

FIRST READING**Isaiah 49:3. 5-6***I will make you the light of the nations so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.*

The Lord said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel, in whom I shall be glorified'; I was honoured in the eyes of the Lord, my God was my strength. And now the Lord has spoken, he who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, to gather Israel to him: 'It is not enough for you to be my servant, to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back the survivors of Israel; I will make you the light of the nations so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.'

Responsorial Psalm**Psalm 39****Response:** *Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will.*

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| <p>1. I waited, I waited for the Lord
and he stooped down to me;
he heard my cry.
He put a new song into my mouth,
praise of our God.</p> | <p>2. You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings,
but an open ear.
You do not ask for holocaust and victim.
Instead, here am I.</p> |
| <p>3. In the scroll of the book it stands written
that I should do your will.
My God, I delight in your law
in the depth of my heart.</p> | <p>4. Your justice I have proclaimed
in the great assembly.
My lips I have not sealed;
you know it, O Lord.</p> |

SECOND READING**Corinthians 1:1-3***May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.*

I, Paul, appointed by God to be an apostle, together with brother Sosthenes, send greetings to the church of God in Corinth, to the holy people of Jesus Christ, who are called to take their place among all the saints everywhere who pray to our Lord Jesus Christ; for he is their Lord no less than ours. May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Blessings on the King who comes, in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heavens! Alleluia!

GOSPEL**John 1:29-34***Look, there is the lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world.*

Seeing Jesus coming towards him, John said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world. This is the one I spoke of when I said: A man is coming after me who ranks before me because he existed before me. I did not know him myself, and yet it was to reveal him to Israel that I came baptising with water.' John also declared, 'I saw the Spirit coming down on him from heaven like a dove and resting on him. I did not know him myself, but he who sent me to baptise with water had said to me, "The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and rest is the one who is going to baptise with the Holy Spirit." Yes, I have seen and I am the witness that he is the Chosen One of God.'

Peace Sunday

The Bishops of England and Wales invite us to keep this Sunday as a day of prayer for world peace and to reflect on the theme Pope Francis has chosen for the annual World Peace Day: Nonviolence: a style of politics for peace. The nonviolence of Jesus is a positive force for:
Healing individuals by his compassionate love, humanity by suffering a violent death on the cross with forgiveness.
Restoring rejected people to community, sinful people to relationship with God and justice with each other.
Asserting human dignity, equality, and access to God's love and forgiveness for those who repent and believe. Let us a parish pray for world seeking for peace and justice without resorting to violence.

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Sunday, 15th January 2017 – 2nd in Ordinary Time - Year A

Masses, Devotions and Services			
		St Cuthbert's Church	St Joseph's Church
Saturday	14 th January	4:45-5:15pm: Confessions 5.30pm Mass: John Hughes RIP	9:30am Mass:
Sunday	15 th January 2 nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	11:00am Mass: People of the Parish	9:25am The Angelus 9:30am Mass: Daughters of St Paul
Monday	16 th January	9:00am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9:30am Mass:	
Tuesday	17 th January St Anthony Abbot		9:00am: Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9:30am Mass:
Wednesday	18 th January	9:00am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9:30am Mass: Jane Walsh	
Thursday	19 th January		9:00am: Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9:30am Mass:
Friday	20 th January	9:00am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9:30am Mass:	
Saturday	21 st January St Agnes Virgin & Martyr	4:45-5:15pm: Confessions 5.30pm Mass: People of the Parish	9:30am Mass:
Sunday	22 nd January 3 rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	11:00am Mass: Lillian Shotton	9:25am The Angelus 9:30am Mass: People of the Parish

Forward Together In Hope

Glory be to the Father – in whom we live and move and have our being.
Glory be to the Son – whose name we bear and who calls each of us to be his disciples; to build his Kingdom and to go out into the world and bear its fruit.
Glory be to the Holy Spirit – pouring out grace and guidance, forming us and renewing us. Inspire us all in the diocese of Hexham and Newcastle to live the Gospel, to be open to change and to move forward together in hope.

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, Mel Mitchell, Audrey Lewis, Father Michael Marr, Father Bill Bellamy, Father Leo Coughlin, Ros McGann, Father Richard Harriott, Gary James, Catherine West, Dorothy Rutherford, Nancy Healy, Gerry Thirsk, Tom Wright, Florence Redpath, Mary Wood, Patricia Taws, Shane Aberintos, Stephen Hyde, Evelyn Oshegbu, Pauline Chandra, Debbie Megan, Kay Butler, Sarah Harrison, Fred Stimpson and Lena Armbuster. We pray for all those who have recently died and for those whose anniversaries are at this time.

Ordinary Time part I

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord last Monday marked the end of Christmastide. We are now in Ordinary time part 1 till Ash Wednesday on March 1st. However the theme of Epiphany is still the focus of our readings this weekend. In Year A we will most of our Gospels from St Matthew's Gospel, but today we have a passage from St John Gospel, with John the Baptist declaring the true significance of Christ. As mentioned last week by Fr Chris, Christ is revealing himself as the Sign, Affirmation, and Transformation of God.

Celebration of the Baptised in 2016

Fr Chris would like to express his thanks to all who contributed to the celebration last Sunday of those baptised. All present enjoyed the service and those parents who took part appreciated being invited and taking part in the service. One of the baptised last year who had hoped to be there was the one adult baptised last year, Elizabeth Kulik. Happily, this was not possible since she gave birth to a baby girl on Saturday ☺. Congratulations to her and her husband, Marcin, on the birth of their daughter.

First Holy Communion Programme

This week-end we have the next of the First Holy Communion Liturgies. There will be a short liturgy at the Penitential rite. This will focus on God's forgiveness as the children prepare for their first Confession on January 24th at St Cuthbert's. We continue to pray for the First Holy Communion candidates. Please note that there is a meeting for all parents on 18th January at 6.00pm at St Cuthbert's. The theme of the evening is Forgiveness. The parish is delighted to welcome Richard Moore who is the Director of Children in Crossfire. Children in Crossfire help children experiencing poverty in some of the most trouble parts of the world. Richard at the age of 12, was blinded by a rubber bullet in Derry by a British Soldier. Richard will give a personal story of his coming to terms with his blindness and his story of not only forgiving the soldier who shot him but how they have become personal friends. It will be an inspiring evening about the power of forgiveness. The meeting is open to other parishioners as well

Young People in the Parish

The Christmas party was enjoyed by all who took part. The young people have decided that they would like to meet once a month, on the first Sunday of every month, from 6-7.30. The time will be an informal social time which is open to all at secondary school age. The next meeting will be on Sunday February 5th.

Homeless Sunday

Next Sunday, January 22nd is Homeless Sunday. Each year, churches and Christian ministries unite together to mark Homeless Sunday. This is something which has been going in excess of 15 years to enable Christians to pray for those in their own community who are homeless as well as to look at how they can commit to new practical action. The Christian Campaign group on Housing, Housing Justice, whose, CEO, Alison Gelder, spoke in our parish last year, ask us to: connect with homeless people, challenge politicians and those in power to make response and commit to practical action.

Housing Justice has been working alongside Crisis in mobilising support for the Homelessness Reduction Bill which is currently going through Parliament. It is a Private Member's Bill which means that there are no guarantees of its success - at least 100 MPs must be in the Commons on the day of the debate, and the next is scheduled for Friday 27th January. You can help by writing to your MP and asking her/him to be present at Parliament to vote in favour of the Bill making it through to the final stage

CAFOD News

CAFOD is desperately looking for volunteers willing to help children and young people in our schools learn about global poverty. You don't need to be an expert or a trained teacher, just someone who cares about global poverty and is happy to work with children and young people. We offer all our volunteers a full training programme, ongoing support and excellent resources. If you're interested, please contact the diocesan Volunteer Centre on 0191 384 4847 or hexhamandnewcastle@cafod.org.uk. Thank you.

Finally, for those of you who are new to volunteering with CAFOD, or those of you who would just like an update, we've arranged to hold an Understanding CAFOD workshop in our Durham Volunteer centre on Wednesday 18th January between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. It's a great chance to learn about the inside workings of CAFOD and have fun meeting some like-minded people. Better still, lunch will be provided! There's no need to put this in the newsletter (although everyone is welcome) but please let us know if you're coming.

CAFOD's Winter Warmer, Sunday 29 January 2017.

Join with us on Sunday 29 January from 2.30pm as we welcome Isam Aruri, Director of CAFOD's Palestinian partner Jerusalem Legal Aid Centre (JLAC) and Project Coordinator, Shu'la Abdelahbi, to the parish centre of St Charles, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne. They will be speaking about the legal work that JLAC has been doing on behalf of some of the poorest and most marginalised people on the West Bank and in East Jerusalem. The event begins at 2.30pm with a display and video setting the scene for our visitors who will speak at 3.00pm. There will be the opportunity to ask questions and to come together with other CAFOD supporters and volunteers. For further information or to register for the event please email: hexhamandnewcastle@cafod.org.uk or tel: 0191 384 4847

Tyneside Circle Newman Association

Next talk is "Prison Fellowship: Taking the Love of Jesus into Prison" by Patricia Bragg. At St Mary's RC Church Hall, Farringdon Road, Cullercoats NE30 3EY at 7.30 Wednesday 25th January. All welcome.

Holocaust Memorial Evening

The Department of Interreligious Relations are having a Holocaust Memorial Evening on Wednesday 25th January at 7pm, at St Mary's RC Comprehensive School, Benton Park Road, Longbenton, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE7 7PE. The key speaker will be Mrs Marta Josephs, who is a survivor of the Concentration Camps. If you would like to attend please let the Interreligious department know at: gjw1949@aol.com or on: 0792 9115 712.

Appeal

Rebecca Lland, cofounder of EVC (Empowering Vulnerable Children) Uganda will speak at our parish masses on 21st/22nd January. The charity raises funds to provide desperately poor children with an education in a loving, caring and supportive environment. The Sponsor a Child Programme provides a route out of poverty and destitution through education, offering a real hope for the future. After Mass, Rebecca will be available in the meeting room with further information and to answer questions about the charity. Fr Chris appreciates that many calls are made on your generosity, but Fr Chris responded this request for an appeal since we have a young person with north east connections putting their faith into action in a powerful and inspiring way, which he thinks is worth supporting. Of course, he is also a former chaplain to the Universities in Newcastle, keen to support former chaplaincy students in living out their faith.

A Warm Welcome Back

This week, we welcome back Anne Walsh who has been staying at St. Cuthbert's Presbytery since September while her daughter Jane was in the Freeman Hospital after extensive transplant surgery. Sadly, Jane died on December 18th. The Mass on Wednesday at St Cuthbert's at 9.30am on January 18th will be for Jane. We continue to pray for the family at this sad time.

Women's World Day of Prayer

This event is being hosted at St Cuthbert's on March 3rd at 2.00pm. The prayers and reflections are offered from a particular country and for 2017, it is women from the Philippines who have created the prayers resources. In the light of this, the organisers are wondering if the Filipino women from the parish would like to be involved. If interested, please contact Fr Chris or Elizabeth Austin at: elizabeth.m.austin@icloud.com. The theme this year is: 'Am I being unfair to you?'

Elections to Parish Council

Elections to the parish council will take place on January 22nd. There are at five vacancies on the council. Please consider if you would like to be on the council or please approach someone else whom you think would have something important to offer the work of the council. Fr Chris would like to see the parish council strongly reflecting the very rich diversity of the parish. As we enter into a partnership, it is very important that the parish is focussed on its mission and covering all areas of Christian life. The parish council can enable this to happen. Nominations need to have a proposer and seconder from the parish. They are to be given to Ian Pearson, the Chair of the parish council by 15th of January.

The Source

Wednesday 1 February 2017 between 7.00pm – 8.30pm at St. Mary's Cathedral. A chance to take some time for ourselves. Praise and worship, prayer, a guest speaker followed by social time and refreshments. Year 9 and above.

Reunion for existing Liturgical Lay Leaders

This is for those already exercising this ministry. Please let Fr Chris know if you would like to attend. It will be at St. Hilda's Resource Centre Monday 27th March 2017 - 7.00pm-9.00pm St. Cuthbert House, Newcastle, NE15 7PY. There is no charge for this event.

Young people

Have you checked out the FLAME video? CYMFed Flame 2017 Have you booked your place? March 2017 10,000 Reasons. Poster at the back of Church Pass your name to Fr Chris, Kath (St. Cuthbert's) or Ruth (St. Joseph's) £10 deposit, nothing else to pay for return trip to London and entry into the event. Be one of the 1000 young people from the diocese.

Children's Liturgy St Joseph's

The Children Liturgy needs more people to help with this. Even if you are DBS covered, just being present in the chapel would be helpful. Please see either Fr Chris or Sheila Hall, Joanna Waggot or Maria Robson.

Blessing of Animals

This was a very successful event last year and it has been decided to be repeated but this time outside on the grass near the car-park. It will take place on Saturday 21 January at 12 noon.

CAFOD Emergency Appeal for Crisis in Yemen

Advent is a time of prayer and reflection as we look forward to celebrating the birth of Christ. CAFOD especially asks over the coming weeks for us to remember the people of Yemen. CAFOD's partner in Yemen is providing humanitarian assistance in the form of food, water, medical care and shelter. You can find updates on the situation and how we are responding to this crisis: <http://cafod.org.uk/News/Emergencies-news/Yemen-Crisis-Explained>

You can download prayers to use: http://cafod.org.uk/content/download/609/5794/version/6/file/Prayer_conflict_may-your-kingdom-come_prayer.pdf.

Should your parish or anyone like to support this appeal, they can donate online at: <http://www.dec.org.uk/appeal/yemen-crisis-appeal> or give donations in an envelope marked 'Yemen Emergency appeal'.

Dick Wittington and his cat – Pantomime

A very big THANK YOU to Nora Pearce for organising this year's trip to the Pantomime. Great fun was had by all. Oh yes it was!