

MASS READINGS
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR B)

FIRST READING

Prepare a way for the Lord.

Isiah 40:1-5. 9-11

'Console my people, console them,' says your God. 'Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her that her time of service is ended, that her sin is atoned for, that she has received from the hand of the Lord double punishment for all her crimes.'

A voice cries, 'Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord. Make a straight highway for our God across the desert. Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, let every cliff become a plain, and the ridges a valley; then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.' Go up on a high mountain, joyful messenger to Zion. Shout with a loud voice, joyful messenger to Jerusalem. Shout without fear, say to the towns of Judah, 'Here is your God.'

Here is the Lord coming with power, his arm subduing all things to him. The prize of his victory is with him, his trophies all go before him. He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 84

Response: Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1. I will hear what the Lord God has to say,
 a voice that speaks of peace,
 peace for his people.
 His help is near for those who fear him
 and his glory will dwell in our land.</p> | <p>2. Mercy and faithfulness have met;
 justice and peace have embraced.
 Faithfulness shall spring from the earth
 and justice look down from heaven.</p> |
| <p>3. The Lord will make us prosper
 and our earth shall yield its fruit.
 Justice shall march before him
 and peace shall follow his steps.</p> | |

SECOND READING

St. Peter 3:8-14

We are waiting for the new heavens and new earth.

There is one thing, my friends, that you must never forget: that with the Lord, 'a day' can mean a thousand years, and a thousand years is like a day. The Lord is not being slow to carry out his promises, as anybody else might be called slow; but he is being patient with you all, wanting nobody to be lost and everybody to be brought to change his ways. The Day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then with a roar the sky will vanish, the elements will catch fire and fall apart, the earth and all that it contains will be burnt up.

Since everything is coming to an end like this, you should be living holy and saintly lives while you wait and long for the Day of God to come, when the sky will dissolve in flames and the elements melt in the heat. What we are waiting for is what he promised: the new heavens and new earth, the place where righteousness will be at home. So then, my friends, while you are waiting, do your best to live lives without spot or stain so that he will find you at peace.

Alleluia

Alleluia, Alleluia! Prepare a way for the Lord,
make his paths straight, and all mankind shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mark 1:1-8

Make his paths straight.

The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written in the book of the prophet Isiah: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way. A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight, and so it was that John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

All Judaea and all the people of Jerusalem made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin, and he lived on locusts and wild honey. In the course of his preaching he said, 'Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'

The Parish of Saint Cuthbert and Saint Joseph, North Shields

Saint Cuthbert Catholic Church
Albion Road West
North Shields

Tynemouth Priory Partnership



Saint Joseph Catholic Church
Wallsend Road
North Shields

Father Christopher Hughes, St Joseph's Church, Wallsend Road, Chirton, North Shields, NE29 7AA

(Tel) 0191 257 5801 / (Fax) 0191 259 2589

(Email) northshields.stjoseph@rcdhn.org.uk / northshields.stcuthbert@rcdhn.org.uk

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 John McElhone ☎ 0191 262 3820
Hospital Chaplaincy: Fr Stephen Watson ☎ 07768 3873931

Sunday, 10th December 2017 – 2nd Sunday in Advent (Year B)

Masses, Devotions and Services			
		St Cuthbert's Church	St Joseph's Church
Saturday	9 th December	4:45pm-5:15pm Confessions 5:30pm Mass: No intention	9:30am No Mass
Sunday	10 th December 2 nd Sunday of Advent (B)	11:00am Mass: No intention	9:30am Mass: Deceased Members of the Redpath & Blakely families
Monday	11 th December	9:00am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9:30am Word & Communion	
Tuesday	12 th December		9:00am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9:30am: Mass:
Wednesday	13 th December	9:00am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9:30am Mass: Kathleen & John Whitley	
Thursday	14 th December		9:30am Mass: Maurice Black
Friday	15 th December	9:00am: Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9:30am Mass: James Hughes RIP	
Saturday	16 th December	9:30am Mass: Confessions after 9:30 Mass 4:45pm-5:15pm Confessions 5:30pm Mass: Bernard & Anna Teresa Hearn	
Sunday	17 th December 3 rd Sunday of Advent (B)	11:00am Mass: Ann Halgason	9:30am Mass: Edith & Vivian O'Kane and Family

Bidding Prayers and our Partnership

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

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, 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 Arbustler, Scott Oakley, Pat Skelly and Jean Slater. Please pray for all those who have died recently and those whose anniversaries are at this time.

Advent Services

Today at St Joseph's the Filipino Music group that enrich the Vigil Mass on a Saturday evening every two months will lead us in our Advent reflection. It is great that we can welcome them at St Joseph's. Their music is uplifting and Fr Chris is sure that they will be a source of Advent hope! Next week we will have our Christmas Carol Service at 6pm at St Cuthbert's. Our schools will also be involved Fr Chris would like to express his sincere thanks to the young members of the Syro-Marabellian (Indian) who gave an utterly delightful, moving and prayerful reflection on the Christmas last Sunday. Certainly Fr Chris' heart was touched, I imagine everyone else's who was there was also profoundly moved. The Crib Festival starts this Friday, church will be open Friday to Sunday for people to see the cribs

Baptism

This week-end we welcome Holly Hall into our community as she is united in Christ in the Sacrament of Baptism. We pray for Holly and her parents.

Preparing our Churches

Fr Chris would like to make the preparation of our Churches not just down to those who faithfully do this task year after year. St Joseph's preparation will take place on Thursday, 14th December at 4pm.

Mercy Associates

Thank you to everyone who supported our coffee morning. We raised £276.70 and a cheque for £500 will now be sent to help keep up the good work at the Sisters of Mercy mission in Muhoroni.

Thank you also to everyone who donated items for our Christmas Parcel appeal. The parcels will be made up and taken into St Joseph's School for distribution on Thursday December 14th.

We greatly appreciate your support and wish you all a very Happy Christmas.

The next meeting of the Mercy Associates will be 1.00pm on December 18th at the Convent, 17, Cartington Road.

Vacancies

The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle has the following vacancies:

Parish Secretary, St Robert, Morpeth 16 hours per week. Closing date: 11 December.

Administration Assistant, St Mary, Sunderland 4 hours per week. Closing date: 12 December.

For further information and details of how to apply please visit our website www.rcdhn.org.uk or contact us (0191 243 3301, email human.resources@diocesehn.org.uk

Catholic Schools

Do you support Catholic schools and the right of Catholics to send their children to them? Then we need you to make your voice heard.

The Government is making a critical decision on whether to overturn the admissions cap which prevents Catholic schools from allowing all Catholic pupils to attend. They have acknowledged that this policy discriminates against Catholics and promised to abandon it, now we need you to tell them not to u-turn on their promise to Catholics.

Visit <http://catholicnews.org.uk/> or search for 'Catholic Education' in your search engine to write to the Government and urge them to drop their policy which bans new Catholic schools.

Change of Mass Times

At the parish council we discussed the Bishop's decision that all the Churches in the partnership would have one Mass in each Church at a weekend. This would mean that St Colomba's, St Aidan's and our own parish would only have two Masses each weekend. Although we, as a parish, have no choice in accepting the Bishop's decision, we do have choices in deciding when the two Masses will take place at the weekend. It was decided that at the Parish Council after Christmas, the Chair of the Parish Council will address all the Masses, presenting a number of options for the parish to consider. A vote will then take place. Once an option has been chosen, Fr Chris will then inform the Bishop who will make the final decision on whether to accept our proposal. The new Mass times will start on 17th/18th February, the first Sunday of Lent.

Advent

During Advent on we will be having the following Liturgies:
Sunday 10th December 4.00pm at St Joseph's, a prayer service lead by the Filipino Music group
Friday 15th December Opening of the Crib Service at St Cuthbert's will be open after the morning Mass
Sunday 17th December 6.00pm at St Cuthbert's Parish Carol Service
Sunday 24th December 8.00pm The First Mass of Christmas, with Carols starting at 7.30 at St Cuthbert's
Monday 25th December 9.30am Mass at St Joseph's at 11.00am Mass at St. Cuthbert's

Crib Festival

This year the Crib Festival will be at St Cuthbert's. The festival will start on Friday 15th December and will formally end at the Carol Service on the evening of December 17th but hopefully most of the cribs will stay in St Cuthbert's until the end of the Christmas Period.

Are You Irish Of Irish Descent?

Wednesday 13th December 12.30-3pm St Charles RC Church Hall, Church Road, Gosforth NE3 1TX

The Tyneside Irish Cultural Society runs a project called ROSS (Raised on Songs and Stories) exploring the rich legacy of our Irish heritage. We are inviting older Irish people or people of Irish descent to attend our Christmas lunchtime meeting at St Charles RC Church Hall in Gosforth. This will be a chance to meet for a free hot meal, live Irish music and a friendly chat. Contact us for a free ticket. Barbara Flynn on 0191 2610385 email: tyneirishcs@gmail.com

Children's Liturgy of the Word Study Day

Fundamentals of Children's Liturgy of the Word At St. Hilda's Resource Centre West Road, Newcastle, NE15 7PY on Saturday 3rd February 2018—10:30am—3:30pm (Registration and refreshments from 10:00am) If interested, please contact Fr Chris or Catherine, the Parish Administrator to book or contact the Department for Liturgy on :- Tel: 0191 243 3312 Email: liturgy@diocesehn.org.uk

Friends of North Tyneside

North Tyneside's Volunteering Centre is looking for local people aged 50 and over to get involved in a short-term volunteering project and make a real difference in the local community.

The Friends of North Tyneside project is a 12-week programme, which offers volunteers the chance to use their skills and experiences for the benefit of children, young adults and older and isolated residents in the borough. By volunteering two days a week for three months, participants will join a team to plan and deliver a range of sessions and activities that will have a positive impact on people in the local area.

There are so many benefits to taking part in a volunteering programme such as this. It's not a long-term commitment, it's a time-limited project and the volunteers will get to see the real results of their participation at the end of their projects. Plus it's a fantastic way to meet new people, take on new challenges and have some fun! We know that people in this age bracket have a lot to give in terms of their skills, experience and knowledge. We want to really harness that and put it to good use to solve issues in the community such as social isolation and getting young people ready for work.

No skills or volunteering experience are necessary, just a willingness to take part and the commitment of volunteering two days a week for 12 weeks. The majority of Friends of North Tyneside activities are based at the Cedarwood Trust, and the next programme will begin w/c Monday 22 January. A fun and interactive taster session will take place the week before in order to give anyone interested in taking part more information about the project and to have a go at some of the activities they might be involved in. If anyone is interested, they can get in touch with VODA on 0191 6432626.

World Gifts for Christmas

Please see leaflet from CAFOD at the back of church that may help you with the Christmas shopping. You can buy gifts on behalf of people that will help people to have a more just and healthier life. These are presents that will express the true meaning of Christmas.

Supporting the Bereaved

The newly established parish Pastoral Carers group have organized for Lisa Johnstone from Macmillan Bereavement Support Tyneside is to deliver a half-day session, Helping the Bereaved, 1pm-4pm on Tuesday 12th December 2017 in St Cuthbert's Hall. If you would like to learn more how to support people who have experienced bereavement you are welcome to participate in this session.

Journey of Faith

This year the Journey of Faith Programme for those inquiring about becoming a Catholic has commenced and the group meets regularly on a Thursday to reflect on the scriptures at St Cuthbert's. Fr Chris is very grateful to this group for their willingness to open up their group to those who wish to come into the Church. This meeting is also open to anyone in the parish who would like to know more about the scriptures and spend time reflecting on them.

Christmas Parcel Appeal

As you will be aware our Parish has a long tradition of distributing food hampers to some of the less fortunate in our area. Boxes for cash donations to fund this will be in the entrance throughout November. Donations can also be given to Fr. Chris or any SVP members if you miss the box. Last year we also received supermarket vouchers and again these would be most welcome. If you are aware of any deserving family or single person who you believe would welcome a hamper please write details - name address & preferably a contact no. - and again deposit in the box or hand over to Fr. Chris/SVP. The number and size of hampers will depend on your generosity but this initiative is always wonderfully supported by our Parish so thank you in advance.

St Joseph's Nursery

If you are getting rid of any toys St Joseph's Nursery would be grateful for any donations of: toy trains and cars, Small World Toys, e.g. Play People, animals and Dinosaurs, pre-school electronic toys, outdoor toys e.g. scooters, prams etc. construction toys (not Lego). Many thanks.

Christmas Candles at St Josephs Church

Anyone who would like a Christmas Candle in memory or for an intention please contact Janet Martin.

Betty Hill – 100 years old

Betty Hill who was a parishioner for many years of St Josephs will be 100 years old on the 14th December and her family would like to invite anyone who remembers her to an Afternoon Tea at 2 pm in St Anne's - Residential Home on the sea front in Whitley Bay.

Pantomime - Saturday 6th January 2018

This year's Pantomime at Tynemouth Priory Theatre is Hansel & Gretel. Tickets are £6.00. Lists are now on the notice boards at both churches, please sign up as soon as possible. Tickets will be allocated on a first come first served basis.