A Message from Fr Martin Wheaton

"Flu and Covid: Please note: it is permissible to miss Mass if you have the flu/covid or symptoms of flu/Covid.
In fact, it's your duty NOT to attend Mass if you have either.
Many of our Mass goers are elderly and particularly vulnerable to viruses, they can be deadly to them."

During Mass on Saturday 28th November we will be dressing the Jesse Tree. *It will be wonderful if we can have as many children as possible to help put the symbols on our tree.*

Where does Jesse Tree come from?

The Jesse Tree tradition is rooted in Isaiah 11:1: "A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots." Jesse was the father of David, Israel's greatest king. And Jesus is descended from the line of David. He is the branch God promised would grow from Jesse's family tree. Each symbol represents a story from within this family tree and a step toward the birth of Jesus.

Many thanks for all your generous support for this years Fayre. A special thanks to all who donated Raffle, Tombola and the huge amount of beautiful Cuddly Toys.
A list of Raffle Prizewinners is available at the back of church

If you have any news you want to share on St Joseph's Newsletter please email me laverypauline9@gmail.com. The deadline for entries is Wednesday evening Fr Martin Wheaton will approve a draft copy before printing

ST JOSEPH'S NEWS

21st November – 28th November
Feast of Christ the King (Cycle A)
Fr Martin Wheaton 07709 961040
Website. www.stjosephsbirtley.co.uk
Parish Safeguarding Representative: laverypauline9@gmail.com

DAY	DATE	EVENT	TIME	INTENTION
Saturday	21st Nov	Christ the King/ Youth Sunday	5:00pm	Xavier Inyang R.I.P
Tuesday	24th Nov	Rosary 6 :40	7:00pm	Smith & Longstaff Family
Thursday	26th Nov		12:00am	Thanksgiving 60 years of Marriage (Rutherford)
Friday	27th Nov		10:00am	Holy Souls
Saturday	28th Nov	First Sunday of Advent	5:00pm	Mary Shields R.I.P

Collection
21st Nov - Youth Ministry Trust* – Advent Alms (Wall safe near door)

WELCOME to all our Young People on Youth Sunday

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE IN OUR PARISH WHO ARE SICK:
Ian Brennan, Teresa McAnaney, Kathleen Haigh, Caroline Kennedy (nee Hattam)
Joe Tyrrell, Pat Lamb; Mick Davison; Ursula Duru;
Beverley Homes, Maureen Joyce, Neil Robson: Sandra Neal

Please let Fr Martin know of any sick or housebound within the parish who would like to see a priest.
If you would like to include or remove any family member to St Joseph's list please message Pauline Lavery

Reconciliation: After 12 noon Mass on Thursday

MASS INTENTIONS:
If you wish to arrange a Mass Intention at St Joseph's, special envelopes are available at the back of Church

COFFEE MORNING.

Every Sunday 10:00am in the Parish Hall. Everyone is welcome. This is a great opportunity to catch up with friends and also raise money for some of our local charities.
This week is for Parish Hall Refurbishment Funds

ADORATION

From Thursday 22nd October Adoration will take place in the front room of the presbytery in St Joseph's 6.30pm to 7.30 pm.
All are welcome and you can call in for just a few minutes or the full hour.

PARISH HALL DEVELOPMENT GROUP

An initial meeting of a Parish Hall Development Group, chaired by Michael Lavery, took place on Tuesday 3.11.26 and work is now underway to clarify the current status of the Hall and the scope of the group to work on behalf of the parish to develop a plan for the Hall's restoration and renovation

Copies of the minutes of the meeting are available from Pauline Lavery: laverypauline9@gmail.com.

The next meeting of the group is Tuesday 1.12.26 at 7:30pm, all welcome, but particularly any parishioners or friends of the parish with professional experience in finance, grant funding, and planning

Parish Donation Envelopes

During the month of November can I ask that those who donate in an envelope please add their name to the envelope and confirm if they have completed a gift aid form. This will enable us to ascertain the amount we can claim back from the Inland Revenue.

Gift Aid forms and Direct Debit application forms are available at the back of church for anyone who wishes to donate on a regular basis.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament followed by Benediction

on Sunday November 29th at 3pm.
Everyone is invited on this First Sunday of Advent for a time of preparation and reflection and an ideal opportunity for Eucharistic Ministers to meditate and reflect upon their ministry to the sick and housebound in our parish.
Tea and Coffee afterwards in the Parish Hall

November Northern Cross on sale at the back of church. £2:00. Please put money in wall safe marked "cards"

CHRISTMAS CARDS, ADVENT CALENDARS ETC ON SALE AFTER MASS.



World Youth Sunday *

Today we celebrate World Youth Sunday, giving thanks for the young people of our Diocese and praying for their continued growth in faith. The retiring collection today supports the Youth Ministry Trust (YMT), helping young people encounter Christ through retreats, events and outreach across our Diocese. Gift Aid envelopes are available, or you can scan the QR code on the poster to donate. Thank you for your prayers and generous support.