## Parishes of St John XXIII & St Joseph, Birtley



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

**St John Boste**, Oxclose; **St Joseph**, Birtley Fr Martin Morris, Parish Priest, Tel: 0191 4163583

Administrator: Audrey Huntley tel: 0191 4163583 (Tuesday & Wednesday 8am—1pm, Thursday 11am—4pm & Friday 12–5pm)

Email: StJohn23rd@diocesehn.org.uk

Parish Website: https://www.washingtoncatholic.org.uk

### In the Partnership of Benedict

Birtley, Chester-le-Street, Penshaw, Sacriston, Washington



### First Reading: Naaman the Syrian

2 Kings 5:14-17

In those days: Naaman the Syrian went down and dipped himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of Elisha, the man of God, and his flesh was restored like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean. Then he returned to the man of God, he and all his company, and he came and stood before him. And he said, 'Behold, I know that there is no God in all the earth but in Israel; so accept now a present from your servant.' But Elisha said, 'As the Lord lives, before whom I stand, I will receive none.' And Naaman urged Elisha to take it, but he refused. Then Naaman said, 'If not, please let there be given to your servant two mule-loads of earth, for from now on your servant will not offer burnt offering or sacrifice to any god but the Lord.'

Response to the Psalm: The Lord has shown his salvation to the nations.

### Second Reading: The Grounds for Hope

2 Timothy 2:8-13

Beloved: Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, the offspring of David, as preached in my gospel, for which I am suffering, bound with chains as a criminal. But the word of God is not bound! Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory. The saying is trustworthy, for: If we have died with him, we will also live with him; if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he also will deny us; if we are faithless, he remains faithful — for he cannot deny himself.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia. In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Alleluia.

### The Gospel: The Samaritan Leper

Luke 17:11-19

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was passing along between Samaria and Galilee. And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance and lifted up their voices, saying, 'Jesus, Master, have mercy on us.' When he saw them he said to them, 'Go and show yourselves to the priests.' And as they went they were cleansed. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus answered, 'Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?' And he said to him, 'Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well.'

Fr Martin Morris	0191 416 3583	Deacon Frank O'Neill	0779 115 5845
Fr Martin Wheaton	0770 996 1040	Deacon Tony Joy	0779 989 3419
Fr Luke Wilkinson	0191 649 8257		

Charity Registration Number: 1143450

Mass Times & Intentions - Week Beginning Monday 13th October 2025 (Streamed Mass *)					
Day	Church	Time			
Monday 13th October	St Bede	10am	Mary Dragone (RIP anniversary)		
St Edward the Confessor	Our Lady Queen of Peace	7pm*	Priest's Intentions		
Tuesday 14th October	Our Blessed Lady Immaculate	10am*	Priest's Intentions		
St Callistus I	St Joseph	7pm	Wellbeing of Martin, Stuart & James Lippe		
Wednesday 15th October	St Bede	10am	Special Intention (MF)		
St Teresa of Jesus	St John Boste	7pm	Priests Intentions		
Thursday 16th October	Our Lady Queen of Peace	10am*	Paul Raymond Lyons Birthday Memory RIP		
Ss Hedwig & Margaret Mary Alacoque	St Joseph	12 Noon	John Hogan RIP		
Friday 17th October	St John Boste	10am*	Priest's Intentions		
St Ignatius of Antioch	St Joseph/ St. Benet's	9.15am	Viola Summers RIP		
Saturday 18th October  St Luke	Our Blessed Lady Immaculate	10am*	Kathleen Haigh (ill health)		
	St Joseph	5pm	Alec Proctor RIP		
Vigil	St Bede	5pm	Vera Monaghan and deceased family members		
Sunday 19th October	St John Boste	9:30am	People of the Parish		
29th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Our Lady Queen of Peace	10am*	In Loving Memory Andrew Bell RIP		
	Our Blessed Lady Immaculate	11am	Bernard & Clare Simons		

It is not accidental that the ten lepers stood at a distance. On one level, this was simply because the law of Moses required people with skin disease to keep apart from others. But their physical position also seems to suggest a spiritual distance from Jesus. They are reluctant to come too close to him.

Jesus respected their caution and, without seeking to touch them...he simply sent them to the priests, those authorised to determine whether skin disease has been cleared up. All ten carried out this act of faith.... Somewhere along the way, they found to their amazement that they had in fact been healed! But nine of them simply continued on the way. They showed no particular interest in the one who healed them, no desire to find out who it was who had such life-giving power, not even the common courtesy to thank him.

But one leper turned back-a verb that suggests the turning of conversion. He gave what Scripture often describes as the right human response to God's mighty deeds: loud praise and thanks, publicising to everyone within earshot the wonderful things the Lord had done for him. I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds (Ps 9:1).

My lips will shout for joy, when I sing praises to you; my soul also, which you have redeemed (Ps 71 [701:23). No longer isolated and socially alienated, the healed man has become an evangelist, one who tells others of the wonderful works of God! He is no longer distant from Jesus. He draws near and falls on his face at Jesus' feet-a posture of worship, suggesting that he somehow knows he is in the presence of the Lord, the divine Physician. This man, Luke points out, happens to be a Samaritan. He had therefore been doubly outcast-an unclean leper and a member of a despised people.

But now he has been brought into a relationship with Jesus and, by implication, with the disciples who surround him. The shame and loneliness associated with his former condition are gone. His heart is overflowing with gratitude and joy.... He received far more than a physical cure. He experienced a profound healing on every level of his being.

Mary Healy

Masses are generally live-streamed daily at 10am every day, except Monday, streamed at 7pm, and alternate Sundays when Mass is live-streamed at either 10am or 11am. An \* on the Mass table indicates streamed Masses.

Please <u>click here</u> to view from one of our Churches

### What's On in the Parish

### **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:**

Our Lady Queen of Peace each Friday 2pm - 3pm. St Joseph's each Thursday evening 6.30pm - 7.30pm I do encourage as many of you as possible to spend some time in quiet prayer with Jesus in Eucharistic Adoration. Fr Martin Morris.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation** - The Sacrament of Reconciliation is now available in all of our Churches:

Our Lady Queen of Peace - Thursday morning after Mass.

St Joseph - Thursday after Mass.

St John Boste - Friday morning after Mass.

Our Blessed Lady Immaculate - Saturday morning, after Mass.

St Bede's – Saturday after Vigil Mass.

**OLOF (Our Lady's Over 50's club)** meet in the Lindisfarne Room at St Bede's Church on Tuesdays at 1pm. All welcome. **Please note the club will Not be on this coming Tuesday (14th)**. For those going on the trip, the bus will leave OBLI at 1.30pm.

Life in the Spirit Seminars.- An opportunity to renew our lives of Faith, with a new outpouring of God's Holy Spirit. For seven weeks from 7pm - 8.30pm, beginning Thursday 25 September - Thursday 6 November. Members of the Diocesan CHARIS team will help us reflect on 'The Gift of the Holy Spirit' and the personal renewal of our Faith. Through reflection on Holy Scripture, a short talk, and testimonies, the 'Life in the Spirit' seminars aim to offer a renewed Faith in Jesus Christ, and in his gift of Salvation. The seminars take place in the Emmaus room at Our Blessed Lady Immaculate. All welcome. Why not come along to one or more of the seminars? Details below, See the poster at back of Church for more details

more details.				
Title	Speaker			
God's Love	Andy Drozdziak			
Salvation	Fr Anthony Ohaekwusi			
The New Life	Christine Dixon			
Receiving God's Gifts	John Wheeler			
Baptised in the Holy Spirit	Fr Shaun O'Neill			
Growth	Deacon Alison Rebello			
Transformation in Christ	Fr Shaun O'Neill			
	God's Love Salvation The New Life Receiving God's Gifts Baptised in the Holy Spirit Growth			

# " Pope Leo XIV invites Catholics throughout the world to pray the Rosary for Peace."

'I invite everyone each day of the coming month of October, to pray the Rosary for Peace, personally and in the family too. The world longs for peace, so let us pray for humanity.' There will be Eucharistic Adoration this Sunday 12th October, the Rosary will be at Our Blessed Lady Immaculate. 4-5pm. All welcome.

**Our Lady's Macmillan Annual Coffee Mornings** will take place after mass on Saturday and Sunday 11 and 12 October. All

donations of cakes for the event will be welcome.

#### **NEW SONG!**

Come and join us for October's New Song! Acts chapter 2 tells us, "They worshipped together at the Temple each day, met in their homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity— all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people" Inspired by this, we will have a time of praise and worship and then enjoy a shared table together. All are welcome!

Where: Our Blessed Lady Immaculate Parish Room. NE38 7HS

When: 12 October 2025 @ 4.00 pm. Email: newsongne@gmail.com Instagram: @newsongne

Requests to remove someone from the Sick List can be made

here.

**Holy Communion for the Sick and Housebound.** If you know of any parishioners who are unable to get to Mass and would like Holy Communion brought to them at home, please give their name, address and telephone number to any of our Priests.

A Liturgical Day of Reflection for Existing Ministers of Holy Communion - 25 October 2025. Called to the Supper of the Lamb is a day of reflection for existing Ministers of Holy

Lamb is a day of reflection for existing Ministers of Holy Communion, giving an opportunity for those commissioned as Eucharistic Ministers to reflect on their role. This day of reflection will be led by Fr Mark Millward. **Date:** Saturday 25 October 2025.

**Time:** 10.30am – 3.00pm (please arrive from 10am for registration and refreshments). **Venue:** St Augustine's Parish

Hall, Larchfield Street, Darlington, DL3 7TG. Cost: £15.00 per participant. Catering: Please bring a packed lunch, tea and coffee will be provided. This Day of Reflection may be self-funded or funded by your parish. You can indicate your payment preference on the online booking form. An invoice will be sent to the payee following the event. Confirmation of your booking, and a reminder of the key details for the event, will be sent to the email provided after the booking deadline. **Booking Deadline: Tuesday 14** 

**October 2025.** For further information, please email: formation.mission@diocesehn.org.uk.

### **Next Sunday is World Mission Sunday**

Next Sunday, the Holy Father invites all Catholics to support Missio – his charity for world mission – through a special collection. This day of prayer, solidarity and giving unites Catholics worldwide to share the Good News of God's love which has the power to transform lives and heal our world. To donate, use the Missio envelopes, call 020 7821 9755 (office hours) or visit missio.org.uk to give a gift, set up a Direct Debit and Gift Aid your donation if possible.

Year of Jubilee Calendar - A calendar of all the key dates and events for the Year of Jubilee, currently from June to December 2025, in the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle has been produced and will be updated periodically. **Download the calendar here**. You can also view or download the Vatican's calendar of major events by visiting their Jubilee website here.

The Joy of the Gospel "Being a disciple means being constantly ready to bring the love of Jesus to others, and this can happen unexpectedly and in any place: on the street, in a city square, during work, on a journey." Evangelii Gaudium, the Joy of the Gospel, looks at the new evangelisation for the transmission of the faith and has chapters on the following subjects: The Church's Missionary Transformation; The Crisis of Communal Commitment; The Proclamation of the Gospel; The Social Dimension of Evangelization; Spirit-Filled Evangelizers. The full text of Evangelii Gaudium can be downloaded here.

### **Other News**

Appeal for Foundation Governors - Bishop Stephen is extremely grateful for the time and dedication that our school governors and Catholic Education Trust directors commit to our Diocese. We are constantly looking for new foundation governors to join local governing committees in our schools. The Diocese will be hosting an information session for those people who are interested in the role on **Monday 13 October** at The Durham Centre, Belmont, Durham at 4pm. For further information please contact Rebecca Daglish from the Diocesan Department for Education. 0191 2433313 or rebecca.daglish@diocesehn.org.uk.

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor". Do you listen to the voice of truth, the voice of Jesus Christ? Maybe he is inviting you to discern a vocation to the Priesthood. For more information, speak to your Parish Priest or contact the Vocations Promoter: 01207 299 012 or click here

Helping Hands Needed for Care Home Garden. Do you enjoy being outdoors and lending a helping hand? St Joseph's Home (Little Sisters of the Poor) are looking for volunteers to help tend their extensive garden. The garden is a special place for the residents, a space for peace, fresh air, and community. We are looking for volunteers to assist with weeding, clearing undergrowth and general upkeep. No special skills or experience are needed, just a willing spirit, kind heart and a bit of time to share. Just bring yourself and we'll provide the tools. If you would like to be part of this rewarding work and share joy with the residents, please contact Sr Brigitte or Anne Whale (Tel: 0191 2731279) to get involved. Let's join together to make the garden flourish for the residents to enjoy!

**Marriage Preparation Days** - Engaged couples can find more information <u>here</u>. To find and book on a course, please visit our <u>website</u> or call the phone booking service on 0800 389 3801. (In person and online courses are available.)

Open Scroll (Book of Revelation) - Oct 2025 - Mar 2026 (Monday Evenings). A six-session study group on the Book of Revelation, titled OPEN SCROLL. The talks will take place once a month on the second Monday of each month, starting on 13th October and will be from 7.00pm to 8.30pm via Zoom. The Book of Revelation is a chunky book of the Bible and is quite involved. Please contact Mia Fox (mia.fox@diocesehn.org.uk) to join the WhatsApp group and get the link. We're looking forward to journeying with you through the Book of Revelation (or Apocalypse in Greek). You may wish to extend the invitation to your friends. The series is not being recorded. We recommend attending all sessions live to maximise the benefits of this course.

Fr. Dermott Donnelly founded the charity 'Significance' to enable young people to become all that God has created them to be. Significance supports YMT and the ongoing development of the Emmaus Village and also provides grants for particular projects which provide opportunities to young people. To raise funds, Significance has launched a Grand Draw: First prize is 2 tickets for a 'Britain's Got Talent' live semi-final in 2026, first class LNER travel and overnight stay in a London hotel and there are other exciting prizes. Each ticket costs £5 and the aim is to raise £20,000 by selling 800 books x 5 tickets. The draw will take place on Youth Sunday 23rd November 2025. Please support by buying a ticket or taking a book to sell. Raffle tickets can be sent to you by contacting significance316@gmail.com Music Matters - A Day for Musicians - The DCMA invites you to 'Music Matters - A Day for Musicians', which will be held at St Michael's Catholic Church, Houghton-le Spring, DH5 8NF on Saturday 18th October 2025, 10.30am - 4.00pm. This day will provide time to reflect on the liturgy and the role of music within it, how we sing the Mass, the role of music ministers, and how we prepare for our service. It will be a great opportunity to reflect more on our roles as ministers of music as well as a chance to meet other musicians from the Diocese and to share ideas. Music Matters will be led by Fr Adrian Dixon (DHN Liturgy Team), The day is free, but please reserve your place by contacting dcma@diocesehn.org.uk. Tea and coffee will be provided, but please bring a packed lunch.

Minsteracres Retreats - We offer a varied programme of day, weekend and week-long events throughout the year. Please see the programme details by clicking here.

Could you be a CAFOD Schools Volunteer? Volunteers are wanted to help children/ students learn about the work of CAFOD. Could you help your local school deliver assemblies and/or workshops that encourage young people to put faith into action to help others? It would only require a few hours of your time each term and you would be assisting your local community to work together for the Common Good. No experience is necessary, and full support and training will be given.

Find out more here.

Reflections

**Diocesan Weekly reflections** can be found by **clicking here**.

**Examen** - Examen - Please follow the links to go to Pray as You Go

## **Catholic Social Teaching**

For the Newsletter, click here.

**Prayers** - If you would like to request prayers from the parish community for someone who is sick, or recently deceased, please click on the links below and complete the necessary forms. This will enable their names to be included in private prayer and during various Masses.

For Prayers for the Sick
For Prayers for the Deceased
or ring 0191 4163583

**Finance** - Standing Order forms and Gift Aid forms are available by clicking on the following links:

For St John XXIII For St Joseph's or ring 0191 4163583.

### **Sick and Recently Deceased**

 To view the sick and recently deceased list <u>please click here</u>. To amend the information on the list <u>click here</u>.

**Parish Newsletter** If you have any comments you wish to make about the Parish Newsletter, please click here.

For the latest information, please go to any of the following Websites:

Parish of St John XXIII
Parish of St Joseph's
Diocese of Hexham and
Newcastle



## All the Links you will ever need!

Please <u>click here</u> or Scan the QR Code with your mobile phone to go to a site containing All the Links You'll Ever Need.

To post a notice on this Newsletter, please click stjohn23bulletin@gmail.com