FIRST READING
Isaiah 58:7-10

The will your light shine like the dawn.

Thus says the Lord: Share your bread with the hungry, and shelter the homeless poor, clothe the man you see to be naked and do not turn from your own kin. Then will your light shine like the dawn and your wound be quickly healed over. Your integrity will go before you and the glory of the Lord behind you. Cry, and the Lord will answer; call, and he will say, ‘I am here.’ If you do away with the yoke, the clenched fist, the wicked word, if you give your bread to the hungry, and relief to the oppressed, your light will rise in the darkness, and your shadows become like noon.

Responsorial Psalm
Psalm 111

Response: The good man is a light in the darkness for the upright.

1. He is a light in the darkness for the upright:
he is generous, merciful and just.
The good man takes pity and lends,
his justice stands firm for ever.
His head will be raised in glory.

SECOND READING
Corinthians 2:1-5

During my stay with you, the only knowledge I claimed to have was about Jesus as the crucified Christ.

When I came to you, brothers, it was not with any show of oratory or philosophy, but simply to tell you what God had guaranteed. During my stay with you, the only knowledge I claimed to have was about Jesus, and only about him as the crucified Christ. Far from relying on any power of my own, I came among you in great ‘fear and trembling’ and in my speeches and the sermons that I gave, there were none of the arguments that belong to philosophy; only a demonstration of the power of the Spirit. And I did this so that your faith should not depend on human philosophy but on the power of God.

Gospel Acclamation
Alleluia, alleluia! I am the light of the world, says the Lord, anyone who follows me will have the light of life. Alleluia!

GOSPEL
Matthew 5:13-16

You are the light of the world.

Jesus said to his disciples, ‘You are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes tasteless, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing, and can only be thrown out to be trampled underfoot by men. ‘You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill-top cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way your light must shine in the sight of men, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven.’

Sunday, 5th February 2017 – 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

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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 his 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, Mat Mitchell, Audrey Lewis, Father Michael Marr, Father Bill Bellamy, Father Leo Coughlin, Ross McGann, Father Richard Harriott, Gary James, Catherine West, Dorothy Rutherford, Nancy Healy, Gerry Thirsk, ...so a poster about the m drinks reception followed by; 6.00 thocesan Volunteer Centre st thrd chrth Dunston, or Carmel College, The Headlands, Darlington two events taking place at the As mentioned in the Bishop’s Pastoral Letter, there will be this sacrament Seamus, to confer the Sacrament of Confirmation on April Next Sunday, February 12 th the meeting. There will be a meeting of the Liturgy Group on 7 th Chair and willing to would like to attend. There are other prayer stations across the church that will inform and help people to learn and take part in a number of different types of prayer and spirituality. The Church will be open during the weekend for people to come at their own pace to reflect on the various stations. If you yourself would like to prepare a station, please contact Fr Chris. Centre for Catholic Studies Thursday 9 February 2017: Catholic Theology Research Seminar. A talk by Dr. Frances Clemson: ‘Acting and Imaging: Theatre and Theology in the work of Dorothy L. Sayers and Charles Williams’. 5.30pm (Drinks), 5.45pm - 7.15pm (Paper & Discussion) at Dun Cow Cottage, Dun Cow Lane, Durham. If you wish to attend the seminar, please register at: Any queries email: ccs.admin@durham.ac.uk or tel: 0191 334 1656. Wednesday 22 February 2017: Ushaw Lectures: A lecture by Prof. Maurice Whitehead: ‘Maps, Meridians and Missions: Christopher Maire, SJ (1697–1767), a Durham Cartographer’. 5.30pm drinks reception followed by: 6.00 - 7.15pm lecture in the Exhibition Hall, Ushaw College. To book a place at an Ushaw Lecture, please email: hannah.thomas@durham.ac.uk or tel: Jane Lidstone on 0191 334 1656. International Refugee Trust This charity is looking for people to take part in the Great North Run on 10th September. If you would like to run for this charity that helps refugees in Jordan, South Sudan and Uganda, please contact Katie on 020 8994 9120 or at: Katie@itog.org.uk Tyne and Wear Citizens The next stage of Tyne and Wear Citizens is what is called a listening campaign. We want to know what concerns and issues people have in the local area. Fr Chris is willing to host two meetings, on February 15th at St Joseph’s, February 21st at St Cuthbert’s and would welcome anyone who would like to share concerns and issues in their local area and any vision for change they would like to see. Please let anyone irrespective of their belief know they are welcome. Galilee Lecture– St Mary’s Hexham Three Popes & their Three Papers on Work Employment lawyer - and parishioner of St Mary’s, Hexham Max Winthrop looks at Catholic Social Teaching on work and employment and raises the question: “If the Jesus of the Gospel, who befriended tax collectors and prostitutes, returned today, what message would we have for lap dancers and people on zero hours contracts - and their employers?” Prayer Festival The Liturgy and Formation group have decided that we will go ahead with a prayer festival during the first weekend in Lent, 3-5th March. The woman’s world day of prayer event at St Cuthbert’s on 3rd March will mark the start of the event, finishing with Stations of the Cross at 4pm on the Sunday. The hope of the weekend is to have a number of prayer stations across the Church that will inform and help people to learn and take part in a number of different types of prayer and spirituality. The Church will be open during the weekend for people to come at their own pace to reflect on the various stations. If you yourself would like to prepare a station, please contact Fr Chris. Position of Parish Administrator The diocese has accepted an application from the parish for a paid position of parish administrator to be established for the parish. In the light of the Moving Forward Together in Hope process and that will be a temporary position for 12 months. Please see the insert that has been published by the diocese. There is also a poster about the Job at the back of the church. Young People We are trying to get a list of your people who regularly attend the parish and are pupils of St Thomas More. If you are a pupil at St Thomas More’s please complete the form at the back of Church. Young parishioners will be meeting this Sunday, February 5th at 6.00pm. 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 4497 or heshamandnewcastle@cafof.org.uk. Thank you. 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. 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?” 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. Social Calendar Future events are as follows: 28th February - Pancake Night at St Cuthberts 18th March - Celidh at St Cuthberts 25th March - Jumble Sale at St Cuthberts 23rd April - Afternoon Tea at St Josephs 27th May - Polish Night (food etc more info later) 10th June - Summer Fayre at St Cuthberts Goods needed for the Jumble Sale, no electricals please. 1. Finance Committee The Parish Finance committee will now be meeting at St Joseph’s on Thursday 23rd February at 7.00pm. The main focus of the agenda will be discussing the building carried out by the Diocese on our parish properties. 2. Wedding Congratulations Please pray for Theodore Arcillas and Chloe Moser who will be married in the Philippines, tomorrow, February 6th. Our congratulations to them both and very best wishes for their married life together. 3. John Paul II Awards Our sincere and warm congratulations to Sam Bunwood who has been awarded the Gold award for the John Paul II Awards. This is a great achievement and the parish have every right to be very proud of her. Sam, who is a year 13 pupil at St Thomas More’s High School and a member of the parish council, is the first parishioner to receive this award. We hope her success will inspire other young people in our parish to seek this award. Sam will collect her award from Carinal Cormac Murphy O’Connor at a ceremony at the Tynesian Opera Theatre on the Westgate Road, on Thursday March 2nd. A Diocesan Sacramental Day for Reconciliation and Eucharist. An opportunity to deepen understanding of what it means to be a Catechist and to look at the programmes and guidelines available. For those already involved in catechesis and those interested in becoming involved. Saturday 4 March 2017 at 10.00am - 3.00pm to be held at St. Joseph’s Parish Hall, Gateshead, NE8 1LX. There is no charge for this day. Please bring a packed lunch. Booking is essential. If you would like to attend, please email: adultFORMATION@dioceseehn.org.uk or tel: 0191 243 3313. Coming up at Minsteracres: Quiet days of reflection during Lent Wednesday 15 March – Sr. Rosie Spence RSM Wednesday 22 March – Sr. Anne McCarthy RSCJ Wednesday 29 March – Kathryn Turner Wednesday 5 April – Sr. Sheila McNamara RSCJ Day of Recollection There is to be a Ladies Day of Reflection at the Franciscan Friary, Alnmouth on Saturday 1st April. The day will be led by Fr Chris and we will give you an opportunity to ‘pause and reflect’ on our Lenten Journey. All parishioners are most welcome. The theme will be – Christ; Our Servant and Teacher. The cost will be approximately £15, a packed lunch will be required: tea and fruit juice will be provided. Please sign up in the church porch if you would like to attend. Thank you. Thanks to Fr Michael Hickey for supplying this weekend while Fr Chris is away. Funeral Service The funeral service for Christine Crouch will be held at St Cuthberts Church on Friday 10th February at 12.45pm. Parish Council At the meeting of the Parish Council on January 25th, Ian Pearson, Bernard Carley, and Linda Shotton, were all re-elected to the respective posts of Chair, Vice- Chair and Secretary. Our sincere thanks to them for being willing to serve the parish in this role for another 12 months. Liturgy Group Meeting 7th Feb There will be a meeting of the Liturgy Group on 7th February at 7.30 at St Cuthbert’s Kathrym Turner, the head of the Diocesan Department for Spirituality will be joining us to discuss the ‘Festival of Prayer’ on the weekend of March 3rd -5th. If anyone would like to contribute a prayer station for that weekend you are also very welcome to join us for the meeting. Celebration of Confirmation Next Sunday, February 12th at St Joseph’s at the 9.30 Mass, Fr Chris has been given permission by Bishop Seamus, to confer the Sacrament of Confirmation on April Infante. We will welcome April, her fiancé Noel and all her family and friends, Please pray for April as she prepares for this sacrament. Moving Forward Together in Hope As mentioned in the Bishop’s Pastoral Letter, there will be two events taking place at the same time on February 9th where the partnership proposals will be announced. The invitation is to the entire diocese. Both events will start at 7.30 pm at either: The lancastrian Suite, Lancaster Road, Dunston, or Carmel College, The Headlands, Darlington.