

BAPTISM OF THE LORD, Year C 9th & 10th January 2016

PARISH NOTICES

JUBILEE OF MERCY

There are various celebrations for the Year of Mercy around the Diocese, and full details are available on the church noticeboards. Please check out all information for The Year of Mercy on the Diocesan website www.rcdhn.org.uk which is updated regularly.

Exploring Mercy in the Scriptures: A Cluster Day of Reflection with Fr Chris Thomas of the Liverpool Archdiocese will take place at St Cuthbert's Church, North Shields on Sat 23rd January 2016, 10.30am - 3.30pm. Please bring a packed lunch. Full details on the poster on the church noticeboards.

FORWARD TOGETHER IN HOPE: PARISH REPORT

The final version of the Parish Report was sent to the Diocese before Christmas. Copies of the responses to the questions received from the Diocese are available at the back of each church. If you wish to read the full report you can do so on the North Tyneside Cluster website (www.northtynesidecatholic.org.uk) under Our Lady Star of the Sea parish 'Latest News'.

SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF UNBORN CHILDREN (SPUC)

The annual White Flower Appeal collection is to be taken after Masses this weekend at all churches. In common with the Catholic Church, SPUC defends and upholds the sanctity of human life from conception until natural death. The Society's work covers a wide spectrum of pro-life, pro-family issues. It seeks to protect unborn children from abortion and defends the disabled, elderly and incapacitated from euthanasia and assisted suicide. SPUC also provides trained speakers for schools.

PARISH MONDAY CLUB

The Monday Club at St Edward's look forward to seeing you this Monday (11th January) for a 'Welcome Back' Coffee Morning. Everyone is very welcome.

USED STAMPS FOR THE MISSIONS

Can we remind parishioners that there is a box in the Narthex at all churches in which to place your used stamps. Please leave a border around the stamps to protect them.

NEW YEAR 'WINE & BITES'

Saturday 16th January 2016 at 7.30pm for Hosanna House and the Handicapped Children's Pilgrimage Trust 2016 pilgrims in the Parish House at St Edward's. There will be music, poems/readings, loads o' craic and maybe a quiz. Tickets cost £5 and are available from Tess Dowson, Liz Hickey & Gerry Rafferty. Raffle prizes would be welcomed.

PARISH WALKING GROUP

The next walk will be on Tuesday 19th January 2016. Jim Gunning will lead a 5 mile walk along riverside walks and woodland parks from Durham City, passed the Botanical Gardens. Meet at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church car park at 9.30am and we'll drive to Belmont and 'park and ride' into Durham. Please bring your bus pass if you have one. For further information contact Jim on 0191 2535135 or 07932 696795.

TEA AND COFFEE ROTA

The rota for St Edward's is ready for collection in the serving kitchen. Thank you to all our volunteers who help.

JUSTICE & PEACE

- St Edward's Justice and Peace group wish to thank everyone for their generous donations to the Water Well during 2015. A total of £1,486 has been sent to Water Aid. There will be a Fair Trade stall next weekend on 17th January in the Narthex.
- The first meeting of the year for the **Parish** Justice and Peace Group will be held on Thursday 21st January in St Edward's Parish rooms at 12.30pm to create initiatives for the Jubilee Year of Mercy. Parishioners are invited to join us to prepare Stations of the Cross for Lent, based on the Corporal Works of Mercy. Monsignor Andrew will be in attendance and tea, coffee and sandwiches will be available.

PARISH LENT & EASTER PREPARATION MEETING

Following the Justice and Peace meeting at 12.30pm, there will be a meeting at 2.30pm on 21st January 2016 in St Edward's Parish Rooms to prepare for Lent and Easter. All are welcome. Mgr Andrew.

MISSION COLLECTION (RED BOXES)

The Mission boxes at St Edward's are due to be emptied for the first quarter of the year. The books are now ready in the narthex for collection. All monies to go to Mary Nugent. Please bring your boxes to church if you have no collector. Mary & I wish you all a very happy peaceful new year. Liz Hickey Telephone 0191 2525989

FIRST RECONCILIATION & HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION, 2016

These sessions take place at St Edward's Church, and they will be meeting again on the following Saturdays over the next months: 16th January, 6th February, 12th March, 16th April and 11th June. There will be no morning Mass or Confessions on these dates. The children will celebrate First Holy Communion on the weekend of 7th and 8th May 2016. Please continue to keep the children, their parents and families, and our catechists in your prayers.

BURNS SUPPER

The event planned for the 19th February has been cancelled. Thanks to those who expressed an interest.

COLLECTIONS IN DECEMBER (including Christmas offerings)

Loose Plate - £4,161
Standing Orders—£3,088
Envelopes—£1,510

Donations from the Christmas offerings have been made
to St Cuthbert's Care £428 and DePaul UK £428

OTHER NOTICES

PAX CHRISTI

The work of Pax Christi is based on the gospel and inspired by faith. Our vision is of a world where people can live in peace, without fear of violence in all its forms. Rooted in Catholic Christianity, we work with all who share our values to abolish war and create communities of peace and justice. Envelopes for Peace Sunday, next weekend 17th January, available at back of church for donations.

VOLUNTEERING WITH CAFOD IN 2016

Are you looking for a new year resolution? Would you like to help some of the poorest people in the world? Do you want to learn new skills and meet new people? then read on! CAFOD relies on local volunteers to work in partnership with others based overseas. Our work is varied and fulfilling, we raise awareness about the injustice of poverty and campaign and fundraise for positive change. We offer training and on-going support, to find out more call 0191 384 4847 or email: hexhamandnewcastle@cafod.org.uk

READINGS AT MASS
SUNDAY, 10TH JANUARY 2016

The Order of Mass is in the Laudate Hymn book from Hymn 479 (page 200)

First reading

Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11

'Console my people, console them' says your God. 'Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her that her time of service is ended, that her sin is atoned for, that she has received from the hand of the Lord double punishment for all her crimes.' A voice cries, 'Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord. Make a straight highway for our God across the desert. Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low. Let every cliff become a plain, and the ridges a valley; then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.' Go up on a high mountain, joyful messenger to Zion. Shout with a loud voice, joyful messenger to Jerusalem. Shout without fear, say to the towns of Judah, 'Here is your God.' Here is the Lord coming with power, his arm subduing all things to him. The prize of his victory is with him, his trophies all go before him. He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 103:1-4,24-25,27-30

Response: Bless the Lord, my soul! Lord God, how great you are.

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| 1. Lord God, how great you are,
clothed in majesty and glory,
wrapped in light as in a robe!
You stretch out the heavens like a tent. | 4. All of these look to you
to give them their food in due season.
You give it, they gather it up:
you open your hand, they have their fill. |
| 2. Above the rains you build your dwelling.
You make the clouds your chariot,
you walk on the wings of the wind,
you make the winds your messengers | 5. You hide your face, they are dismayed;
you take back your spirit, they die.
You send forth your spirit, they are created;
and you renew the face of the earth. |
| 3. How many are your works, O Lord!
In wisdom you have made them all.
The earth is full of your riches.
There is the sea, vast and wide,
with its moving swarms past counting,
living things great and small. | |

Second reading

Titus 2:11-14,3:4-7

God's grace has been revealed, and it has made salvation possible for the whole human race and taught us that what we have to do is to give up everything that does not lead to God, and all our worldly ambitions; we must be self-restrained and live good and religious lives here in this present world, while we are waiting in hope for the blessing which will come with the Appearing of the glory of our great God and saviour Christ Jesus. He sacrificed himself for us in order to *set us free from all wickedness and to purify a people so that it could be his very own* and would have no ambition except to do good. But when the kindness and love of God our saviour for mankind were revealed, it was not because he was concerned with any righteous actions we might have done ourselves; it was for no reason except his own compassion that he saved us, by means of the cleansing water of rebirth and by renewing us with the Holy Spirit which he has so generously poured over us through Jesus Christ our saviour. He did this so that we should be justified by his grace, to become heirs looking forward to inheriting eternal life.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

cf. Lk3:16

Alleluia, alleluia!

Someone is coming, said John, someone greater than I.

He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 3:15-16,21-22

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. Now when all the people had been baptised and while Jesus after his own baptism was at prayer, heaven opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily shape, like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.'

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Memorial Acclamation

Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.