

**MASS READINGS - THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (A)**

**FIRST READING** *{David is anointed king of Israel.}*

Samuel 16:1.6-7. 10-13

The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed stands there before him,' but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him: God does not see as man sees: man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

**Responsorial Psalm** *{Response: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.}*

Psalm 22

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|---|---|
| <p>1. The Lord is my shepherd;<br/>there is nothing I shall want.<br/>Fresh and green are the pastures<br/>where he gives me repose.<br/>Near restful waters he leads me,<br/>to revive my drooping spirit.</p> | <p>2. He guides me along the right path;<br/>he is true to his name.<br/>If I should walk in the valley of darkness<br/>no evil would I fear.<br/>You are there with your crook and your staff;<br/>with these you give me comfort.</p> |
| <p>3. You have prepared a banquet for me<br/>in the sight of my foes.<br/>My head you have anointed with oil;<br/>my cup is overflowing.</p>  | <p>4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me<br/>all the days of my life.<br/>In the Lord's own house shall I dwell<br/>for ever and ever.</p>  |

**SECOND READING** *{Rise from the dead and Christ will shine on you.}*

Ephesians 5:8-14

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said: Wake up from your sleep, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

**Gospel Acclamation**

Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God! I am the light of the world, says the Lord;  
anyone who follows me will have the light of life. Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!

**GOSPEL** *{The blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored.}*

John 9: 1-41

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. His disciples asked him, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, for him to have been born blind?' 'Neither he nor his parents sinned,' Jesus answered 'he was born blind so that the works of God might be displayed in him. 'As long as the day lasts I must carry out the work of the one who sent me; the night will soon be here when no one can work. As long as I am in the world I am the light of the world.' Having said this, he spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man, and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored. His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.' So they said to him, 'Then how do your eyes come to be open?' 'The man called Jesus' he answered 'made a paste, daubed my eyes with it and said to me, "Go and wash at Siloam"; so I went, and when I washed I could see.' They asked, 'Where is he?' 'I don't know' he answered. They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.' Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man. However, the Jews would not believe that the man had been blind and had gained his sight, without first sending for his parents and asking them, 'Is this man really your son who you say was born blind? If so, how is it that he is now able to see?' His parents answered, 'We know he is our son and we know he was born blind, but we do not know how it is that he can see now, or who opened his eyes. He is old enough: let him speak for himself.' His parents spoke like this out of fear of the Jews, who had already agreed to expel from the synagogue anyone who should acknowledge Jesus as the Christ. This was why his parents said, 'He is old enough; ask him.' So the Jews again sent for the man and said to him, 'Give glory to God! For our part, we know that this man is a sinner.' The man answered, 'I don't know if he is a sinner; I only know that I was blind and now I can see.' They said to him, 'What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?' He replied, 'I have told you once and you wouldn't listen. Why do you want to hear it all again? Do you want to become his disciples too?' At this they hurled abuse at him: 'You can be his disciple,' they said 'we are disciples of Moses: we know that God spoke to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.' The man replied, 'Now here is an astonishing thing! He has opened my eyes, and you don't know where he comes from! We know that God doesn't listen to sinners, but God does listen to men who are devout and do his will. Ever since the world began it is unheard of for anyone to open the eyes of a man who was born blind; if this man were not from God, he couldn't do a thing.' 'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away. Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him. Jesus said: 'It is for judgement that I have come into this world, so that those without sight may see and those with sight turn blind.' Hearing this, some Pharisees who were present said to him, 'We are not blind, surely?' Jesus replied: 'Blind? If you were, you would not be guilty, but since you say, "We see," your guilt remains.

**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**

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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 John McElhone ☎ 0191 262 3820

Hospital Chaplaincy: Fr Stephen Watson ☎ 07768 3873931

**Sunday, 11<sup>th</sup> March 2018 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent (A)**

**Masses, Devotions and Services**

|           |  | <b>St Cuthbert's Church</b>  | <b>St Joseph's Church</b>  |
|-----------|--|--|--|
| Saturday  | 10 <sup>th</sup> March                                   | <b>4:45pm-5:15pm</b> Confessions<br><b>5:30pm Mass:</b> Irene Fatkin             | <b>No Mass</b>   |
| Sunday    | 11 <sup>th</sup> March<br>4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent | <b>11:00am Mass:</b> Monica Boyd<br><b>4:00pm Stations of the Cross</b>          | <b>9:30am Mass:</b> Charlie Hartwell   |
| Monday    | 12 <sup>th</sup> March                                   | <b>9:00am</b> Adoration of Blessed Sacrament<br><b>9:30am Mass:</b> Ellen Hughes |  |
| Tuesday   | 13 <sup>th</sup> March                                   |  | <b>9:30am Mass:</b>  |
| Wednesday | 14 <sup>th</sup> March                                   | <b>9:00am:</b> Adoration of Blessed Sacrament<br><b>9:30am Mass:</b>             |  |
| Thursday  | 15 <sup>th</sup> March                                   |  | <b>9:30am Mass:</b>  |
| Friday    | 16 <sup>th</sup> March                                   | <b>9:00am:</b> Adoration of Blessed Sacrament<br><b>9:30am Mass:</b>             | <b>7:00pm Mass:</b>  |
| Saturday  | 17 <sup>th</sup> March<br>St Patrick                     | <b>4:45pm-5:15pm</b> Confessions<br><b>5:30pm Mass:</b>                          | <b>No Mass</b>   |
| Sunday    | 18 <sup>th</sup> March<br>5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent | <b>11:00am Mass:</b>   | <b>9:30am Mass:</b> Frank Turnbull (sick child)<br><b>4:00pm Stations of the Cross</b> |

**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, Patricia Conlon, Betty Hill, Mel Mitchell, Father Bill Bellamy, Ros McGann, Father Richard Harriott, Gary James, Catherine West, Dorothy Rutherford, Gerry Thirsk, Tom Wright, Florence Redpath, Mary Wood, Chandra, Debbie Megan, Kay Butler, Sarah Harrison, Fred Stimpson, Lena Armbuster, Scott Oakley, Pat Skelly, Jean Slater and Katie McVay. Please pray for all those who have died recently and for those whose anniversaries are at this time.

#### **Pastoral Care for the Bereaved**

We have a group of parishioners who are willing to spend time with anyone who has suffered the death of a loved one. They can be contacted on the Pastoral Carers phone line on: 07526080729.

#### **The Season of Lent.**

This special time of grace started on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February. The following will take place

- **Stations of the Cross, Sunday afternoons at 4.00pm, this week at St Cuthberts.**
- **Friday evening Mass at St Joseph's at 7.00pm**

#### **Lenten Talks based on the Seven sayings of Christ on the Cross**

These will take place at St Cuthbert's starting at 7.00pm

- March 14<sup>th</sup> 'Today, you will be with me in paradise' God's offer of salvation to the criminal with Alan Hasting and members of South Tyneside Prison Matters
- March 21<sup>st</sup> 'My God, My God, why have you forsaken me' Hearing the voices of victims of torture', Tony Wright
- March 28<sup>th</sup> 'Father forgive them for they know not what they do'. Though not in person we shall show video clips of Richard Moore, blinded by a rubber bullet fired by a British officer with his powerful story of forgiveness

#### **Woman's World Day of Prayer**

The services were cancelled for March 2<sup>nd</sup> due to the bad weather. The service planned for St Augustin's will take place there at 2:00 pm on March 16<sup>th</sup>

#### **Mother's Day**

Happy Mother's Day to all mums in the parish. Prayers and thanks to all our mums, in heaven or on earth

#### **Diocesan Vacancies**

The parish of the Durham Martyrs are looking to appoint a Youth Ministry Co-ordinator. Full-time, 3 year fixed term contract. Closing date for applications: 23 March. For further information and details of how to apply please visit the diocesan website [www.rcdhn.org.uk](http://www.rcdhn.org.uk) or contact us (0191 243 3301, email [human.resources@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:human.resources@diocesehn.org.uk))

**Collections for 4<sup>th</sup> March 2018**  
**£700.36**

#### **Tyne and Wear Citizens' Mental Health Campaign**

One of the campaigns of Tyne and Wear Citizens is to explore how provision for Mental Health Care can be improved. Last week a listening campaign was started as part of seeking evidence for a commission that has been established to propose changes to mental health care in the area. The questions that are being asked are:

1. What has worked well, in relation to mental health and wellbeing for you or for family, friend or colleagues?
2. What hasn't worked well, in relation to mental health and wellbeing?
3. In an ideal world, what would things look like when it comes to mental health?

If you would like to provide a written answer to these questions or speak to Fr Chris about them, please contact him by e-mail or phone

#### **Churches Together in North Shields Teaching Week-End: Grow in Christ**

On the Saturday before Palm Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, there will be a teaching day on three themes: Discipleship and Teaching led by Rev Liz Edwards, Evangelism: A Possible Mission led by Lieutenant Co van der Woude and Meditation and Prayer by Fr Chris. The events will be shared at the Salvation Army and the North Shields Baptist Church. The day will start with refreshments at the Salvation Army at 9.30am. Please bring a packed lunch. Please see poster for more details

#### **Lenten Talks**

For the Christ's saying on the Cross 'Today, you will be with me in paradise' this week we will have organisers of South Tyneside Prison Matter who co-ordinate a drop-in for ex-offenders. Kathryn Mannix's talk will be rearranged for after Easter.

#### **St. Joseph's Presbytery**

Fr Chris is very grateful to parishioners who once a week spend the Monday morning sorting out some of the chaos that he leaves in the presbytery, mainly in the kitchen and office/study and ensuring he is not too scruffy by kindly washing and ironing for him. For personal reasons they will no longer be able to continue in this role after Easter so if anyone is willing to help, Fr Chris would be very grateful.

#### **Practical Steps For Parishes And Partnerships**

A conference will take place on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> May at St Joseph's Catholic Academy, Hebburn to help parishes and partnerships engage with young people in their communities. The keynote speaker is Fr Dominic Howarth, responsible for Youth Services in Brentwood Diocese, and the programme includes 12 workshops. The conference is for everyone who is concerned about our young people and will offer inspiring examples of good practice. The conference fee is £10 and includes lunch. Further details are in the booking forms available in parishes, downloadable from [www.ymt.org](http://www.ymt.org) or contact [admin@ymt.org](mailto:admin@ymt.org)

**Annual Training for Confirmation Catechists**, or those interested in becoming catechists, will take place this year within the Youth Ministry Conference on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> May at St Joseph's Catholic Academy, Hebburn. Details on the booking form.

#### **Mercy Associates**

The Mercy Associate's Coffee Morning with Hot Cross Bun, in aid of the Mercy Mission in Muhoroni, will be held on March 20<sup>th</sup> at 10.15am in St Joseph's Church. All are welcome.

The next meeting of the Mercy Associates will be held on Monday March 19<sup>th</sup> at 1.30pm in the Convent, 17 Cartington Road.

#### **Key Holders**

A discussion took place at the recent parish council regarding who are the current 'key holders' for our parish properties. It was decided to ensure this information is up to date. Therefore if you currently have keys for any of our parish properties could you inform Ian Pearson either by phone call 07534992873 or email [ian@ymcanorthtyneside.org](mailto:ian@ymcanorthtyneside.org) this will also ensure we are meeting the requirements of our insurers and the current DBS guidance. Once we have a list complete we will discuss the roles and responsibilities for key holders. If you currently have a set of keys and no longer feel it is necessary to do so please could they be returned to Ian Pearson or Fr Chris.

#### **IT infrastructure**

Ian Pearson would be interested in having a conversation with any fellow parishioners who have knowledge of IT. If you're that person please contact him on 07534992873 or email [ian@ymcanorthtyneside.org](mailto:ian@ymcanorthtyneside.org)

#### **YMCA North Tyneside**

"Sleep Easy is our annual sponsored sleep out; a great chance to raise awareness of youth homelessness whilst raising funds to support the work we do at YMCA North Tyneside".

Sleep Easy 2018 is taken place in the grounds of St Cuthbert's Primary School on the 16<sup>th</sup> March. 7.00pm-7.00am. Sign up online: [www.ymcanorthtyneside.org/sleep-easy](http://www.ymcanorthtyneside.org/sleep-easy) or speak to Ian Pearson for information.

#### **Day of Recollection**

The Lenten Day of recollection at the Franciscan Friary will be Saturday March 17<sup>th</sup>. Fr Chris will lead a reflection on John's Passion Narrative. Please sign the lists in the back of church. Including Fr Chris there are only 15 places available.

#### **Parish Council Elections**

It was agreed that Parish Council Elections will take place in April 14<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup>. There are 6 vacancies on the council. Fr Chris would like all parishioners to consider if they or someone else in the parish would be suitable to be in the parish. The council would like its membership to represent the broad diversity that exists within the parish.

#### **Coming up at Minsteracres:**

Quiet days of reflection during Lent, all from 10.00am – 4.00pm, with lunch provided:

- Wednesday 14 March – Sr. Anne McCarthy RSCJ
- Wednesday 21 March – Sr. Sheila McNamara RSCJ

For our full 2018 programme visit our website: <http://www.minsteracres.org/> or call us on 01434 673248.

#### **Social Events**

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March – Jumble Sale at St Cuthberts. **ALL DONATIONS URGENTLY NEEDED. NO ELECTRICALS.**

#### **Northern Men's Pilgrimage**

The above annual pilgrimage to our Lady's Shrine at Walsingham will this year take place on Friday and Saturday the 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> of June and Sunday the 1<sup>st</sup> of July. The cost which includes coach travel, bed breakfast and evening meals plus a traditional Sunday lunch before our return home is £150. A deposit of £50 to secure a place. For details contact. John Ross Tel 0191 4404391 or John Robertson Tel 0191 4877790.

#### **North Tyneside General Hospital (Rake Lane)**

Saturday Mass in the hospital Chaplaincy (10.30 am) will resume as from 17<sup>th</sup> March. New Chaplaincy volunteers are welcome; please contact Fr Stephen Watson or Fr Lee Barrett on 0191 2934268 (Chaplaincy office). Patients requiring a chaplaincy visit should ask the ward staff to contact the RC Chaplain, or relatives can ring the Chaplaincy office.

FOR EMERGENCIES ONLY a priest is on call 24/7.

#### **CCRS Specialist Parish Catechesis module**

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> March 2018, 9.30am – 3.30pm, Venue: St Cuthbert's House, West Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE15 7PY Buffet lunch is provided both days. Cost: £120.00 (waged) and £60.00 (unwaged). Applicants intending to engage, or already engaged, in local parish ministry may find their parish willing to assist with the course fee. Please contact your parish priest for further information.

The purpose of this module is to enable participants to gain an understanding of parish catechesis and to develop approaches to working within a parish setting. It offers an introduction to the theology, principles and goals of parish catechesis. Please contact Eamonn Diffley no later than Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2018 at [eamonn.diffley@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:eamonn.diffley@diocesehn.org.uk) or telephone 0191 243 3313 to book or for more information.

#### **Novena to St Joseph for Mill Hill Missionaries**

The National Novena to St Joseph will take place from 10-18 March 2018 at St Joseph's Church in Maidenhead and Herbert House, Freshfield, Liverpool. Each year Mill Hill Missionaries prepare for the Feast of St Joseph, their Patron, with a special Novena of Masses and prayers to ask God's blessing for their Society and the missionary outreach of the Church, as well as for the intentions of all those who support their work. You are invited to send in your petitions and/or to request a Novena booklet to enable you to join in from home by praying the daily Novena prayer.

Please write to Fr Liam Cummins MHM, St Joseph's Missionary Society, 58 Cookham Road, Maidenhead, SL6 7HT, or email: [novenahm@gmail.com](mailto:novenahm@gmail.com)

#### **St Joseph's R.C. Nursery**

Children are eligible to attend nursery after their 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday. If you have children under 4 years old don't forget to apply for a place in our nursery – it's never too early to put their name on the list.

#### **Trinity Charity Shop**

St Joseph's are looking for volunteers to work on Thursday's between 10:00am to 12:00 noon. Please contact Michael Hanlon or Pat Campbell.