunday of the Year 6.00 pm	Ray Neal	T. Quigley, J. Mulcahy
SUN	8.15 am 10.00 am	John McLeman Catherine & Alexander Topping	A. Welsh, C. Brennan L. Cree, J. Sexton

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

Sick Margaret Bradley, Dennis Welsh, 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 Joel Stephen Hackers

Marriages

Deceased Thomas Firth, Geza Lazlo Prandoczky

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