

FIRST READING*I will never forget you.*

Zion was saying, 'The Lord has abandoned me, the Lord has forgotten me.' Does a woman forget her baby at the breast, or fail to cherish the son of her womb? Yet even if these forget, I will never forget you.

Responsorial Psalm (to be read by the whole congregation together)**Response:** *In God alone is my soul at rest.***Isaiah 49:14-15****Psalm 61**

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| <p>1. In God alone is my soul at rest;
my help comes from him.
He alone is my rock, my stronghold,
my fortress: I stand firm.</p> <p>3. In God is my safety and glory,
the rock of my strength.
Take refuge in God all you people.
Trust him at all times.
Our out your hearts before him.</p> | <p>2. In God alone be at rest, my soul;
for my hope comes from him.
He alone is my rock, my stronghold,
my fortress: I stand firm.</p> |
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SECOND READING*The Lord will reveal the secret intentions of men's hearts.*

People must think of us as Christ's servants, stewards entrusted with the mysteries of God. What is expected of stewards is that each one should be found worthy of his trust. Not that it makes the slightest difference to me whether you, or indeed any human tribunal, find me worthy or not. I will not even pass judgement on myself. True, my conscience does not reproach me at all, but that does not prove that I am acquitted: the Lord alone is my judge. There must be no passing of premature judgement. Leave that until the Lord comes; he will light up all that is hidden in the dark and reveal the secret intentions of men's hearts. Then will be the time for each one to have whatever praise he deserves, from God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Your word is truth, O Lord,
consecrate us in the truth. Alleluia!

GOSPEL*Do not worry about tomorrow.*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'No one can be the slave of two masters: he will either hate the first and love the second, or treat the first with respect and the second with scorn. You cannot be the slave both of God and of money. 'That is why I am telling you not to worry about your life and what you are to eat, nor about your body and how you are to clothe it. Surely life means more than food, and the body more than clothing! Look at the birds in the sky. They do not sow or reap or gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are we not worth much more than they are? Can any of you, for all his worrying, add one single cubit to his span of life? And why worry about clothing? Think of the flowers growing in the fields; they never have to work or spin; yet I assure you that not even Solomon in all his regalia was robed like one of these. Now if that is how God clothes the grass in the field which is there today and thrown into the furnace tomorrow, will he not much more look after you, you men of little faith? So do not worry; do not say, "What are we to eat? What are we to drink? How are we to be clothed?" It is the pagans who set their hearts on all these things. Your heavenly Father knows you need them all. Set your hearts on his kingdom first, and on his righteousness, and all these other things will be given you as well. So do not worry about tomorrow: tomorrow will take care of itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.'

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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

☎ (Tel) 0191 257 5801 / ☎ (Fax) 0191 259 2589

✉ (Email) northshields.stjoseph@rcdhn.org.uk / northshields.stcuthbert@rcdhn.org.uk

Cluster Telephone Numbers

Monsignor Andrew Faley ☎ 0191 252 8021
Father Martin Stempczyk ☎ 0191 251 3770
St Cuthbert's Church ☎ 0191 257 3408

Other Deanery Numbers

Father Anthony Donaghue ☎ 0191 262 3882
Father John McElhone ☎ 0191 2623820
Hospital Chaplaincy: Fr Stephen Watson ☎ 07768 3873931

Sunday, 26th February 2017 – 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

Masses, Devotions and Services		
	St Cuthbert's Church	St Joseph's Church
Saturday 25 th February	4:45-5:15pm: Confessions 5.30pm Mass: Pat Taws	9:30am Mass:
Sunday 26 th February 8 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	11:00am Mass:	9:25am The Angelus 9:30am Mass: Joan & Herbert Redpath
Monday 27 th February	9:00am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9:30am Word & Communion	
Tuesday 28 th February St David Patron St of Wales		9:00am: Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9:30am Mass: Ellen Tyrrell
Wednesday 1 st March Ash Wednesday	9:00am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9:30am Mass: Chrissy Cauch	7:00pm Mass:
Thursday 2 nd March		9:00am: Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9:30am Mass:
Friday 3 rd March Women's World Day of Prayer	9:00am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9:30am Mass: 7:00am Mass:	
Saturday 4 th March	9:30am Mass: 4:45-5:15pm: Confessions 5.30pm Mass:	
Sunday 5 th March 1 st Sunday of Lent	11:00am Mass: 4:00pm Stations of the Cross	9:25am The Angelus 9:30am Mass: George Storey

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, Chandra, Debbie Megan, Kay Butler, Sarah Harrison, Fred Stimpson, Lena Armbuster and baby Eliana Carter. We pray for Fr Seamus Doyle, Helen Hezelgrave, Margaret Saint and Robert Molloy who have died recently and all those whose anniversaries are at this time.

Lent 2017

We begin our annual journey of faith to Easter, starting with Ash Wednesday, with Lent being seen as a time of grace for our relationship with God and discipleship of Christ being renewed.

Ash Wednesday

We begin our Lenten time with Mass on Ash Wednesday, a day of fasting and abstinence. Mass and the distribution of Ashes will be celebrated at 9.30am at St Cuthbert's and 7.00pm at St Joseph's.

Festival of Prayer

We begin our Festival of Prayer on Friday 3rd March with the Women's World Day of Prayer event, to which all are welcome, at 2.00pm at St Cuthbert's. You may recognise the preacher (!) who feels very privileged to be asked to speak at this event. This year the Prayer resources have been prepared by women from the Philippines. In recognition of this the Filipino community will be offering some of their native hospitality after the event,

The Church will be open till Mass at 7.00pm. The following day Mass will be at St Cuthbert's and the Church will be open. You are all encouraged to look at the resources that have been put together to help us at the start of lent to find a way of prayer that will help to deepen our relationship with Christ.

The festival of prayer will finish with Stations of the Cross at 4.00pm.

Lenten Course

The Liturgy and Formation group have decided that the theme for our Lent course will be 'Sharing our Gifts'. We will be exploring the variety of ministries that are needed for a community to be a flourishing parish. I am delighted that all the input will be led by parishioners which shows the depth and range of gifts we have. The talks will be taking place at St Cuthbert's and will start at 7.00pm

March 8 th	Evangelism & Witness - Ruth Corless
March 15 th	Pastoral Care - Tony Wright
March 22 nd	Prayer and Worship - Barbara Davies
March 29 th	Formation and Teaching - Tim O'Grady
April 5 th	Administration - David Leane & Sheila Hall
April 12 th	Seeking Justice and Social Outreach - Peter Quinn and Fr Chris.

I hope the variety of issues will show the diversity of parish ministry but all aspects are needed and we are all called to reflect on how we can contribute to this variety of ministries to enable our parish and partnership to be a sustainable and flourishing.

Worship in Lent

Every Sunday will have Stations of the Cross at 4.00pm. They will take place at either Church on alternate Sundays starting at St Cuthbert's on Sunday, 5th March.

There will be an evening Mass on a Friday evening at 7.00pm. On March 3rd this will take place at St Cuthbert's, for the remainder of the Fridays in Lent this will take place at St Joseph's

Lenten Groups in North Shields Churches Together

The following Churches will be hosting a Lenten Group based on a DVD based on the Gospel of John:

Mondays	7-7.30pm	Fishermen's Mission, North Shields
Wednesdays	2pm	at St John's, Percy Main
Thursdays	7-7.30	at St Columba's Northumberland Square

Parish Administrator

Fr Chris is delighted to announce that the panel that interviewed the candidates this week have appointed Katherine Maine. Katherine has worked for a number of years with an investment merchant group so brings with her much experience as an administrator as well as a commitment to help our parish community to develop. Fr Chris would like to thank the panel, Katherine Nugent, from the diocese Human Resources team, and Sheila Hall and David Leane for their efforts in this process. Katherine will take up her new post this Tuesday, February 28th. We wish her well and hope & pray she is happy and fulfilled in this new appointment.

Baptisms

At 12.30pm at St Cuthbert's this Sunday we will welcome Aiden Joseph Anderson in the Sacrament of Baptism. At the 11.00am Mass we will welcome Eliana Carter and her parents Joey and Chris. Eliana had her baptism soon after her birth. We will complete the ceremonies of the Baptism liturgy.

Sending Forth Liturgy

At the vigil Mass this week-end we will have our 'Sending Forth' Liturgy for our two candidates for Reception at Easter Lukas Richter and Jo Barton Gates. On the following Sunday they will take part in the Rite of the Election at the Cathedral at 3.00pm and be formally welcome as Candidates for Reception in to the Church by Bishop Seamus.

Trinity Charity Shop

The parish has just received the latest quarterly share from the Trinity Charity Shop. It came to £1200.82p. This another great total and thanks to all who contribute and volunteer in the shop for their commitment and hard work.

CAFOD Speaker

Brigid Duffy is a member of YMT and has taken part in in CAFOD's 'Step into the Gap' Programme, which involves young people in their gap years spending some time with CAFOD partners overseas. At the end of Masses next week-end, Brigid will give a brief reflection about her experience as a lead up to CAFOD's Lenten Family Fast day on Friday March 10th. CAFOD's request to our parish from throughout the diocese to host Brigid, is a great affirmation of their recognition of our commitment to CAFOD's work. Envelopes will be available next week-end.

Tyne and Wear Citizens

Fr Chris would like to thanks those who came to the 'Listening Events' at our two respective Churches. The parish will be supporting St Cuthbert's Primary school in their campaign to have traffic calming measures on Coach Lane. At the listening events we asked this question 'What change would you like to see for the common good in your area.

Moving Forward in the Faith

On Thursday 9th February the Diocese announced that the Diocese would be structured as 18 partnerships. The diocese had received 27 proposals. The full details of the partnership will be made available. The partnership that our parish had put forward along with the other parishes was accepted with no amendments, so our parish will be part of the partnership of the parishes in the Cluster and Wallsend. Within the remainder of the Vicariate we belong to, which is the other parishes in North Tyneside and all the parishes in the City of Newcastle, becoming two partnerships, one those parishes in the east and north of the city and then the parishes in the city centre and to the west of the city being another partnership.

The Bishop sees Partnerships as having the following qualities:

- A range of formation programmes can be developed, at a more local level, to help communities provide pastoral care for many groups of people, catechesis, marriage preparation and worship.
- Support can be made available for smaller communities.
- The gifts, talents and financial resources in a wider area can be put at the service of more people.
- Responsibility for a range of services such as finance, health and safety, administration and communication can be coordinated across a wider area.
- Priests can be freed to concentrate on their essential calling to preach, call the community to worship and the celebration of the sacraments.
- A thorough and careful review of property and its uses can be carried out throughout the area.
- Opportunities can be found for people to come together across the area to celebrate and worship together.
- Leadership teams including priests, deacons and people can develop to help everyone deepen their understanding of what it means to be a witness to Jesus in our world today.

I hope that our whole diocesan family will continue to pray that the Holy Spirit will guide us.

Fr Chris' initial reflections as to how we as a parish move on from here is that as a parish community we need to be aware of the gifts and strengths we have to share with our partnership.

We need to quickly develop a strong collective sense of communal identity of a partnership that is made up of 6 parishes and 10 church communities.

The need to have a strong sense of the different ministries of parish life: prayer & worship, evangelism, formation, administration, pastoral care, social outreach, to enable growth in our parish and partnership and to develop personal discipleship of Christ.

The full details of the proposal are on the diocesan website. The diocesan will be offering practical guidelines as to how partnership can be developed. Once the clergy have met to form our partnership, Fr Chris shall let you know the next steps in this process.

Special Ministers

After the Masses on Ash Wednesday, 9.30 at St Cuthbert's and 7.00pm at St Joseph's, Fr Chris would like to meet with all the special ministers at either Mass to discuss their ministry.

The Balkwell Project

A film has been created by Collingwood Primary School and Amber Film and Photography Collective about the history of the Balkwell Estate. There will be a screening of the film at St Peter's, C. of E. Church, in Balkwell at 6.00pm this Thursday, March 2nd. The film is free.

The Cedarwood Centre

As many of you know, the Cedarwood Centre in the Meadow Well Estate, moved premises in December across the road to a former local authority building just across the road in Avon Avenue. One of the projects is to build a 'street gym', which is raising costs by crowd funding. Can you please have a look to see whether this is something that you'd like to support and/or pass the link to your contacts please? The link is <https://www.spacehive.com/cedarwood-streetgym>

Church Action on Poverty

Poverty Action Sunday is February 26th. This year the theme is: Poor Church, Transfigured Church. What change must take part in our Church if the needs of the poorest come first. There will be an ecumenical event at St Michael's Church, Headlam Street, Byker, NE6 2DX. All are welcome.

Coming up at Minsteracres:

Quiet days of reflection during Lent
 Wednesday 15 March – Sr. Rosarie 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 Lenten Day of Reflection at the Franciscan Friary, Alnmouth on Saturday 1st April. The day will be led by Fr Chris and will give us 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.

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.

Appeal from St Joseph's Nursery

St Joseph's Nursery would be most grateful for any of the following: Toy Cars, Fairy Tale story books, Wellies to fit up to size 12, old cordless telephones, Small World Toys (e.g animals & Playpeople). Please put in the box at St Joseph's Church. Many thanks.

Social Calendar

Future events are as follows:

28 th February	- Pancake Night at St Cuthberts
18 th March	- Ceilidh at St Cuthberts
25 th March	- Jumble Sale at St Cuthberts
23 rd April	- Afternoon Tea at St Josephs
27 th May	- Polish Night (food etc more info later)
10 th June	- Summer Fayre at St Cuthberts

Goods needed for the Jumble Sale, no electricals please.