

- **Non-Perishable donations of food and toiletries** – Thank you for your generous donations towards food parcels from all our Churches. We would appreciate more donations of pasta, cereals, vegetables, fruit, soup, pasta sauce, tea, coffee, beans, spaghetti hoops and similar, tuna, jam, marmalade, toiletries, toilet rolls, biscuits and treats. The recipients are very grateful.
- **Beauty for Ashes** – A Holy Spirit Day of Reconciliation and Healing for Lent, organised by Middlesbrough Charismatic Diocesan Service of Communion, will be held on Saturday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, 10.30 am-4.30 pm (with Mass at 9.30 am) at Sacred Heart Church, Linthorpe Road, Middlesbrough. No booking required. A collection to cover expenses will be taken, and lunch will be provided (but special dietary requirements will not be catered for). Roadside parking only.
- **Passion Play at the Cathedral** – Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February at 7:30 pm, there will be a Passion Play by the Riding Lights Theatre Company at St Mary's Cathedral. Please get in touch with the Cathedral to book.
- **Free Weekends at Castlerigg** – Castlerigg have a few empty slots between now and the end of the summer. They are offering them all for £60pp for two nights, full catered. Dates are May 8-10<sup>th</sup>, May 22-24<sup>th</sup>, May 29-31<sup>st</sup> and July 3-5<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Jack Regan on [jack@castleriggmanor.co.uk](mailto:jack@castleriggmanor.co.uk)
- **Volunteers Needed** – We are looking for more volunteers to help make and serve tea/coffee after Mass on Sundays at St Joseph's. This is such an important ministry and helping to serve our parishioners with a cuppa after Mass. A great number do now come into the hall and long may that continue. If you are willing to help, please contact Julie Dowson on 07967316671. Thank you.
- **First Confession and Holy Communion** - If there are any children that would like to prepare to receive these Sacraments, please let Monsignor Gerard know.
- **Confirmation** - I am also making a request to any young person in year 8, who feels like they are ready to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, please let me know. All Sacraments will have a short preparation course to attend. Many thanks.
- **Fr Charles** – Fr. Charles will be giving a series of short talks with discussion during the season of Lent at St Joseph's. More details to follow.
- **Are you interested in becoming a Catholic** – We will be starting an RCIA course very soon. If you are interested, please see Monsignor Gerard or email [stjosephstokesley@rcdmidd.org.uk](mailto:stjosephstokesley@rcdmidd.org.uk)
- Welcome back to Fr. Charles after he has been supplying at Thirsk for this past month.

**God Bless Monsignor Gerard**