

FIRST READING*The call of Abraham, the father of God's people.*

The Lord said to Abram, 'Leave your country, your family and your father's house, for the land I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name so famous that it will be used as a blessing. 'I will bless those who bless you: I will curse those who slight you. All the tribes of the earth shall bless themselves by you.' So Abram went as the Lord told him.

Responsorial Psalm**Response:** *May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.*

1. The word of the Lord is faithful and all his works to be trusted. The Lord loves justice and right and fills the earth with his love.
2. The Lord looks on those who revere him, on those who hope in his love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine.
3. Our soul is waiting for the Lord. The Lord is our help and our shield. May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.

SECOND READING*God calls and enlightens us.*

With me, bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News, relying on the power of God who has saved us and called us to be holy – not because of anything we ourselves have done but for his own purpose and by his own grace. This grace had already been granted to us, in Christ Jesus, before the beginning of time, but it has only been revealed by the Appearing of our saviour Christ Jesus. He abolished death, and he has proclaimed life and immortality through the Good News.

Gospel Acclamation

Glory and praise to you, O Christ!
 From the bright cloud the Father's voice was heard:
 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.'
 Glory and praise to you, O Christ!

GOSPEL*His face shone like the sun.*

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. There in their presence he was transfigured: his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light. Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared to them; they were talking with him. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Lord,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud covered them with shadow, and from the cloud there came a voice which said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him.' When they heard this, the disciples fell on their faces overcome with fear. But Jesus came up and touched them. 'Stand up,' he said 'do not be afraid.' And when they raised their eyes they saw no one but only Jesus. As they came down from the mountain Jesus gave them this order, 'Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.'

Genesis 12:1-4**Psalm 32****Timothy 1:8-10****Matthew 17:1-9****The Parish of Saint Cuthbert and Saint Joseph, North Shields**

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Sunday, 12th March 2017 – 2nd Sunday of Lent - Year A

Masses, Devotions and Services		
	St Cuthbert's Church	St Joseph's Church
Saturday 11 th March	4:45-5:15pm: Confessions 5:30pm Mass: Irene Fatkin	9:30am Mass:
Sunday 12 th March 2 nd Sunday of Lent	11:00am Mass: Ellen Hughes, RIP	9:25am The Angelus 9:30am Mass: Frederick & Grace Hood 4:00pm Stations of the Cross
Monday 13 th March	9:00am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9:30am Word & Communion	
Tuesday 14 th March		9:00am: Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9:30am Mass:
Wednesday 15 th March	9:00am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9:30am Mass: Private Intention (MK)	
Thursday 16 th March		9:00am: Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9:30am Mass:
Friday 17 th March St Patrick Patron of Ireland	9:00am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9:30am Mass: Noel Cleary (recently deceased)	7:00pm Mass:
Saturday 18 th March	4:45-5:15pm: Confessions 5:30pm Mass: Annie Young	9:30am Mass:
Sunday 19 th March 3 rd Sunday of Lent	11:00am Mass: Herbert Watson 4:00pm Stations of the Cross	9:25am The Angelus 9:30am Mass: Joan & Herbert Redpath

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."

Lent 2017

Festival of Prayer

It has been very moving to see the profound impact the wonderful and various stations have had on people. Fr Chris would like to express his huge appreciation to all those who contributed to making the 'Festival of Prayer' a wonderful experience for all. The festival has been a powerful expression of the depth, richness and diversity of people's faith. As a parish we are very grateful for resources given from the Diocesan Spirituality department, St Thomas More's Academy, St Cuthbert's Primary School and St. Joseph's Primary school. Fr Chris would like to also express his thanks for the help and co-operation to all who contributed to the Woman World Day of Prayer event with special thanks to Elizabeth Austen for co-ordinating the day on behalf of our parish and the Filipino women who bravely risked catching hypothermia in providing delicious food and wearing their beautiful national dresses, clearly not designed for a cold day in the North East of England!

Lenten Course

This week we will be starting our Lenten Course, called '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 15th Pastoral Care - Tony Wright
March 22nd Prayer and Worship - Barbara Davies
March 29th Formation and Teaching - Tim O'Grady
April 5th Administration - David Leane & Sheila Hall
April 12th Seeking Justice and Social Outreach - Peter Quinn and Fr Chris.

This week we will start with a reflection on the ministry of Pastoral Care in parish life lead by Tony Wright. Tony sees the session he is offering as follows:

"During the season of Lent we are invited to purposively reflect upon our life of faith and in particular what it means for each of us, this year, to engage more fully with repentance. In this time of reflection I will be offering the opportunity to have a look an understanding of 'being pastoral' based upon how we relate to God and each other and how we might develop a greater degree of mutuality. I will be using insights gained from my work as an Adviser to the Bishop of Durham in Pastoral Care and Counselling."

Fr Chris hopes 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

Worship in Lent

Every Sunday will have Stations of the Cross at 4.00pm. This week Stations will be at St Joseph's. There will be an evening Mass on a Friday evenings at 7.00pm, from March 10th to April 7th at St Joseph's.

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. If you want space for peace and reflection, this is just the place to do it. Please sign up in the church porch if you would like to attend.

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, baby Eliana Carter and David McManus. We pray for all those who have died recently and those whose anniversaries are at this time.

CAFOD Family Fast Day

This was last Friday. Please give you envelopes this or next week-end.

First Holy Communion Liturgy

This week-end we have the next of our First Holy Communion Liturgies. We will have the Rite of Election for our First Holy Communion candidates. Our catechists will declare if they are ready to continue their preparation to make their First Holy Communion.

Parish Council

The next meeting of the Parish council will be now on Monday March 27th at St Cuthbert's. Apologies for having to arrange a new date and for any inconvenience

Walking Together in Hope

There is a plan to walk 'Cuddy's Corse' from Chester Le Street to Durham on March 19th. Gathering at St Cuthbert's, Chester Le Street at 12.45pm. If you would like to take part please contact the Moving Forward in Hope Team - by email hope@diocesehn.org.uk or phone 0191 243 3304. Please see posters at back of church for more details

Abortion up to Birth Bill

There is a Private Members Bill seeking to go through Parliament, sponsored by Diane Johnson, that would allow for Abortions to take place at any time before birth. Please write to express your concern to your local MP.

Action Hosting Open Evening

Action Hosting is part of a Newcastle based organisation, Action Foundation, that six months ago started their hosting scheme for destitute asylum seekers. They are looking for new volunteer hosts and are holding open evenings to talk about our scheme. If you have a spare room and would like to help someone who is homeless, then hosting may suit you.

Hosts will provide a safe place to sleep, for people who have nowhere else to go, for an agreed and defined amount of time. We will provide full induction training to all hosts who are eligible to become part of the scheme. Would you like to find out more? Come to our meeting and we can tell you how the scheme works and what support we will give you. There is more information about the scheme here:

www.actionfoundation.org.uk/projects_hosting.html

If you would like to come to our meeting, please RSVP at hosting@actionfoundation.org.uk and let us know which date you would like to attend.

The dates for the evenings are: Wednesday 29th March 18:00-19:00, Wednesday May 10th 18:00-19:00, Wednesday June 21st 18:00-19:00. The open evening will take place at The Castle Gate, Melbourne Street, Newcastle NE1 2JQ

Chief Operating Officer Vacancy

The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle is looking to appoint a full-time Chief Operating Officer following the retirement of the current post-holder.

The successful candidate will have a relevant degree or business qualification and general strategic and operational business management experience gained at Director/Chief Operating Officer level. They will be an experienced leader with a credible corporate or third sector background and they will bring an understanding of the accountabilities of the Diocese as a charity and an appreciation for its spiritual and pastoral role in the lives of the people and communities it serves.

Further information and details of how to apply are available at www.rcdhn.org.uk or contact us: Tel: 0191 243 3301 or email human.resources@diocesehn.org.uk The closing date for applications is 15 March 2017.

Sleep Easy, Friday 17th March

In the car park at St Cuthbert's from 7pm-7am. Boxes will be provided! Please bring sleeping bags, warm clothing etc. Taking part will cost £15 If you're not able to sleep out then please consider sponsoring Ian Pearson who is taking part. For more information please see www.ymcanorthtyneside.org and see the Sleep easy information or speak to Ian Pearson

Have you a spare bike?

A refugee walks from Wallsend to the West End of Newcastle to get help and a bike would be a great help as he doesn't have funds for public transport. Please let Fr Chris know if you can help.

Parish Administrator

Our new administrator, Katherine Maine, started last week and has been 'learning the ropes' with help from Sheila Hall. Katherine will be in the office Tuesday to Friday from 9am-1pm. Katherine looks forward to meeting as many of the parish as possible.

Volunteers for North Tyneside General Mass

On Saturday mornings, Mass is celebrated at North Tyneside General Hospital, with special ministers taking communion to patients on the wards. More special ministers are needed. If any of the special ministers would like to be on the rota please let Fr Chris know.

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>.

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

Children's Liturgy St Joseph's

The Children Liturgy needs more people to help with this. Even if you are not 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

Goods urgently needed for the Jumble Sale, no electricals please.

Future events are as follows:

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