

**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, Year C, 8TH & 9TH DECEMBER 2018**

**SUNDAY READINGS REFLECTION**

Very few of us like change. We spend a lot of our lives trying to keep things peaceful and settled so that when we are asked to change our ways it is not welcomed. We can get a little downhearted at the prospect. We're too long in the tooth and set in our ways; none of us is 'born again' that easily. John preaches a baptism of repentance, he positions himself in the area of the Jordan which is the gateway to the promised land. Towards the end of the previous year we became a little tired and weary. In Advent we are asked to prepare ourselves for the coming Lord, begin to restore ourselves and get ready for the coming event. What is asked of us will result in salvation and as Isaiah has prophesied, it will not just be for the Jewish people but universal in nature. Although we say it every year, it continues to be true. Joy really comes with Christmas.

**Deacon Terry**

**PARTNERSHIP MATTERS**

The Partnership is holding a series of services during December, to which everyone is invited. The remaining programme is: 9th December at St Aidan's; 16th December at St Bernadette's; 23rd December at St Columba's; 30th December (Feast of the Holy Family) at St Cuthbert's (all on Sundays) The Partnership Penitential Service will be on Wednesday 19th December at St Mary's, Cullercoats.

These services offer a valuable opportunity to reflect prayerfully on the meaning of Advent and Christmas, and to celebrate the gift of family life.

**Can we please remind everyone that on coming in to church for Mass,  
mobile phones should be turned off or set to silent.**

**PARISH NOTICES**

**RECENTLY DECEASED**

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Elizabeth Mary Richardson, who died on 23rd November, aged 99 years. Requiem Mass will be celebrated at 10.30am on Monday, 10th December at St Edward's Church, followed by committal at Whitley Bay Crematorium. May she rest in peace. Amen.

**OPEN CHURCH AT CHRISTMAS**

St Edward's and Immaculate Heart of Mary Churches are opening their doors on Saturday, 22nd December and Sunday, 23rd December. We welcome visitors, families and passers-by to visit and enjoy a time of quiet and peace in the midst of the Christmas rush. St Edward's Church will be open Saturday 10.00am till 4.00pm, Sunday 12.00pm till 4.00pm Immaculate Heart of Mary Church will be open Saturday 2.00pm till 5.00pm, Sunday 2.00pm till 4.00pm There will be sheets at the back of both churches for volunteers to cover each one hour rota. There must be two people for each hour. For further information ring Sheila Clapperton on 0191 2528935 or Chris Gunning on 0191 2669035.

**FOOD BANK**

The people of Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish are always generous in their donations to the Bay Food Bank, but during Advent we have the chance to show the true spirit of the season by trying a reverse Advent calendar. Instead of receiving a small gift as we open the calendar door each day, perhaps we could donate a small gift to the food bank. It need not be anything expensive, a carton of long life milk, a tin of beans, or a packet of biscuits are all very welcome and if lots of us donate half a dozen items each week it will soon mount up. If you regularly donate then thank you very much and if you haven't done so in the past, this would be a great time to start! Thank you.

**PARISH MONDAY CLUB**

- There will be no Meeting this week as we are going for our Christmas lunch. Will everyone please meet at the Vintage Tea Room 164, Park View, at 12 noon on Monday, 10th December.
- There will be no Monday Club during the Christmas holidays, we wish everyone all the best for Christmas and New Year and look forward to our return on 14th January.

**CHRISTMAS PARISH LUNCHEON CLUB**

The parish luncheon club will be held at 12.00 noon on Wednesday, 12th December and tickets have been issued to our regular attendees. Any enquiries contact Chris Gunning on 0191 2669035.

**MEETING - EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS - POSTPONED UNTIL NEW YEAR**

The meeting for all Parish Eucharistic Ministers to review current practice has been postponed and will take place early in the New Year. Mgr Andrew.

### **JUSTICE & PEACE GROUP**

Our Christmas Carols coffee/Irish coffee, mince pies and raffle will be held on Sunday, 16th December after mass at St Edward's Church. Donations of wine, chocolates or biscuits would be gratefully received. These can be left in the Justice and Peace box in the Narthex. Thank you for your support.

### **CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT**

This annual parish event will take place this year at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church on Sunday, 16th December at 4.00 pm, when we will welcome children from Star of the Sea School. Please join in this lovely celebration. The service will be followed, as usual, by light refreshments.

### **PARISH WALKING GROUP**

The next walk will be on Tuesday, 18th December. Please meet at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church at 9.30am. Because of the shortage of day light at this time of year, we are only going to Whitley Bay cemetery. From there we will walk past St Mary's Island and on to Seaton Sluice, up through Holywell Dene and on to the Waggonways as far as Whitley Bay golf course, then across the fields back to the cemetery. A total distance of 6 miles. If you require more information please contact Peter Weighill 0191 2512917.

### **A CELEBRATION OF CHRISTMAS - 22ND DECEMBER, 7.30PM**

At **Celebration of Christmas** at St Edward's Church featuring the Felling Male Voice Choir, the Scott Singers, a sketch 'No Room at the Inn' and congregational carols. Tickets £5.00, which includes refreshments, are available after weekend Masses, parish office, Tom and Sheila Clapperton 0191 2528934, Jim Humble (Immaculate Heart of Mary Church) and Ryan Blakey 07723 722480.

### **OUR LADY'S AND ST EDMUND'S CHURCH - CHRISTMAS TOMBOLA, 23RD DECEMBER**

We will be having a Tombola on Sunday, 23rd December and would like to ask for donations of gifts please.

### **'SAVE THE DATE', 31ST JANUARY 2019 AT IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY CHURCH**

During Holocaust memorial week at the end of January Gay Keenaghan will speak to us. Born Gabrielle Weiss in 1927 in Vienna to a Catholic mother and a Jewish father, Gay will give us an insight into her early life in Vienna and her journey on the 'Kinder Transport'. Gay now lives in our Partnership and attends Immaculate Heart of Mary Church. More information will be given nearer the date.

**READERS ROTA, ST EDWARD'S CHURCH** The rota for December to March is now ready for collection.

### **GIFT AID - LETTERS OF THANKS**

**PLEASE** collect your letter from the back of church to avoid postage. If you wish to join the Gift Aid scheme or have any questions, please contact Michael Reynolds on 0191 6704364 or Michael Cosgrove on 0191 2866006. Thank you for your generous support.

### **USED POSTAGE STAMPS**

Used postage stamps are now collected for the support of St Joseph's Care Home in Newcastle. Before your flood of Christmas cards begins, please make a note to collect the stamps and leave them in the boxes at the back of our churches. It is surprising how much is raised by this simple collection. Thank you for your help.

### **NORTHERN CATHOLIC CALENDAR**

The new edition for 2019 is now on sale. 'Ringbound' copies are £3.50 and 'Flat' copies are £3.00.

### **MESSAGE FROM CHRIS LINCOLN, WHITLEY BAY STREET PASTORS COORDINATOR**

Thank you so much for the article in your Church Newsletter regarding SWEP provisions. We have been inundated with gifts of sleeping bags, hats, gloves etc, what a wonderful heart for the homeless your members have. Also several have joined the team who will stay overnight with the homeless. We feel truly Blessed, thank you again. Would you ask your team to take the notice out of your newsletter as we have sufficient stock for now, storage is a big challenge for us. Blessings, Chris.

### **PRIESTS' TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

Fr Martin Stempczyk 0191 2513770, Fr Chris Hughes 0191 2575801, Fr John McElhone 0191 2623820, Fr David Smith 0191 2623882.  
Deacon Terry McGann contact via Parish Office 0191 2527066.

MASS INTENTIONS			
DAY	ST EDWARD'S	IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY	OUR LADY'S AND ST EDMUND'S
Saturday 8th December <b>THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY</b>	9.30am Angela Cooke (T&GL) 10.00am <b>CONFESSIONS</b>	6.00pm People of the Parish	
Sunday 9th December <b>SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>	11.00am Mary Dalby (birthday) (MD)		9.30am Living & Deceased members of The Cosgrove Family (MC)
Monday 10th December	10.30am Requiem Mass, Elizabeth Mary Richardson		
Tuesday 11th December <b>ST DAMASUS</b>	7.00pm Angela Cooke (TM)		
Wednesday 12th December <b>OUR LADY OF GUADELOUPE</b>	8.00pm Prayer Group	10.00am John & Lucy Steele (LS)	
Thursday 13th December <b>ST LUCY</b>	9.30am Philip Rafferty (TO'B) 7.00pm Compline		
Friday 14th December <b>ST JOHN OF THE CROSS</b>		10.00am Nancy & Robert Tulip (JT)	
Saturday 15th December	9.30am Tom Thomson (MS) 10.00am <b>CONFESSIONS</b>	6.00pm The Recently Deceased	
Sunday 16th December <b>THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>	11.00am Monica & George Thrift (MT)		9.30am People of the Parish

BAPTISM	ST EDWARD
9th December, 12.30pm (Mgr Andrew)	Hughie James McIlduff

**Please remember in your prayers** those who are ill: Anne McLaughlan, Margaret Duffy, Micheal Heaney and Eileen Waters. Please also remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time and those who have died recently especially Rita Hetherington and Elizabeth Mary Richardson.

#### Hospital Chaplaincies

**North Tyneside General Hospital**, Rake Lane, North Shields & Northumbria Specialist Emergency Care Hospital, Northumbria Way, Cramlington: Contact Fr Stephen Watson or Fr Lee Barrett on 07768 387393.

**RVI, Freeman and Walkergate Hospitals**: Contact Fr Arockia Mariadass Pagyasamy OCD, at St Teresa's, Heaton Road, Newcastle on 0191 2655290.

**Newcastle General Hospital**: Sister Teresa, 0191 2336161 ext. 28465.

#### Contact email addresses, numbers and website:

Monsignor Andrew Faley (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](http://www.northtynesidecatholic.org.uk)

**A comprehensive Parish Directory is held in the parish office. The directory contains names and contact numbers for those responsible for various groups and activities associated with our parish.**

**This can be viewed in the parish office or you can telephone the number overleaf if you have an enquiry.**

Parish Office opening hours: Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays 10.00am - 12.00noon, Immaculate Heart of Mary Church.  
 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**  
**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, 9TH DECEMBER 2018**  
*The Order of Mass is in the Laudate Hymn book from page 200.*

**First Reading**

**Baruch 5:1-9**

Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress, put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever, wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you, put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head: since God means to show your splendour to every nation under heaven, since the name God gives you for ever will be, 'Peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness.' Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights and turn your eyes to the east: see your sons reassembled from west and east at the command of the Holy One, jubilant that God has remembered them. Though they left you on foot, with enemies for an escort, now God brings them back to you like royal princes carried back in glory. For God has decreed the flattening of each high mountain, of the everlasting hills, the filling of the valleys to make the ground level so that Israel can walk in safety under the glory of God. And the forests and every fragrant tree will provide shade for Israel at the command of God; for God will guide Israel in joy by the light of his glory with his mercy and integrity for escort. The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm**

**Psalm 125(126)**

**Psalm Response:** *What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.*

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| 1. When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,<br>it seemed like a dream.<br>Then was our mouth filled with laughter,<br>on our lips there were songs. | 3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage<br>as streams in dry land.<br>Those who are sowing in tears<br>will sing when they reap.                         |
| 2. The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels<br>the Lord worked for them!'<br>What marvels the Lord worked for us!<br>Indeed we were glad.          | 4. They go out, they go out, full of tears,<br>carrying seed for the sowing:<br>they come back, they come back, full of song,<br>carrying their sheaves. |

**Second reading**

**Philippians 1:4-6,8-11**

Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy, remembering how you have helped to spread the Good News from the day you first heard it right up to the present. I am quite certain that the One who began this good work in you will see that it is finished when the Day of Christ Jesus comes; and God knows how much I miss you all, loving you as Christ Jesus loves you. My prayer is that your love for each other may increase more and more and never stop improving your knowledge and deepening your perception so that you can always recognise what is best. This will help you to become pure and blameless, and prepare you for the Day of Christ, when you will reach the perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for the glory and praise of God. The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation**

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

**Gospel**

**Luke 3:1-6**

In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the lands of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas the word of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah: A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley will be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, winding ways will be straightened and rough roads made smooth. And all mankind shall see the salvation of God. 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.