

FIRST READING*They elected seven men full of the Holy Spirit.*

About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: in the daily distribution their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you, brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to the service of the word.' The whole assembly approved of this proposal and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. The word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in Jerusalem was greatly increased, and a large group of priests made their submission to the faith.

Acts 6:1-7**Responsorial Psalm**Response: **May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.****Psalm 32**

1. Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just; for praise is fitting for loyal hearts. Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp, with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs.
2. For 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.
3. 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.

SECOND READING*But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood.*

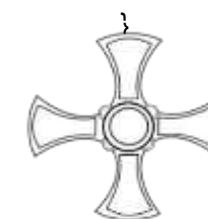
The Lord is the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him; set yourselves close to him so that you too, the holy priesthood that offers the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God, may be living stones making a spiritual house. As scripture says: See how I lay in Zion a precious cornerstone that I have chosen and the man who rests his trust on it will not be disappointed. That means that for you who are believers, it is precious; but for unbelievers, the stone rejected by the builders has proved to be the keystone, a stone to stumble over, a rock to bring men down. They stumble over it because they do not believe in the word; it was the fate in store for them. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

Peter 2:4-9**Gospel Acclamation****Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus said: 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.****No one can come to the Father except through me.' Alleluia!****GOSPEL***I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still, and trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house; if there were not, I should have told you. I am going now to prepare a place for you, and after I have gone and prepared you a place, I shall return to take you with me; so that where I am you may be too. You know the way to the place where I am going.' Thomas said, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?' Jesus said: 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me. If you know me, you know my Father too. From this moment you know him and have seen him.' Philip said, 'Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied.' 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip,' said Jesus to him 'and you still do not know me? To have seen me is to have seen the Father, so how can you say, "Let us see the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself: it is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work. You must believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; believe it on the evidence of this work, if for no other reason. I tell you most solemnly, whoever believes in me will perform the same works as I do myself, he will perform even greater works, because I am going to the Father.' The Gospel of the Lord.

John 14:1-12**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

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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, 14th May 2017 – 5th Sunday of Easter - Year A**Masses, Devotions and Services****St Cuthbert's Church**

Saturday 13 th May	4:45pm-5:25pm Confessions 5:30pm Mass: Bernard & Anna Teresa Hearn	
Sunday 14 th May 5 th Sunday of Easter	11:00am Mass: Michael Ian Lleses	9:25am The Angelus 9:30am Mass: Sr Bernadette
Monday 15 th May	9:00am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9:30am Word & Communion	
Tuesday 16 th May		9:00am: Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9:30am Mass: No intention
Wednesday 17 th May	9:00am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9:30am Mass: No intention	
Thursday 18 th May		9:00am: Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9:30am Mass:
Friday 19 th May	9:00am: Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9:30am Mass: Thanksgiving by Christy	
Saturday 20 th May	4:45pm-5:25pm Confessions 5:30pm Mass: Barbara Smith	
Sunday 21 st May 6 th Sunday of Easter	11:00am Mass: No intention	9:25am The Angelus 9:30am Mass: Gloria Gascon

Bidding Prayers and our Partnership

The clergy in the partnership have agreed that at the end of the bidding prayers we will have a short litany of saints to include all the Churches in our partnership. Those writing bidding prayers please note: That in seeking the way ahead or our partnership, we will be open to your Holy Spirit. We seek the intercession of our parish saints and pray:

Holy Mary, Mother of God. Pray for us.
St Joseph, Pray for us.
St Columba, Pray for us.
St Aidan, Pray for us.
St Oswin, Pray for us.
St Cuthbert, Pray for us.
St Edmund, Pray for us.
St Edward, Pray for us.
St Bernadette. Pray for us.

Lord, in your mercy. Hear our prayer. / Lord Hear us. Lord, graciously hear us.

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, 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 Arbuster and Scott Oakley. We pray for Fr Patrick Fitzpatrick who has died recently and for those whose anniversaries are at this time.

Easter 2017

There will be acts of Worship on the following afternoons during Easter at 4pm:
Stations of the Resurrection on 6th Sunday of Easter, 21st May – service at St Joseph's
Pentecost Sunday, 4th June – service at St Cuthbert's

Catholic Social Teaching: The Dignity of the Human Person

In the weeks ahead, when space allows in the newsletter, Fr Chris, will highlight and briefly explain a theme in Catholic Social Teaching for you to explore how this theme could apply in the general election debate. This week he will look at the theme of 'The Dignity of the Human Person' Since every person is made in the image and likeness of God, it means that we all have basic human rights that must be upheld at all times. The most important of those rights is the sanctity of life and the right to live. But there are other human rights that are also essential if human dignity is to be upheld such as the right to have basic needs met such as food, adequate housing, to create and have a family, to have employment that enable one to meet those needs and have time with family and loved ones, to be able to belong and fully participate in society irrespective of their belief, racial background, gender or sexuality.

Trinity Shop

Recently, Fr Chris has received a cheque for £907.07, from the Charity Shop committee. Thanks to them for this generous sum of money and for all our parishioners who contribute in anyway especially in running the shop on a Thursday. People's commitment and generosity is much appreciated.

Spirit Spray

On the week-end of Pentecost, 2-4 June, Churches Together in North Shields are holding a teaching day to help Christian throughout North Shields to deepen their Christian faith. There will be outside speakers together with local clergy including Fr Chris giving some input.
Saturday 3rd June 10am-3pm Teaching and Worship
Saturday 3rd June 7.30pm Concert with Worship Leader and Singer-songwriter John Alexander Wilson
Sunday 4th June 6.00pm Churches Together North Shields Pentecost Praise with Rev Jona Sewell preaching. All the events will be taking place at North Shields Baptist Church in Howard Street, North Shields. Please sign form at back of Church if you wish to attend

Day of Reflection for Lay Leaders of the Eucharist

Led by Fr. Paul Jenkins O Carm. A Day of Reflection for Lay Liturgical Leaders to be held at Saint Hilda's Diocesan Resource Centre West Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE15 7PY, Saturday 8 July 2017 10.30a.m. - 4.00p.m. To attend please book through your Parish Priest or contact: The Department for Liturgy, St. Cuthbert's House, West Road, Newcastle NE15 7PY Telephone 0191 243 3312 e-mail liturgy@diocesehn.org.uk. Cost £5.00. Please bring a packed lunch Tea and Coffee provided.

Tyneside Circle Newman Association

The next talk is Medjugorje by Fr. Martin Morris, at St Mary's RC Church Hall, Farringdon Road, Cullercoats NE30 3EY at 7.30 Wednesday 31st May. All welcome.

Tyne and Wear Citizens

Tyne and Wear Citizens will launch its regional listening campaign this Thursday 18th May at 6pm at St John's Church in Grainger Street, Newcastle. Fr Chris will be there, all parishioners are welcome. There will be representatives from St Cuthbert's and St Thomas More's schools

Confirmations 2017

Any of our young parishioners who are in year 9 or above are eligible to be confirmed. This year the confirmations will be on July 20, at St Cuthbert's Church. The starting date for the programme is June 15th at 6.30pm at ST Thomas More's Academy. Please let Fr Chris know asap if you or your child like to be confirmed on July 20th

Day on the Ministry of Consolation

In response to feedback from Forward Together in Hope, there will be a day on Ministry of Consolation, focusing on support for people and their families during terminal illness, or the journey through dementia.

Date: Saturday 10 June 2017

Venue: Ushaw College, Durham, DH7 9RH

Time: 10:00am for 10:30am start. Refreshments will be served on arrival. Lunch is provided, kindly sponsored by 'Walker & Morrell Funeral Directors Gateshead, Washington & Houghton le Spring.'

There is no charge for this day but booking is absolutely essential, no later than Friday 2 June 2017. Please contact spirituality@diocesehn.org.uk or telephone 0191 243 3302.

Fr Chris thinks that this is very important ministry and would invite encourage parishioners to think if they would like to take part in this day. 'Having 'Ministers of Consolation' would be a very important part of our pastoral ministry as a parish

An Appeal from the SVP

Kettle, toaster and any other kitchen items along with bedding - double and single size urgently needed for a family recently arrived in the parish

Annual Collection for the Little Sister of the Poor

This weekend we have the annual collection for the Little Sisters of the Poor. Their care for many of the sick and retired priests in the diocese is much appreciated by the diocese.

Maher (Mothers House)

Works with thousands of people each year. Beginning 20 years ago Sister Lucy Kurien, has helped women at risk of domestic violence, abandoned members of society and many people to reach safety and have dignity restored. She will be speaking at St. Cuthberts Hall on Tuesday 16th May at 7.00pm for 7.30pm. Come and be inspired by this incredible lady. Drinks and nibbles available from 7.00pm. All proceeds from the evening will go to the work of Maher. All welcome.

Vocations Weekend for young women (20s and 30s)

Theme: Discerning God's Call in my life Dates: 26th - 28th May 2017 Location: Broadstairs, Kent

The weekend is organised by the sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ). There will be input from the FCJ sisters on different aspects of vowed life, and time for prayer, reflection and discussion with other young women who are also considering a vocation to religious life. It's an opportunity to live community life for a weekend and meet some sisters! For more information contact Sr Lynne fcj at lynnefcj@hotmail.com or visit their website www.fcjsisters.org

Polish Night

This is the next evening arranged by our Social Group on Saturday May 27th. The event is open to all parishioners not just for our Polish parishioners. It is an opportunity for us to experience their food and hospitality. Fr Chris is very aware that other nations in Eastern Europe are also represented in our parish such as from Lithuania, Romania and Slovenia. If they would like to contribute to the evening please contact Kath Jakos.

Pilgrimage to Ladywell, near Preston, Lancs.

on Saturday 24 June 2017, (Nativity of John the Baptist) Cost £20 approx. Rosary and packed lunch required. For details please contact Jose Blay on 0191 2678693

ENCOUNTER - Experience the loving presence of Jesus

Sat 20th - Sun 21st May 2017, Cor et Lumen Christi, Wigton, Cumbria CA7 9HU - donation only event. **This event has now been cancelled.**

Diocesan Festival 2017

This year will be 24-25th of June at the Emmaus Youth Village, Consett. The theme will be 'Changing Hearts: The Challenge of Discipleship with David Wells, Sr Judith Russi and Clare Dixon. Please see poster at back of Church for more details

Training Course for Special Minister of the Eucharist

The Diocese has asked the parish to host the training course for Special Minister of the Eucharist on June 6th and June 13th from 7-9pm and then on 17 June from 10-4pm with the Commissioning Mass at 3pm.

Peer Talk

This is peer support group starting on May 11th for those with mental health concerns, such as anxiety, depression, is now running in Newcastle at Brunswick Methodist Church, Brunswick Place, Newcastle, NE1 7BJ every Thursday evening, 7 – 8.30pm. This Peer Talk project is underpinned by the Methodist Church and offers a safe space to share without being judged. Be heard, respected and accepted, and receive peer support to help you work through mental health concerns.

Celebration of Marriage

Partnership of Life and Love, St Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle, Saturday 10th June 2017, 11.00am Everyone is welcome

Partnership Guidelines: First Steps

The diocese just before Easter published a set of practical steps in the following ways as we seek to develop the new partnerships. Copies of the guidelines will be available. A brief summary of key points in the areas outlined are as follows:

- o Spirituality
We are encouraged to set up a spirituality network for the partnership.
- o Outreach
This is to be an important way of working together. Could there be issues that we could work together as partnership, such as supporting refugees or those experiencing food or fuel poverty.
- o Structures
All diocesan structures are being reviewed. Each partnership to have a 'partnership president' appointed by Bishop Seamus. Mgr Faley has been appointed to this role for our partnership.
- o Planning
Each partnership will have a 'Partnership Development Group' with reps from all the parishes. Each partnership will be asked to focus on the following areas for each of their partnerships: Prayer and Spirituality, Outreach, Structures, Planning, Finances, Property and Facilities, Human Resources, Formation, Team Building and Communications.

- o Finances
Parishes will retain their finance committees and individual bank accounts but each partnership will have an account to fund joint events and activities. Chairs of parish committees and clergy to meet together.
- o Property and Facilities
There will be a review of all properties in the partnership with a prayerful reflection as to how our properties could be used for the benefit of the wider community.
- o Human Resources
Our partnership will explore how paid staff and volunteers can be fully used to develop partnership administration and development.
- o Formation
Developing leadership within the partnership is not just about formal roles but developing a 'menu' of learning opportunities for all within the partnership.
- o Team Building
Building up relationship within the partnership to develop a team spirit will be achieved through joint social event, coming together for prayer and worship and shared projects.
- o Communication
'Partnership pages' on websites and a partnership newsletter will improve communication within the partnership.
- o Partnership Development Groups (PDGs)
Each partnership will have a PDG. The overall aim is to create a forum that is genuinely representative of the clergy and laity in all of the parishes within the partnership. Its remit will be: to further God's Kingdom within the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle through:
 - o Co-ordinating and supporting the development of effective partnership arrangements.
 - o Developing an initial action plan for the partnership.
 - o Communicating the work of the partnership across the area.

APF Boxes

Would all box holders please bring their boxes in for emptying. If preferred emptying at home please contact Kath 2577041 or Pauline 2581456.

Christian Aid Service

Churches Together in North Shields invite you to a Christian Aid Service at 6:30pm on Sunday, 14th May 2017 at St. Columba's United Reformed Church, Northumberland Square, North Shields.

Social Calendar

Future events are as follows:

- 27th May - Polish Night (food etc see notice)
- 10th June - Summer Fayre at St Cuthberts
(Goods needed for stalls and raffle)

Forward Together in Hope Prayer:

God all Creation, you have constantly poured out your Spirit upon our Diocese and kindled here a light which has spread throughout the world. Lord Jesus, you gathered disciples to yourself to learn from you and to model their lives on you. Your Holy Spirit empowered them to continue your work in the world.

Come upon us, Holy spirit, deepen the faith you invite us to share and inspire us to become faithful witnesses.

As we begin to develop our partnerships, help each one of us to use the gifts you give us to nurture one another, to serve the world and to live in harmony with the whole of creation. All this we ask in the name of Our Lord Jesus Christ.