

PARISH NOTICES

LENT & HOLY WEEK 2017 - TO BE A PILGRIM: IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF JESUS

Lent begins this week on Ash Wednesday. We are marked on our foreheads with blessed ashes with the Sign of the Cross. This sign exposes us to the gaze of all, that we are a people of faith and penance, and that we desire to enter this penitential season of forty days full of hope that God our Father will pour on us his grace and mercy through our drawing closer to his Son, Jesus.

We are grateful to those of our parish community who met in February to reflect on how we could be supported in this season in our prayer, meditation and action towards the great liturgies of Holy Week. It was agreed that the Diocesan Department for Spirituality resources 'To be a Pilgrim: in the Footsteps of Jesus', would be one focus, and the praying of the Stations of the Cross in our three churches, organized by the parish Justice and Peace Group, and other parishioners, would be another. A third focus would be to join a meditation group offering 'A Mindful Way for Lent' during the season. Our prayer and meditation will be complemented by actively supporting the DePaul Trust's work for people with no homes. Information about all these opportunities are in this bulletin.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) will be available throughout Lent on Saturdays at St Edward's Church, 10.00am - 10.30am and by appointment. The Sacrament is also available at regular times posted in the churches of our new Partnership of Parishes.

The children being prepared for First Holy Communion will make their First Confession at St Edward's at 6.00pm on 5th April. Children's Stations of the Cross will be held on Good Friday at 10.00am at Our Lady's and St Edmund's.

This year, the Easter Triduum from Maundy Thursday's Mass of the Lord's Supper, through Good Friday's Liturgy of the Lord's Passion and on to Holy Saturday's Easter Vigil will be celebrated at St Edward's Church, with ministers from all three churches participating in the celebrations with their usual care and efficiency. This is to develop closer cooperation between parishioners across the Parish, and also to focus on St Edward's as the mother church of our Parish. In the near future, it may well be that the main churches in our 6-parish Partnership will be called on to become the main centres for Sunday Mass as the numbers of clergy and Sunday Masses decline.

Lent 2017: Opportunities for Prayer and Reflection

	ST EDWARD'S	IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY	OUR LADY'S & ST EDMUND'S
Mondays in Lent		7.00pm in the Upper Room: To Be a Pilgrim	
Tuesdays in Lent	7.00pm: Stations of the Cross & Mass		
Wednesdays in Lent	8.00pm - 9.00pm in the Parish Rooms: Prayer Group	7.00pm in the Upper Room: A Mindful Way for Lent	
Thursdays in Lent		7.00pm, Stations of the Cross	
Fridays in Lent	Family Fast, 10th March	Family Fast, 10th March	Family Fast, 10th March
Saturdays in Lent	10.00am, Confessions		
Sundays in Lent		12th March, 4.00pm, Justice & Peace: CAFOD Stations of the Cross	5.00pm, Stations of the Cross (apart from 12th March)

THANKS AND WELCOME TO FR MICHAEL HICKEY

Mgr Andrew is recovering well, but will be off for another 4 weeks. He thanks everyone for their best wishes and prayers. Fr Hickey, retired priest living at St Cuthbert's, North Shields, has kindly agreed to celebrate the Sunday Masses for the next weekends.

RECENTLY DECEASED

- Please pray for the repose of the soul of James Gilboy of Whitley Bay, who died on 22nd February. His Requiem Mass will be celebrated on 6th March at 9.30am at St Edward's Church followed by burial at Preston Cemetery, North Shields. May he rest in peace. Amen.
- Fr Seamus Doyle, of St Augustine's Parish in Darlington, who died recently. May he rest in peace. Amen.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2017

Woman's World Day of Prayer is on Friday, 3rd March and will be held at Whitley Bay Baptist Church, Park Avenue, Whitley Bay. The theme is 'Am I being unfair to you?' prepared by the Christian women of the Philippines. There will be two services at 2.00pm and 7.00pm to allow young women who work shifts to attend. Some of our Pilipino sisters will be dressed in their national costume. All are welcome.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRAYER AND REFLECTION

- As well as doing something for Lent this year what about just *Being?* A Mindful Way for Lent group is meeting at 7.00pm in the Upper Room at Immaculate Heart Church each Wednesday in Lent. The first meeting on Ash Wednesday will start at 8.00pm after 7.00pm Mass. We will explore how mindful meditation can be linked with prayer and the practices of mindfulness. All welcome. Please contact Ali Hain on 07954 591608.
- A Parish Lenten Group will meet at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in the Upper Room on Mondays at 7.00pm during Lent. We will follow the Diocesan Lent Course '*To be a Pilgrim: In the Footsteps of Jesus*' taking us to a different location that Jesus visited, with the Gospel to help us reflect on our own life journey. Each session is backed up with Daily Reflections which will be available at the back of each church for private prayer. The first session will be on Monday 6th March and will last 1 hour. Everyone is welcome to share their Lenten Journey.

THURSDAY STATIONS OF THE CROSS AT IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY CHURCH

Lay-led Stations of the Cross will take place on six Thursday evenings during Lent at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church. The Church Council would love to hear from any 'new faces' who would like to lead one evening. Support is available. Please contact Chris Gunning on 0191 2535135 or Joe James on 0191 2513740 or jjames9241@aol.com.

DEPAUL: FORTY NIGHTS OF NIGHTSTOP

The sheet enclosed with the bulletin explains this Lent project from Depaul. Depaul UK, which has its roots in the life and work for St Vincent de Paul, invites churches to join the *Forty Nights of Nightstop* campaign to raise money to keep homeless young people safe and warm. Any enquiries contact Sheila Clapperton on 0191 2528935.

PARISH CHOIR FOR EASTER 2017

We would like to have a choir which represents all 3 Churches in the Parish for the Easter Triduum: Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil. You are warmly invited to come along to the meeting room at St. Edward's on Tuesday evenings from 7.30pm to practise the music. No auditions – just come along and join in!

PARISH MONDAY CLUB - ST EDWARD'S CHURCH

On 27th February Bob Mitchelson makes a welcome return and will talk about 'The History of Killingworth'. Bob's talks are always interesting and informative and everyone is very welcome.

PARISH WALKING GROUP

The next walk will be on Monday, 6th March when Peter Weighill will lead a 6 mile route. Meet at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church at 9.30am to travel to Chester Moor, then we will take the bus to Barley Mow (don't forget your BUS PASS) to walk west to Pelton Fell then south over Waldrige Fell back to Chester Moor. If you require more information please telephone Peter on 0191 2512917.

OUR LADY AND ST EDMUND TOMBOLA

Easter Egg Tombola - It's that time of year again, and we already have donations of eggs. The tombola will run as usual and any more Easter eggs will be gratefully received. Thank you.

SAINSBURYS SCHOOL VOUCHERS

Star of the Sea school are collecting Sainsburys school vouchers. They all count towards free educational resources, so if you would like to donate your vouchers please hand them into the parish office and they'll be passed on.

MASS INTENTIONS			
DAY	ST EDWARD'S	IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY	OUR LADY'S AND ST EDMUND'S
Saturday 25th February	9.30am Word & Communion NO CONFESSIONS	6.00pm People of the Parish (vocations to the Priesthood, Deaconate & Religious Life - Pastoral Care Team)	
Sunday 26th February 8TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR	11.00am Marie Johnson (JH)		9.30am Tom Witheridge (TW)
Monday 27th February	9.30am Rita Hyde (JK)	10.00am Word & Communion	
Tuesday 28th February	7.00pm Kevin & Kathleen Tanney (SC)	10.00am In Thanksgiving (JT)	
Wednesday 1st March ASH WEDNESDAY	10.00am Fr Charlie Flaherty (JC) 8.00pm Prayer Group	7.00pm John & Varghese (SG)	
Thursday 2nd March	9.30am John Lowe 7.00pm Compline	10.00am John & Varghese (SG) 7.00pm Stations of the Cross	
Friday 3rd March	9.30am Jim Collingwood (Catenians)	10.00am Jim Daniels (Our Lady & St Edmund's SVP)	
Saturday 4th March ST CASIMIR	9.30am Frank Rea (FR) 10.00am CONFESSIONS	6.00pm Laurie Anastasi (JA)	
Sunday 5th March 1ST SUNDAY OF LENT	11.00am In Thanksgiving		9.30am People of the Parish

BAPTISMS	ST EDWARD
25th February, 11.00am (Deacon Terry)	Thomas George Middlemas
26th February, 12.30pm (Deacon Terry)	Kate Araniello

Please remember in your prayers those who are ill: Maureen Bell, Norma Smith, Charlie McCuigan, Kevin York, Anne Marie Gormley, Ray Blackburn, Cameron Lindsay, Judy Helmsley, Tatyana Zynovieva, Jim Ferguson, Pat Southwell and Norah Blewitt. Please also remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time and those who have died recently especially Kevin Tanney, Fr Charles Flaherty SSC, Fr Leo Coughlin, Rita Allison, Fr Seamus Doyle and James Gilboy.

Hospital Chaplaincies

North Tyneside General Hospital, Rake Lane, North Shields & Northumbria Specialist Emergency Care Hospital, Northumbria Way, Cramlington: Contact Fr Stephen Watson on 07768 3873931.

RVI, Freeman & Walkergate: Please phone Fr Andrew Shaw at St Andrew's, Worswick Street, Newcastle on 0191 2321892.

Newcastle General Hospital: Sister Teresa, 0191 2336161 ext. 28465.

Contact email addresses, numbers and website:

Monsignor Andrew (St. Edward)	stedwardsne26@btconnect.com	(0191) 2528021
Star of the Sea Primary School	starofthesea.primary@northtyneside.gov.uk	(0191) 6432080
Cluster Website	www.northtynesidecatholic.org.uk	

Priests' telephone numbers

Monsignor Andrew Faley 0191 2528021

Father Martin Stempczyk 0191 2513770, Father Chris Hughes 0191 2575801.

Deacon Frank Forde and Deacon Terry McGann contact via Parish Office 0191 2527066.

Parish Office opening hours: Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays 10.00am—12.00noon.

For bulletin entries please contact the Parish Secretary - email parishofficeolss@btconnect.com or telephone 0191 2527066. Items for inclusion in the bulletin should be received by 12.00 noon on Thursdays.

READINGS AT MASS
8TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR, 26TH FEBRUARY 2017
The Order of Mass is in the Laudate Hymn book from page 200.

First reading

Isaiah 49:14-15

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

Psalm

Psalm 61:2-3,6-9

*Response: **In God alone is my soul at rest.***

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| 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. | 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.
Pour out your hearts before him. |
| 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. | |

Second reading

Corinthians 4:1-5

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

Gospel Acclamation

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

Gospel

Matthew 6:24-34

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

Memorial Acclamation

We proclaim your Death, O Lord,
and profess your Resurrection
until you come again .