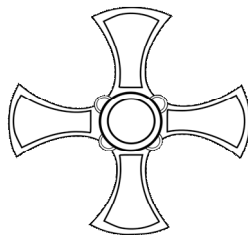


The Parish of Saint Cuthbert and Saint Joseph, North Shields

**Saint Cuthbert
Catholic Church**
*Albion Road West
North Shields*



**Saint Joseph
Catholic Church**
*Wallsend Road
North Shields*

Father Christopher Hughes, St Joseph's Church, Wallsend Road, Chirton, North Shields, NE29 7AA

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Cluster Telephone Numbers

Monsignor Andrew Faley ☎ 0191 252 8021

Father Martin Stempczyk ☎ 0191 251 3770

Other Deanery Numbers

Father Anthony Donaghue ☎ 0191 262 3882

Sr Maureen Moss ☎ 0191 257 3408

Sr Perla Garanganao, SMR ☎ 0191 251 1783

Hospital Chaplaincy ☎ 0191 293 4268

Sunday 24th January 2016 — 3rd Sunday of Year C

He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives and to the blind new sight, to set the downtrodden free, to proclaim the Lord's year of favour.

(Luke 4: 18-19)

Politicians know that to be successful they have to convince us they would pass better laws in four main areas: education, health, transport and earnings. Everything else just comes and goes. Even though most of us don't like laws (we'd prefer fewer rather than more), we do recognise that they can be useful in regulating life for the common good. So we elect people to make laws that promote fairness and foster harmony in society.

The Jewish people were famous for their laws; they seemed to have one for every occasion. But when they were deported to Babylon in Iraq in exile, the new generations lost touch with their legal system. Upon their return to Jerusalem Ezra gathered them into an assembly and read the whole of the Law to them. They cried and wept, not because the laws were harsh, but because they showed the all-encompassing care that God had for them in setting up this legal system. That's why the psalmist sang about the Law of God being perfect and gladdening the heart.



All the Old Testament laws come to fulfilment in Christ. The wisdom of God once encased in legal codes is now distilled in the person of Jesus. And when we come across him in his home-town synagogue he takes the opportunity to tell people that the law is now fulfilled in their very presence. We know later that he would sum all of this up in two laws: love God and love your neighbour.

Unlike man-made laws, the law of God is not intended to be a burden to people. It's intended to set them free to get on with life. God's law is ordered in such a way that the innate goodness and beauty of human life should be shared by all to the maximum. It encourages growth rather than restricts; it offers freedom rather than a straight-jacket. It looks at the whole picture rather than the interest of the moment.

So when Jesus says that the law and prophets are about to be fulfilled, what does he say will happen? The poor will get some good news, prisoners will be given their liberty, the blind will see again and oppressed people will be set free. If there's a politician out there, your time may be running out...

Parish Mission Statement

"You send forth your spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the earth." [Psalm 104]

We are a community who meet Jesus in His words and in His Sacraments.

Filled then, with the Holy Spirit, we seek to build a community of faith, hope, love and hospitality.

As the Gospel is proclaimed, celebrated and lived out in our daily lives, we are sent out to renew the face of the earth"

Please pray for ... A Deeper Understanding between Christians and Jews; Those who Suffer Persecution; Oppression and Denial of Human Rights; Europe, Human Life and Seafarers. Those who are sick: please pray for all who are sick, for all who are in hospital, hospice or nursing homes, including Jackie Kelly, Joseph Ackerley, Patricia Conlon, Betty Hill, Vonne and Mel Mitchell, Audrey Lewis, Betty Fenby, Canon Frank Kearney, Father Michael Marr, Father Bill Bellamy, Father Leo Coughlin, Ros McGann, Father Richard Harrioti, Gary James, Jean Williams, Catherine West, Dorothy Rutherford, Nancy Healy, Maura Lang, Kathleen Lavery, Gerry Thirsk, Father Gerard Monaghan, Tom Wright, Joan Fenwick and Gloria Gascon. We pray for all those who have died recently and all those whose anniversaries are at this time.

Total Offertory—Collections

17th January 2016— £843.37

Peace Sunday—£111.27

Welcome to Bishop Seamus

This week-end we welcome Bishop Seamus Cunningham to the parish for visitation. Fr Chris appreciates that many of you got to know the Bishop when he was Parish Priest of St Oswin's and St Mary's. He comes at an important time in the life of the Diocese and the universal Church as we reflect on 'Moving Forward Together in Hope' and The Holy Year of Mercy. We look forward to hearing what he feels called to tell us. We keep him in our prayers at this important time.

Day of Prayer for Clergy and Laity

The Bishop will be leading a number of days of prayer for Clergy and Laity. These days will be about the call to prayer and becoming Missionary Disciples. They will be on:

Tuesday 23rd February at St Mary's Cathedral, Thursday, 25th February at St Mary's Sunderland, Tuesday 1st March at St Paul's Alnwick, Wednesday 2nd March at St Aloysius Hebburn and Thursday 10th March at St Joseph's Hartlepool. Please see posters at the porch areas for more information.

Justice and Peace in the Parish

Since your parish priest is Chair of the Diocesan Justice and Peace Co-ordinating Council you will not be surprised that he is keen to see if seeking justice and peace is an important element of parish life. Fr Chris is aware that many people are involved in seeking to help others in need but a justice and peace group would help to co-ordinate the work that is done in bringing about God's kingdom of peace, love and justice. Such a group could also work closely with other parish groups in the area. If anyone is interested please contact Fr Chris.

Meeting of Special Minister of Communion

Fr Chris would like to have a meeting of Special Ministers either Mass on Ash Wednesday, February 10th, which will be about 10.30am at St Cuthbert's or about 8pm at St Joseph's. You do not have to come to both but Fr Chris would appreciate the opportunity to reflect and discuss on your ministry in the parish at one of the meetings.

Homeless Sunday

This week-end is designated 'Homeless Sunday'. The purpose of Homeless Sunday is threefold: showing our concern for individuals affected by homelessness, challenging the conditions that create it, celebrating work that tackles the problem

Whatever level of engagement a congregation has with homelessness, Homeless Sunday is an opportunity to take it a step higher.

Homeless Sunday brings together thousands of churches. It has the support of all the main denominations and is celebrated in a wide range of congregations.

If you would like to support the work of Housing Justice, the Christian ecumenical Charity that supports homeless people, please place some money or cheque in an envelope and put 'Housing Justice' on it and give it to Fr Chris.

Confirmations 2016

Please note that there has been a change of the date for the Confirmation celebrations this year. The date has been moved from July 20th to the new date of May 12th at 7pm. The first meeting with confirmands and parents will be on 15th March at 7pm.

Young People in the Parish

There will be a meeting of Young People in the Parish at the 11am Mass on Sunday 7th February. We hope to establish a Youth Council to enable the views and activities of the Young People to have a bigger impact on the parish. Again, Pizzas will be provided. If you would like to take part please sign on the lists at the back of Church.

Parish Secretary Vacancy

The parish of St Mary's, Hexham requires a part-time Secretary to assist with parish administration. The post-holder will be experienced in general office and administration duties, and have excellent and up-to-date I.T. skills. 14 hours per week. An application pack is available at www.rcdhn.org.uk. For further information please contact: Human Resources Manager, Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle (0191 243 3301 or email human.resources@diocesehn.org.uk)

Young Person's Council

Atier the successful meeting of young people in October it was agreed at the parish council that there would be an inaugural meeting of the Young Person's Council atier the 11.00am Mass on Sunday February 7th. Again Pizza's will be provided. At this meeting we will discuss the role of the council, look at the young person's questionnaire for the Moving Forward Together in Hope process, explore how links with the schools can be developed and how young people can be more involved with the Church's life.

Adult Formation DVD Course

This year Sr. Maureen will be leading a DVD course called 'Life to the Full' which is exploring the theme of Mercy. They will be the first Tuesday of the month with session at 1.30 and 7.30 pm at St Cuthbert's. The first session will be on February 2nd.

Jubilee Display

The photographs and images displayed for the Jubilee Celebrations at St Joseph's and St Cuthbert's will remain in the Long Room at St Cuthbert's Church from now until February 7th, the Sunday before Lent. Anyone who wishes to view the photographs will be able to do so atier Sunday and Wednesday Masses or by making prior arrangements. Our thanks to David Quinn for his time and work on this

Newman Association Meeting

"Married Priest your time has come". A talk by Mike Kerrihan, Chair of the movement for married Clergy. At St Mary's R.C. Church Hall Farringdon Road Cullercoats NE30 3EY, at 7.30 Wednesday 27th January.

New Members of the Parish Council

Since there were five places available on the parish council and five people were nominated, there is no need for election. Fr Chris would like to express his thanks on behalf of the whole parish to all who have just finished their two year term: Alan Badenhop, Sean Crews, Joanna Wagget, Barbara Davies and Ian Pearson. Thank-you for your commitment and service to the parish. The five new members of the council are: Sharon McCoy, Sarah McLaughlin, Ian Pearson, Liam Skelly and Andrea Willis. Fr Chris would like to express his thanks on behalf of the parish for their willingness to serve the parish in this way. The next meeting of the Parish Council will be this Wednesday 27th at St Cuthbert's at 7.30pm. Please keep the members of the work of the Council in your prayers

SVP Camp at Holy Island

Volunteers required for kitchen staff at SVP Holy Island Camp during summer holidays and during term time camps. Work involves supporting cook in preparing and serving meals, cleaning and dining room duties. Please contact Jacinta Hetherington on 07879463333 for more information. Thank you in anticipation!

Hexham Galilee Talks 2016

The following talks will be held:

Science and Religion: Exploring the Spectrum, Fern Elsdon-Baker, Saturday 20 February 2016 11:00 a.m. Fern Elsdon-Baker is principal investigator in the field of Science and Religion at Newman University, Birmingham.

Sponsoring the Sanctuary Candles

You are able to sponsor Sanctuary Candles in both churches each weekend. Envelopes for intentions and offerings are available in church for 2016.

Youth Ministry Team

World Youth Day, 25th July to 1st August 2016: Good News! The cost of our diocesan pilgrimage to Krakow has been reduced by £100 to £899. Please encourage young people aged 18-20 to participate in this wonderful experience in the Year of Mercy.

'On Fire' Confirmation Retreat for all parish/deanery groups preparing for Confirmation takes place at the Emmaus Youth Village 15th-16th April 2016.

The Source—2nd December, 7pm St. Mary's Cathedral. More information at www.ymt.org

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

This week-end we marks the end of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. We pray for all Christians in our world and in our community. We ask inspiration from the Holy Spirit to show us as to how we can work closer together.

Blessing of Animals

Thanks to all who contributed to the Blessing of Animals last Sunday, in honour of St Anthony of Egypt, the Patron Saint of Animals. Fr Chris thinks there was about 50 humans, a lot of dogs and a small number of other pets including cats, rabbits and guinea pigs. It was a bit chaotic but appreciated by the people, and if the level of barking was a an indication of approval by the dogs, they were very happy!

Children's Choir

The Children's Choir have had their first practice. The next practice of the choir will be atier the 11.00am Mass at St Cuthbert's, c. 12 noon, this Sunday.

APF/Missio Red Mission Boxes

Could St. Cuthbert's red mission box-holders please collect their 2016 calendar from the box at the back of church. With many thanks for your continued support. The amount raised in 2015 will be published in the near future.

Pancake Night

Pancake night at St. Joseph on Tuesday 9th February at 7-00pm. Tickets available atier mass £3-00. There will be a quiz & a raffle.

Reach Out

A special outreach event in our diocese will take place on Ash Wednesday 10th February in St Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle. This is an attempt at outreach whereby volunteers will go out on the streets to invite people to come to a warm, welcoming Cathedral to light a candle, say a prayer, have a chat, receive God's mercy. Volunteers and visitors alike will be 'covered' in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament exposed throughout the event.

This is a fitting venture for the Year of Mercy because we will use the Mercy Doors in the Cathedral. The whole exercise will start with 5.30 Mass offered by the Bishop and all the congregation will be sent out with candles to invite passers-by into the Cathedral. Music will be played throughout. Why not make this your Year of Mercy pilgrimage?

CAFOD Briefing and Presentation of Cheque for Health Centre

On Tuesday, 26th January at 7pm, the parish is hosting at St Cuthbert's Hall, a Diocesan meeting for CAFOD representatives. It is an opportunity for anyone in the parish who would like to support our parish representative, Pauline Rogers, in that role, to come to this meeting and discover the vision of CAFOD's Lenten Campaign this year. At the start of the meeting there will be a presentation to David Cross on behalf of CAFOD, a cheque that has been collected by the schools and the parish to build a medical centre. Congratulations to all who have been involved in this important project

Liturgy & Formation Group

There will be a meeting of this group on Thursday 4th February at 7.00pm at St Cuthbert's. The purpose of the meeting is to explore having a 24 hour prayer vigil near the Celebration of Pentecost. Parishioners in the Cluster have also been invited. If anyone is interested in this you are also very welcome

Social Committee

The next meeting of the Social Committee is to be held on Monday 1st of February 2016. 7-30am at St Cuthbert's Parish Centre.

Newman Association Meeting

"Married Priest your time has come". A talk by Mike Kerrigan, Chair of the movement for married Clergy. At St Mary's R.C. Church Hall Farringdon Road Cullercoats NE30 3EY, at 7.30 Wednesday 27th January

Changes in the Cluster Masses

There is now only one weekend Mass at Immaculate Heart of Mary's at West Monkseaton, which will be the Vigil Mass at 6.00pm. There will no longer be the Sunday Evening Mass at 5.00pm. With Our Lady Star of the Sea parish having just the three Masses there is no need for the priests in the cluster to share in saying the Masses, which will mean that Fr Martin Stempczyk will not be presiding at the Vigil Mass here at St Cuthbert's on the every 3rd week-end, though he is available to help when needed. Our thanks to Fr Martin for the support he has given to the parish.

Masses, Devotions and Services

	Masses, Devotions and Services	
	St Cuthbert's Church	St Joseph's Church
Saturday 23rd January	5.00pm—5.20pm: Confessions 5.30pm Vigil: Costello & Fatkin Families	9.30am Mass:No intentions....
Sunday 24th January 3rd Sunday of the Year	11.00am Mass: People of the Parish	9.25am The Angelus 9.30am Mass: Irma Mirozover
Monday 25th January Conversion of St. Paul	9.00am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9.30am Word & Communion	
Tuesday 26th January SS Timothy and Titus Bishops		9.00am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9.30am Word & Communion
Wednesday 27th January	9.00am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9.30am Word & Communion	
Thursday 28th January St Thomas Aquinas		9.00am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9.30am Word & Communion
Friday 29th January	9.00am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9.30am Word & Communion	
Saturday 30th January	5.00pm—5.20pm: Confessions 5.30pm Vigil: People of the Parish	9.30am :No Mass....
Sunday 31st January 4th Sunday of the Year	11.00am Mass: People of the Parish	9.25am The Angelus 9.30am Mass: People of the Parish

The Holy Father's Intentions for January

Universal: Interreligious Dialogue - That sincere dialogue among men and women of different faiths may produce the fruits of peace and justice. Evangelization: Christian Unity - That by means of dialogue and fraternal charity and with the grace of the Holy Spirit, Christians may overcome divisions.