

MASS READINGS
SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)
FIRST READING

You have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself.

Kings 3:5. 7-12

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

Responsorial Psalm

Psalms 118

Response: Lord how I love your law!

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| <p>1. My part, I have resolved, O Lord, is the obey your word.
The law from your mouth means more to me than silver and gold.</p> | <p>2. Let your love be ready to console me by your promise to your servant.
Let your love come to me and I shall live for your law is my delight.</p> |
| <p>3. That is why I love your commands more than finest gold.
That is why I rule my life by your precepts: I hate false ways.</p> | <p>4. Your will is wonderful indeed; therefore I obey it.
The unfolding of your word gives light and teaches the simple.</p> |

SECOND READING

Romans 8:28-30

The Spirit expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words.

We know that by turning everything to their good, God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! I call you friends, says the Lord, because I have made know to you everything I have learnt from my Father. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 13:44-52

He sells everything he owns and buys the field.

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field. 'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. 'Have you understood all this?' They said, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'

The Parish of Saint Cuthbert and Saint Joseph, North Shields

<p>Saint Cuthbert Catholic Church Albion Road West North Shields</p>	<p>Tynemouth Priory Partnership</p> 	<p>Saint Joseph Catholic Church Wallsend Road North Shields</p>
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<p>Cluster Telephone Numbers Monsignor Andrew Faley ☎ 0191 252 8021 Father Martin Stempczyk ☎ 0191 251 3770 St Cuthbert's Church ☎ 0191 257 3408</p>		<p style="text-align: right;"><i>Other Deanery Numbers</i> Father Anthony Donaghue ☎ 0191 262 3882 Father John McElhone ☎ 0191 2623820 Hospital Chaplaincy: Fr Stephen Watson ☎ 07768 3873931</p>

Sunday, 30th July 2017 – 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

		Masses, Devotions and Services	
		St Cuthbert's Church	St Joseph's Church
Saturday	29 th July	4:45pm-5:15pm Confessions 5:30pm Mass: Lilian Shotton	9:30am Mass:
Sunday	30 th July 17 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	11:00am Mass: 1 st Year Anniversary of Lazaro Palapal	9:25am The Angelus 9:30am Mass: Pouilas Kasparavicius & Mursas Jonavicius
Monday	31 st July	9:00am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9:30am Word & Communion	
Tuesday	1 st August		9:00am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9:30am Mass:
Wednesday	2 nd August	9:00am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9:30am Mass: Kathleen & John Whitley	
Thursday	3 rd August		9:00am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9:30am Mass:
Friday	4 th August	9:00am: Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9:30am Mass: Requiem Mass for Monica Hennessy	
Saturday	5 th August	4:45pm-5:15pm Confessions 5:30pm Mass: Monica Whalen	9:30am Mass:
Sunday	6 th August The Transfiguration of the Lord	11:00am Mass: Mick Durkin	9:25am The Angelus 9:30am Mass: Joan & Herbert Redpath

Bidding Prayers and our Partnership

We seek the intercession of our parish saints and pray:

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| 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 |

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 Armbuster, Scott Oakley, Patrick Butler and David Hennessey. We pray all those who have died recently especially Monica Hennessey and Eleanor Short and those whose anniversaries are at this time.

Collections

23 July 2017 - £692.28, Nurses Fund £186.26

Alzheimer's Walk

Pamela Hart, whose parents worshipped at St Joseph's has registered with The Alzheimer's Society to do a Memory Walk in honour of her Parents, she has set a date of the 2nd September, with the walk from St Anne's Care Home to St Mary's Lighthouse and back approx. 5 miles. If you would like to be involved please contact Fr Chris or Pamela Hart at: pam996@hotmail.co.uk.

Interested in becoming a Catholic?

Fr Chris is already receiving inquiries from people who have expressed an interest in becoming a Catholic. If you or someone you know has expressed an interest please contact Fr Chris. We keep in our prayers those who have expressed an interest in coming into the Church

First Holy Communion Catechists

The parish is in need of new catechists for First Holy Communion especially if catechism is going to be offered in both churches and at different times. Training is available. Please contact Fr Chris if you are interested.

Eucharistic Congress 2018

As you may have seen from the Catholic Press, the Church in England is going to host a Eucharistic Congress from 7-9 September 2018 in Liverpool. The Diocese will give us more information at a later time.

Celebration of Baptism

This week-end at St Joseph's at 1.00pm our parish welcomes Theo Oliver Finlay into our community as he is united in Christ in the Sacrament of Baptism. We pray for Theo and his parents.

Confirmations

All the response to the Confirmations on 20 July have been very positive. I would like to thank catechists and all parishioners who contributed in any way to the Liturgy and social afterwards. Your generosity and dedication not just to the parish but to the Partnership is much appreciated

2018 Synod on Young People in the Church

In October 2018, the Synod of Bishops will gather in Rome to consider 'Young People, Faith, and Vocational Discernment.' In preparation for this, the Bishops of England and Wales would like to hear from young people and from those who are regularly in contact with them. If you are aged 13-29, please take part in the Mega Youth poll at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/parish-youth-poll> Parents, teachers, catechists, youth leaders please participate in the poll at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/cymfed-yourview>

Annual Mission Appeal

Next week we will be having our annual Mission Appeal. This year the appeal is for the work of the Society of African Mission (SMA Fathers). The Order will be very welcome in our parish and ask for people to respond as generously as they can

Trip to Holy Island

The sign up list for the trip to Holy Island on 2 September is at the back of Church. Please sign up as soon as possible. The cost of the trip will depend on how many sign up.

Partnership Development Group

At the parish Council on 19 July, it was agreed that Ian Pearson and David Leane would represent the parish on the partnership development group. This role is for two years. On behalf of the parish, I would like to thank Ian and David for their willingness to take on this role

Trinity Shop

Fr Chris has just received the quarterly cheque from the Trinity Shop which for the last quarter came to £1,477.66. This is a great total. Well done thanks to all who contribute in any way to the Trinity Shop. Your commitment and generosity is much appreciated

Church Together August Services 2017

During August many of the Churches in the town have no main Sunday Service but come together for a joint service. Times and venues are below. We are welcome to any of these services

- 6 August: Salvation Army, Howard Street, North Shields: 5.00 pm
13 August: North Shields Baptist Church, Howard Street, North Shields: 6.00 pm
20 August: St. John's, Percy Main: 6.00 pm
27 August: St. Columba's URC, Northumberland Square, North Shields: 6.30 pm

Please note different times for Services

List of Ministries

The list of Ministries that has been up since Pentecost will come down after next week-end. Sincere thanks to all who have added their name to the lists. Please consider if you can make a contribution to the parish with your time and talents

National Conference on Justice and Peace

I am very grateful to Fr Michael for supplying last week-end, thus allowing me to attend the National Conference on Justice and Peace. Although there were over 260 at the conference I came across only one other diocesan priest from across the country so I was fortunate to be there. The conference put fresh heart in my role as Head of the Diocesan Justice and Peace department and how we address issues relating to justice and peace in the parish. Below is an adapted press release about the conference which hopefully will give you a flavour of the issues we were exploring while I was at the conference. If anyone is wanting more information or to follow up some of the issues we looked at in studying Pope Francis' encyclical 'Laudato Si, please contact me.

"The Church is there for life, not for profit" a Columban priest and CAFOD partner told the National Justice and Peace Network of England and Wales annual conference this weekend. Based for five decades in Latin America, Irishman Fr Peter Hughes was contrasting Church support for marginalised communities with the destructive practices of large-scale mining and agribusiness companies in the Amazon rainforest. He described extractive industries as "weapons of mass destruction", and the Amazon's three million indigenous people as "today's lepers, reduced to nothingness". He said he was not totally against mining, "but it must be done in a more respectful way, respecting international law". He warned that the planet's fresh air, water and biodiversity are all being undermined with consequences for the whole Earth community.

He spoke about an initiative, which led him and Church leaders to accompany indigenous leaders from the Amazon to Washington in March to meet the American Commission for Human Rights, members of the U.S Congress, and the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. This was an important step towards promoting a Church with an Amazonian Face – supporting indigenous peoples in their struggles to defend land, rivers and rainforest. "They made quite an impact in their feathered headdresses" he said "but lives have been reduced by extractive industries and could be reduced to oblivion in a very short time". He felt we have much to learn from peoples who have lived sustainably in the Amazon for thousands of years, "never ceasing to have harmony with their habitat". The U.S. Bishops expressed support for REPAM's work, and he hoped the visit of Pope Francis to the Peruvian Amazon in January next year will highlight the plight of its indigenous peoples.

Fr Hughes was speaking to the weekend conference on the theme, 'A Sabbath for the Earth and the Poor: The Challenge of Pope Francis', and around 260 Justice and Peace activists attended from most dioceses of England and Wales and some in Scotland. He is an advisor to the Instituto Bartolome de las Casas and CELAM, the collegial council of Latin American bishops. He thanked Pope Francis for his inspirational leadership in producing 'Laudato Si' six months before the discussions in Paris that led to an international Agreement on Climate Change. He pointed to Paragraph 139 of 'Laudato Si' which says: "We are faced not with two separate crises, one environmental and the other social, but rather with one complex crisis

which is both social and environmental. Strategies for a solution demand an integrated approach to combating poverty, restoring dignity to the excluded, and at the same time protecting nature."

His suggestion that we need to review our notions about progress and good living were picked up by Ruth Valerio of Tearfund, whose talk focused on the need for "inner ecological conversion". She urged the conference to "get out and reconnect with the natural world". Her books, 'Just Living – Faith and Community in an Age of Consumerism' and 'L is for Lifestyle', are about living more simply and avoiding rampant consumerism. She felt "Pope Francis has presented us with the challenge of living with love and joy in this our common home".

Kathy Galloway, a former leader of both the Iona Community and Christian Aid Scotland, lamented that the poorest suffer most from environmental destruction when they have "drained resources the least, waste nothing, and don't fly around the world". She urged that we live more sustainably and avoid a "privatised religion" which does not engage with the struggles of the most marginalised. There was a plea to support campaigns that challenge unjust and violent structures, and "to look outside the holy places for places where God's reign is breaking through". Examples in Scotland ranged from anti-nuclear protests on the streets, churches opening their doors to asylum seekers and "guerrilla" gardening.

For me the highlight of the week-end was the session lead by the Leeds Poverty Truth Commission which highlighted the suffering caused by poverty in Britain and the role of Church groups in building up support and hope. Here people who are victims of poverty are Commissioners working with leaders and decision makers to build relationship that will bring about change. I was struck about the comparison and contrasts of the work of Citizens UK Saturday evening saw a performance of "Romero – the Heartbeat of El Salvador" and during the conference Mass Archbishop Oscar Romero was adopted as NJPN's patron.

Children at the conference produced a video "Can children and young people make a difference". The answer was positive, with one quote being, "when life gives you lemons, make lemonade". The youth group told participants: "We all say we want to tackle poverty – you need to get out there and do it!". Amen to that!

