

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT, Year B, 2nd & 3rd December 2017

SUNDAY READINGS REFLECTION

This week's readings are about waiting and watching. The Jewish people had returned from exile and were waiting for the coming of the Messiah. They were acutely aware of their sins and knew they deserved punishment which made the longing to be delivered even more intense. Their watching made them cry out to the Lord "Oh that you would tear the heavens open and come down". The Gospel passages during Advent focus on John's prophecy about the coming of the Lord and the Annunciation by Gabrielle to Mary. For this first Sunday, Jesus' teaching to his disciples about staying awake serves as an alert to us as well emphasizing the need for watchfulness and change in our lives.

The shops are full and urging us to overindulge, perhaps the change we could consider is to pay a visit to someone who is lonely at this time, or to give generously to a charity we have respect for.

Deacon Terry

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS 2017

In Advent, Jesus foretells the end of the world and the signs that accompany it. He taught his disciples to stay calm, to hold their heads high and not to be afraid. He also told them to be prepared since no-one knows when all these things will happen. Advent gives us a time to do the same. In Advent, we step back and look calmly at what is happening in the world, knowing that God is in these situations. We also see people already preparing for Christmas, with little awareness that it is a Christian festival beyond the food and presents. It can be hard to stay calm faced with what is in front of us.



In Advent, the Scriptures look at how the Jewish people prepared for the coming of the Messiah, and look ahead to the coming of Christ at the end of time. Advent is when we prepare for meeting the Lord.

In Advent, there are booklets of reflection and prayer prepared by the Diocesan Department for Spirituality available at the back of each church. Please take them and use them each week. Also, please take them for your family and friends, for work colleagues, and for those who are house-bound or in care homes. Have a blessed and joyful Advent! Mgr Andrew.

DATE	CELEBRATION	CHURCH & TIME
Saturday & Sunday, 2nd & 3rd December	First Holy Communion Preparation: Gathering & The Word of God	Immaculate Heart of Mary, 4.50 - 5.50pm St Edward, 9.50 - 10.50am
Monday, 4th December	Star of the Sea School Advent Carol Service	St Edward, 6.00pm
Wednesday, 13th December	Christmas Luncheon Club	Immaculate Heart of Mary, 12.30pm
Sunday, 17th December	Parish Carol Service	Our Lady & St Edmund, 4.00pm
Tuesday, 19th December	Partnership Advent Penitential Service	St Edward, 7.00pm
Saturday, 23rd December	Exposition & Confessions	St Edward, 10.00 - 11.00am
Sunday, 24th December	Christmas Vigil: Carols & Masses	St Edward, 5.30pm Immaculate Heart of Mary, 7.30pm
Monday, 25th December	Christmas Day Masses	Our Lady & St Edmund, 9.30am St Edward, 11.00am

PARISH MASSES FROM 15TH DECEMBER 2017

From 15th December until further notice, weekday Mass will be celebrated as follows:

- St Edward's Church - Mass at 7.00pm on Tuesdays, and at 9.30am on Thursdays and Saturdays.
- Immaculate Heart of Mary Church - Mass at 10.00am on Wednesdays and Fridays.

There will be Word and Communion only on Mondays at St Edward's and Immaculate Heart of Mary to encourage attendance at the one daily Mass.

PARISH PASTORAL CARE – MINISTRY OF CONSOLATION

Over recent years, funerals in our three churches have benefited from the growing involvement of parishioners working with the clergy. These parishioners are trained in a range of liturgical and pastoral ministries, which gives prayer and support to bereaved individuals and families as they face the death of their loved ones, prepare to celebrate their funerals, and receive ongoing support. Funerals are at the front end of our outreach as a parish, and give the message of Christ's care for others, especially those who are outside our faith. A funeral well prepared and celebrated does more good than we can ever know.

From this Advent, a pastoral care team of parishioners from across the Parish will work with the clergy for the care of the bereaved. Mr Joe James has kindly agreed to coordinate the work of the team. When notice of a death is received in the Parish, the parish priest or deacon will contact the family first, and then Joe James will contact two members of the pastoral team to visit the family and help them prepare the funeral. The team will work closely with the clergy. These arrangements will ensure that funerals in our Parish continue to be celebrations of rich prayer for those who have died, and support for their families. They also ensure that at a time of change across our Partnership parishes, that this arrangement is there for those who need it. I thank those who so generously make up the team, and assure them of our prayers. Mgr Andrew.

PARTNERSHIP WELCOME TO FR DAVID SMITH – OUR LADY'S & ST COLUMBA'S WALLSEND

Fr David Smith takes up his appointment this weekend. Welcome to our Partnership.

PARISH MONDAY CLUB - ST EDWARD'S CHURCH

The Parish Monday Club will meet on 4th December in St Edward's Parish rooms, when Wendy Stafford will tell us about 'Christmas Traditions'. We're sure this talk will be both enjoyable and seasonal! Everyone is very welcome.

PARISH WALKING GROUP

John Charlton will lead the next walk through Jesmond Dene to the centre of Newcastle on Friday, 15th December. Please meet at West Monkseaton Metro Station for 9.30am - don't forget your pass if you are eligible. If you require more information please contact John on 0191 2522008.

THE MINDFUL HOUR FOR DECEMBER

Wednesday 6th December in St Edward's parish rooms at 7.00pm. The theme will be Advent.

PARISH JUSTICE & PEACE GROUP

- Thank you for the hats, scarfs and gloves for the drop-in centre. They were gratefully received.
- The Christmas Coffee Morning is on Sunday, 10th December after Mass at St Edward's. There will be coffee, mince pies, Irish coffee and a raffle. We would be grateful for donations of wine, chocolates or biscuits for the raffle. These can be left in the box provided in the Narthex or given to a member of the group. Everyone is very welcome.

CHRISTMAS BAGS FOR DEPAUL - URGENT APPEAL

We're collecting items for the Christmas Bags, which we fill for the homeless young people, looked after by Depaul. We have been asked to fill 120 bags with St Edward's 60 jars of Coffee, Our Lady's and St Edmund's 50 Multi packs of Chocolate (Mars, Snickers etc) Immaculate Heart of Mary. 60 Jars of Jam. Boxes will be in each church until 3rd December. For further information phone Ann Garland 0191 2965358 or Sheila Clapperton 0191 2528935. Thanks!

OUR LADY AND ST EDMUND CHRISTMAS TOMBOLA

We are holding our Annual Christmas Tombola on Sunday 24th December after Mass and would be grateful for any donations of suitable prizes or unused gifts that could help our fundraising for The International Refugee Trust.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS - CARETAKING

Please note that if an event or activity is organised which requires equipment to be set up or something specific done by either of our caretakers, we need at least 2 weeks notice to make the necessary arrangements, as they work on a fortnightly rota.

FR TOM CUNNINGHAM

Father Tom is having treatment for his hip and will be absent from the Parish 15th December – 15th January, including his convalescence at St Joseph's Care Home in Newcastle. If you would like to send him a card, the address is: St Joseph's Care Home, Westmorland Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE4 7QA.

MASS INTENTIONS			
DAY	ST EDWARD'S	IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY	OUR LADY'S AND ST EDMUND'S
Sat 2nd December	9.30am David Black (LRJ) 10.00am CONFESSIONS	6.00pm Margaret McGettigen (CMcN)	
Sun 3rd December 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT	11.00am Edward Simpson (SS)		9.30am People of the Parish
Mon 4th December ST OSMUND	9.30am Word & Communion	10.00am Word & Communion	
Tues 5th December	7.00pm David Anthony Johnson	10.00am Welfare of Helene	
Wed 6th December ST NICHOLAS	9.30am Joseph Scanlan (GR) 8.00pm Prayer Group	10.00am Donor's Intentions	
Thur 7th December ST AMBROSE	9.30am Giorgio Onori (AG) 7.00pm Compline	10.00am Deeney Family	
Fri 8th December IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	9.30am Cyril Wilson (AW)	10.00am Alistair McNaughton (J&MR)	
Sat 9th December ST JOHN DIEGO	9.30am Giovanni Arnone MA) 10.00am CONFESSIONS	6.00pm May & Albert Arkley (AR)	
Sun 10th December 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT	11.00am George & Monica Thrift (MT)		9.30am People of the Parish

BAPTISM	ST EDWARD
Sunday, 3rd December, 12.30pm (Fr Andrew)	Harriet Dunn

Please remember in your prayers those who are ill: Norma Smith, Tatyana Zynovieva, Norah Blewitt, Maureen Langlands and Judy Ashton. Please also remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time and those who have died recently especially Raymond Crozier and Rev Andrew France.

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, Fr John McElhone 0191 2632159, Fr David Smith 0191 2623882.
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
1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT, 3RD DECEMBER 2017
The Order of Mass is in the Laudate Hymn book from page 200.

First reading

Isaiah 63:16-17,64:1,3-8

You, Lord, yourself are our Father, 'Our Redeemer' is your ancient name. Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways and harden our hearts against fearing you? Return, for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your inheritance. Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down! – at your Presence the mountains would melt. No ear has heard, no eye has seen any god but you act like this for those who trust him. You guide those who act with integrity and keep your ways in mind. You were angry when we were sinners; we had long been rebels against you. We were all like men unclean, all that integrity of ours like filthy clothing. We have all withered like leaves and our sins blew us away like the wind. No one invoked your name or roused himself to catch hold of you. For you hid your face from us and gave us up to the power of our sins. And yet, Lord, you are our Father; we the clay, you the potter, we are all the work of your hand. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 79:2-3,15-16,18-19

Response: Lord of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

1. O shepherd of Israel, hear us,
shine forth from your cherubim throne.
O Lord, rouse up your might,
O Lord, come to our help.
2. God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted.
3. May your hand be on the man you have chosen,
the man you have given your strength.
And we shall never forsake you again;
give us life that we may call upon your name.

Second reading

Corinthians 1:3-9

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace. I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that you have been enriched in so many ways, especially in your teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ has indeed been strong among you so that you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed; and he will keep you steady and without blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help. Alleluia!

Gospel

Mark 13:33-37

Jesus said to his disciples, 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!'. The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you. Lord Jesus Christ.**

Memorial Acclamation

Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.