

First Reading: God's Love for All

Wisdom 11:22 - 12:2

In your sight, Lord, the whole world is like a grain of dust that tips the scales, like a drop of morning dew falling on the ground. Yet you are merciful to all, because you can do all things and overlook men's sins so that they can repent. Yes, you love all that exists; you hold nothing of what you have made in abhorrence, for had you hated anything, you would not have formed it. And how, had you not willed it, could a thing persist, how be conserved if not called forth by you? You spare all things because all things are yours, Lord, lover of life, you whose imperishable spirit is in all. Little by little, therefore, you correct those who offend, you admonish and remind them of how they have sinned, so that they may abstain from evil and trust in you, Lord.

Response to the Psalm:

I will bless your name forever, O God my King.

Second Reading: The Final Coming of the Lord

2 Thessalonians 1:11 - 2:2

My life is already being poured away as a libation, and the time has come for me to be gone. I have fought the good fight to the end; I have run the race to the finish; I have kept the faith; all there is to come now is the crown of righteousness reserved for me, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me on that Day; and not only to me but to all those who have longed for his Appearing. The first time I had to present my defence, there was not a single witness to support me. Every one of them deserted me - may they not be held accountable for it. But the Lord stood by me and gave me power, so that through me the whole message might be proclaimed for all the pagans to hear; and so I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from all evil attempts on me, and bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia! Blessings on the King who comes, in the name of the Lord, Peace in Heaven and Glory in the highest Heavens! Alleluia!

The Gospel: Zacchaeus

Luke 19:1-10

Jesus entered Jericho and was going through the town when a man whose name was Zacchaeus made his appearance; he was one of the senior tax collectors and a wealthy man. He was anxious to see what kind of man Jesus was, but he was too short and could not see him for the crowd; so he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to catch a glimpse of Jesus who was to pass that way. When Jesus reached the spot he looked up and spoke to him: "Zacchaeus, come down. Hurry, because I must stay at your house today." And he hurried down and welcomed him joyfully. They all complained when they saw what was happening. "He has gone to stay at a sinner's house," they said. But Zacchaeus stood his ground and said to the Lord, "Look, sir, I am going to give half my property to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody I will pay him back four times the amount." And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man too is a son of Abraham; for the Son of Man has come to seek out and save what was lost."

Please Note

Usual groups & activities in the Parish will take place as normal.
**Only cancellations will be listed,
if there is a shortage of space in the Newsletter.**

St Joseph's, Birtley

Monday: 6.45 – 7.45pm **Swingfit** in the Parish Centre (£5 per session)

Wednesday: **YMG** – 7.30pm Meal at The Ox Inn, Stanley

A Music Night with Misspent Uke Band: Friday 8 Nov at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre. Tickets £5. All money raised will go towards the Church Boiler Fund.

St Joseph's SVP: Next meeting - Sunday 3 November after 10.00am Mass in the Presbytery.

Food Collections: Please leave any donations for the Diocesan Refugee Centre & the Gateshead Food Bank at the back of church.

Community Raffle: Raffle tickets will be available from the back of Church for anyone who would like to take part. £5/book. All ticket stubs to be handed in **by the weekend of 23/24 November.**

St John Boste, Oxclose

Confessions, cancelled no Mass.

Fairtrade Christmas Cards: There is a selection of Fairtrade Christmas cards on display in the church porch together with an order form for completion. The cards will be on display until the end of November and you can pay for your cards upon collection. Thank you for your continued support.

Our Lady Queen of Peace, Penshaw

Our watercolour painting session with Jenny Ulyatt is on Monday 18 November, 11am till 1pm, cost £15. All equipment provided. Lunch and refreshments provided. NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED. Booking essential. Contact Laverne 07516882886.

Our Blessed Lady Immaculate, Washington

600 Club: Subscriptions due 3rd November

Thursday Drop In: Grace House Sunderland **November Appeal** People's Kitchen Newcastle

Confessions: .Saturday: 10.30 - 11.30am

Cleaning: Group 4.

Christmas cards, diaries calendars etc on sale in the Emmaus Room.

Christmas Shoe box appeal People's Kitchen Newcastle. Why not give a box of Christmas cheer to those who get little? Cover a box with wrapping paper, fill with goodies such as hat, scarf, gloves sweets. biscuits, toiletries, note book & pen, please remember to include a Christmas card. Box can be left near the organ for collection, last day Sunday 17th November. Empty shoe boxes for use available near the CAFOD Well.

St Bede's, Usworth

Monday: 1pm, **Parish Bingo** (Lindisfarne Room)

Tuesday: 6pm-6.45pm, **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions.**

7.30pm, **Coffee Evening,** (Lindisfarne Room).

Hunger Lunch (Lindisfarne Room) Friday 12 noon - 1pm.

Vocations Prayer Group - 7.00pm. Monday (in church)

Justice and Peace Group - CAFOD self-denial envelopes due for collection this weekend.

200 Club: Subscriptions for the November draw will be collected after both Masses this weekend. The draw takes place after the 8.30am. Mass.

Thursday 7 Nov Requiem 11am at St Bede's for Clare Bottoms... followed by interment at St Joseph's

General Information

The Clergy Training Fund. The fund will remain open for private donations until 24 November.

Parish Raffle Tickets are on sale in all churches. Prize donations are welcome.

Parish Social: Friday 15 November 7pm at Biddick Social Club, tickets £10 on sale in all churches.

Meditation Group: Next session - Tuesday, 12 November at St. Bede's.

Diaconate Information Evenings: There will be a series of information evenings across the Diocese, to offer an opportunity to come along and find out more about the diaconate. Anyone interested to know more is invited to come along to one of the sessions. Wives of those interested in the diaconate are also welcome to attend. The details of the information evenings, which all start at 7pm and last for about 90 minutes, are as follows: Thursday 7 November – St. Hilda's Resource Centre, West Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE15 7PY.

St. Bede's School Golden Jubilee Books to commemorate fifty years history of the school will be available after both Masses at St. Bede's Church next weekend priced £7.00. Please ring Monica Bottoms on 0191 4160967 if you require further information.

Music – Word – Prayer Preparing for "The God who Speaks: Year of the Word" with Paul Inwood. Being held at Minsteracres Retreat Centre, near Consett, Co. Durham, DH8 9RT on Friday 15 (7.00pm) – Saturday 16 November (5.00pm) £65. (Saturday only 10.00am – 5.00pm including lunch & refreshments £25). For information and bookings visit www.minsteracres.org, call 01434 673248 or email: info@minsteracres.org.

The God who speaks: Year of the Word 2020: Advent 2019 sees the official launch of a Year of the Word called for by the Bishops of England and Wales. It is called "The God who speaks" reminding us that God has spoken to human beings for thousands of years but his word is as fresh now as ever. Our Advent resources pick up on this theme focusing on "The God who speaks – through the Prophets". They will include ideas and material for groups, individuals, churches and schools. Contact the Department for more information.

Torchlight Procession Hexham led by Bishop Robert Byrne Friday 6 December 2019 @ 7pm) A mini coach will leave Our Lady Queen of Peace Penshaw at 17.30pm leaving Hexham at about 21.30pm. The cost will be determined by numbers (approx. £12 per person) and will be non refundable once booked. Anyone

wishing to attend please add your name and telephone number to the list on the church notice board by **17 November 2019**. Alternatively ring Noreen on 0191 3854674

Live Simply in November

- Try to buy ethically produced or fair trade goods
- Buy Christmas cards without glitter, glittered cards cannot be recycled
- Remember to take your reusable bags when shopping

Friday 8 November 7pm: The Induction Mass of Fr Michael McCoy as Dean of St Mary's Cathedral by Rt Rev Robert Byrne C.O.

NE First, your community bank, will be available from Service Points in **Our Blessed Lady Immaculate Parish Rooms (near St Joseph's school) every Thursday from 2pm to 3pm and St John Boste Church every Friday from 10:30 to 11:30.**

The following services will be available:

1. Application forms for Savings and Loan accounts, Standing Orders and other services
2. Making a savings deposit
3. Making a loan repayment
4. Answering your questions (with the support of the fulltime administration staff where necessary)

Hospital Chaplain

If one of your family is in hospital & you want the Chaplain to visit them, contact the Chaplains' office, telephoning yourself can make sure they get the message. The Hospital Chaplains' telephone numbers are:

Durham, Fr Paul Tully - (0191) 333 2333.
Gateshead, Deacon Peter Jones - (0191) 482 0000.
Newcastle, Fr Marriadas - (0191) 233 6161.
Sunderland, Linda Longstaff - (0191) 5699180.

Only In an Emergency ask the Ward Sister to contact the 'On-call' RC Chaplain, (usually out of hours a parish priest). The Hospital Trust claim that, under the Data Protection Act, they are not allowed to divulge a person's religion even to the Chaplains.

Sick List

Due to GDPR we now need written consent to announce verbally, or publish in writing, anyone who is requesting prayers to be said for them. Forms to be completed will be available at back of each church to formulate a new sick list.

Mass Times & Intentions — Week Beginning Monday 04 November 2019			
Day	Church	Time	Intention
Monday 04 November	St Bede's	09.05	Word and Holy Communion
	St John Boste	09.15	Word and Holy Communion (MB)
	Our Blessed Lady Immaculate	09.15	Word and Holy Communion
	Our Lady Queen of Peace	19.00	Lisa Taylor
Tuesday 05 November	St John Boste	09.15	Word and Holy Communion (TJ)
	Our Blessed Lady Immaculate	12.00	Brian McDermott
	St Bede's	19.00	Holy Souls of St. Bede's
	St Joseph's	19.00	Word and Holy Communion
Wednesday 06 November	Our Lady Queen of Peace	19.00	Word and Holy Communion
	St Joseph's	09.00	Word and Holy Communion
	St Bede's	09.05	Word and Holy Communion
	Our Blessed Lady Immaculate	09.15	Word and Holy Communion
Thursday 07 November	Our Lady Queen of Peace	19.00	Word and Holy Communion
	St John Boste	19.00	Priest's intention
	St John Boste	09.15	Word and Holy Communion (VC)
	Our Blessed Lady Immaculate	09.15	Pat Naughton
Friday 08 November	Our Lady Queen of Peace	10.00	Dennis Eaves
	St Bede's	11.00	Requiem Mass Clare Bottoms
	St Joseph's	12.05	Word and Holy Communion
	St Joseph's	09.00	Word and Holy Communion
Saturday 09 November	St Bede's	09.15	The Children & Staff of St. Bede's School
	St John Boste	09.30	Our beloved deceased
	Our Blessed Lady Immaculate	11.00	Our Parish Family
	Our Lady Queen of Peace	19.00	Word and Holy Communion
Sunday 10 November	Our Lady Queen of Peace	09.00	Word and Holy Communion
	St Bede's	09.05	Word and Holy Communion
	Our Blessed Lady Immaculate	09.15	Allan Millward
	St John Boste	10.00	Word and Holy Communion
Sunday 10 November - 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time			
Vigil	St Bede's	17.00	Isaac & Elizabeth Kenyon
	St Joseph's	18.00	Ellie Skehan
Sunday 10 November	St Bede's	08.30	Lisa Taylor
	St John Boste	09.30	Bella, Tom & Billy Bull
	Our Lady Queen of Peace	10.00	Helen McPartlin
	St Joseph's	10.00	Deceased of the two World Wars
	Our Blessed Lady Immaculate	11.00	Norah and Owen Hagan
	Our Blessed Lady Immaculate	18.00	Norman Bowden

Parishes of St John XXIII & St Joseph's, Birtley

Incorporating:

Our Blessed Lady Immaculate, Washington; Our Lady Queen of Peace, Penshaw;
St Bede's, Usworth; St John Boste, Oxclose; St Joseph's, Birtley

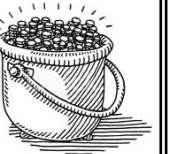
Administrator: Audrey Huntley 0191 4163583 sj23office01@gmail.com

In the Partnership of Benedict Birtley, Chester-le-Street, Houghton-le-Spring, Penshaw,
Sacriston, Washington

31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 02 NOVEMBER - 03 NOVEMBER 2019

Vigil	St Bede's	17.00	Rita Young
	St Joseph's	18.00	Teresa Burn
Sunday 03 November	St Bede's	08.30	Our Parish Family
	St John Boste	09.30	Tom and Jane Rutter
	Our Lady Queen of Peace	10.00	Adrienne Flynn
	St Joseph's	10.00	People of the Parish
	Our Blessed Lady Immaculate	11.00	Holy Souls
	Our Blessed Lady Immaculate	18.00	Holy Souls

The story of the rich little tax-collector of Jericho is always a favourite. It was a constant complaint of defenders of the Law and its prescriptions that Jesus kept disreputable company – tax-collectors, lepers, Samaritans and prostitutes! He took part in their carousals and seemed to enjoy their company. Tax-collectors are never popular, and everyone thinks they are over-taxed. Under Roman rule the tax-farmers were moral outcasts, especially because they worked for the hated foreign dominators, and surely many added their own percentage to the tax demanded; Jesus does not seem even to mind that they were considered unclean. He does not wait for them to repent and approach him, but positively goes out to them and summons them into his company. Zacchaeus had given no sign of good intentions. This unpopular little man was simply inquisitive, wanting to see what Jesus looked like, not even trying to get near him. One can imagine his open-mouthed and delighted amazement, perched in his sycamore-tree, as Jesus invited himself to supper over the heads of the intervening crowd. 'Why should Jesus choose me?' he might be thinking. No conditions are attached; he provides no immediate guarantee of good behaviour or repentance! Yet he is changed fundamentally and responds with generosity. So Jesus draws out our good intentions before we are even really aware of them ourselves.



Jesus invites each of us to welcome him: how do we best respond?

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

Did you know our Parishes are online?! As well as our website, washingtoncatholic.org.uk, you can find regular prayers, reflections and images on our social media pages throughout the liturgical year. Use @ParishStJohn23 on Twitter and search for "Parish of St John XXIII" on Facebook. If you have any issues, comments, suggestions, or would like to support this work, please email: SJ23Social@disciples.com.

St Joseph's parish website www.stjosephsbirtley.co.uk

Fr Jim O'Keefe	0191 416 3805	Deacon Frank O'Neill	0779 115 5845
Fr Mark Millward	0191 416 3583	Deacon Peter Lavery	0730 505 9297
Fr Paul Hopper	0191 410 2923	Deacon Chas Ferguson	0783 663 1963
		Deacon Tony Joy	0779 989 3419