

**4TH SUNDAY OF LENT, Year C, 30TH & 31ST MARCH 2019**

**SUNDAY READINGS REFLECTION**

It's been 600 years since the Exodus and the Israelites arrival in Canaan, which is called the promised land. The wanderings in the desert come to an end and the people of God feed on the produce of the new land. Paul says, come back to God through belief in Christ. He is sinless, but through his death and resurrection, he took our sins upon himself. The message of the gospel is that we can count on God's forgiveness, whatever we do. In the parable, both sons insult their father. The distant country is really a way of living, a condition of the heart. The moment the younger son realises he has sinned is the key to a different future for him and for us too, as during Lent, we look forward to the celebration of Easter.

**Deacon Terry**

**CYCLE OF PRAYER**

During Lent, we pray for these intentions:

Candidates for the Sacraments:  
The needy and hungry of the World: Womens World Day of Prayer: Survivors of Sexual Abuse: Penitents and Wanderers.

**When you enter church for Mass, we thank you for turning off your phone or switching to silent.**

**PARISH NOTICES**

**LENT & HOLY WEEK 2019 - GOD'S GIFTS OF LOVE AND MERCY**

We are grateful to members of the parish who met in February to reflect on how we can be supported in Lent in our prayer, fasting, and action towards the great liturgies of Holy Week. It was agreed that the Diocesan Department for Spirituality resources 'God's Gifts of Love and Mercy', will be one focus, and the praying of the Stations of the Cross will be another. A third will be a group open to all to reflect on God's gifts of love and mercy. They will meet for an hour in the upper meeting room after Friday 10.00am Mass at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church.

Stations of the Cross will be celebrated on Lent Tuesdays at St Edward's at the beginning of the evening Mass at 6.45pm. Stations will also be celebrated on Lent Thursdays at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church at 7.00pm. Children's Stations of the Cross will be celebrated on Good Friday at 10.00am at Our Lady's and St Edmund's Church, Backworth.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) will be available throughout Lent on Saturdays at St Edward's Church, 10.00am - 10.30am and at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 5.30pm - 5.50pm, and by appointment. Confession times in the other Partnership Parishes can be checked via the website [www.northtynesidecatholic.org.uk](http://www.northtynesidecatholic.org.uk).

The Partnership Penitential Service will take place at 7.00pm on 11th April at St Columba's Church, Wallsend.

On 12th April, the Church invites everyone to join in a day of prayer for survivors of sexual abuse. This will be the main focus for a Holy Hour before the Blessed Sacrament at 3.00pm on Palm Sunday, 14th April in St Edward's Church.

**RECENTLY DECEASED**

- Please pray for the repose of the soul of Esther Lagan of West Monkseaton, who died on 20th March. Her Funeral Service will be celebrated at 10.00am on 2nd April at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, West Monkseaton, followed by Cremation at Whitley Bay Crematorium. May she rest in peace. Amen.
- Please pray for the repose of the soul of Dorothy Eden of Whitley Bay, who died on 16th March. Requiem Mass will be celebrated at 11.00am on 11th April at St Edward's Church, Whitley Bay, followed by Cremation at Whitley Bay Crematorium. May she rest in peace. Amen.

**CAFOD - SOUTHERN AFRICA CYCLONE IDAI DISASTER APPEAL**

There will be a retiring collection at all Masses this weekend to support those affected by the cyclone in Mozambique and Zimbabwe. Many thanks for your generosity.

**THE MINDFUL HOUR FOR APRIL** will be on Wednesday 3rd April in St Edward's Parish Rooms. The theme this month is Equanimity. All welcome.

### **MONDAY CLUB**

The Parish Monday Club will meet on 1st April in St Edward's Parish Rooms after 9.30am Word & Communion, when Paula Duffy will tell us about Depaul UK, and everyone is very welcome to come to hear about their very important work. Many thanks to everyone who supported our Fundraising for Yemen, we have sent the grand total of £200 as a contribution to CAFOD's work there. Thank you!

### **JOURNEY IN FAITH**

The next meeting of the Journey in Faith takes place on Monday, 1st April in St Edward's parish room. Starting time is 7.00pm and the topic is the Sacrament of the Sick.

### **DAY OF PRAYER FOR CANDIDATES OF THE SACRAMENTS**

Four people from our parish will be received into full communion with the Church at the Easter Vigil. Please keep Samantha Paul, Kathryn Newton-Henderson, Steven Sillars and Richard Clerey in your prayers, especially during Lent. We also pray for the children who made their First Confession in your prayers as they continue to look forward to their First Holy Communion in June.

### **LENTEN DAILY REFLECTIONS**

A booklet is available at the back of each Church containing daily reflections, enabling us to follow our own Lenten journey. Please take copies for your family and for the housebound.

### **EASTER EGG TOMBOLA—OUR LADY'S AND ST EDMUND'S CHURCH, BACKWORTH**

We will be having our Annual Easter Egg Tombola on Easter Sunday after Mass at Our Lady's and St Edmund's Church. There will also be tea and coffee served so please come along for a chocolate fix, a drink and a chat. We thank you in advance for your usual generosity in donating chocolate eggs. This is in aid of International Refugee Trust, who we have been supporting for over 20 years. Thank you to everybody who has helped us raise over £20,000 over the years.

### **PARKING RESTRICTIONS AT IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY CHURCH, WEST MONKSEATON**

The Church House is now 'Let' to tenants. To protect their access to the garage there will be **No Church parking beyond the double yellow lines**. Thank you for your understanding.

### **PARISH WALKING GROUP**

The next walk will take place on Monday, 1st April 2019 in the area of Bolam Lake. A six mile walk beginning at St Andrew's Church in Bolam Village, along field paths and a quiet Lonnen to skirt Shortflatt Tower and Bolam Lake. The walk is flat, there are no slopes or climbs. Meet at immaculate Heart of Mary Church for a 9.30am departure. Further information if required from Gerry Latimer on 0191 2516989. Don't be put off by the date!

### **CHOIR FOR EASTER SERVICES**

If anyone from any of our Churches would like to join the choir to sing at the services on Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil you will be very welcome. Please come along on Tuesday evenings to the Parish Rooms at St Edward's at 7.45pm. No auditions!

### **MISSION BOXES**

Boxes are due to be emptied for the 2nd quarter of the year. At St Edward's Church, the books are ready for collection in the Narthex. Please return all monies to Mary Nugent by the 28th April.

### **OTHER NOTICES**

#### **PEOPLE OF THE PASSION**

Time of Prayer and Reflection with the people Jesus met on the 'Way of the Cross' with Sr Sheila McNamara RSCJ on **Wednesday, 17th April, 7.00pm - 9.15pm** in St Mary's Church Hall, Farringdon Road, Cullercoats. All welcome.

#### **CATHOLIC HISTORY SOCIETY**

The next meeting is at 2.00pm on Wednesday, 3rd April when Dr Margaret Harvey will speak on 'The Rites of Durham in Context'. Event to be held at St Andrew's, Gateshead, non-members welcome.

#### **DIOCESAN VACANCY**

Administrator, Dept for Safeguarding. Full-time, 12 month fixed term contract. Closing date: 10th April. For further information and details of how to apply please visit our website [www.rcdhn.org.uk](http://www.rcdhn.org.uk) or contact us 0191 2433301.

#### **DIOCESAN FESTIVAL STATEMENT**

In good biblical tradition this year the annual diocesan festival will be a fallow year. We'll be back in June 2020 with a vision inspired by 'The God who speaks' (Bishops Conference of England and Wales Year of the Word 2020). To receive updates and to be the first to book check out our Diocesan social media page and website. Lost for something to do on the 22nd June 2019? Join us at Emmaus Youth Village for a family day - details to follow.

**MASS INTENTIONS & OTHER SERVICES**

<b>DAY</b>	<b>ST EDWARD'S</b>	<b>IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY</b>	<b>OUR LADY'S AND ST EDMUND'S</b>
Saturday 30th March	9.30am Michael Sullivan (PS) 10.00am - 10.30am CONFESSIONS	5.30 - 5.50pm CONFESSIONS 6.00pm People of the Parish (especially for all victims of violence & terrorism) (Parish Pastoral Care Team)	
Sunday 31st March <b>4TH SUNDAY OF LENT</b>	11.00am Derek Craigan (MP)		9.30am Jennie Gibson (SVP)
Monday 1st April	9.30am Word & Communion	10.00am Word & Communion	
Tuesday 2nd April	6.45pm Stations of the Cross 7.00pm Lily Sweeney (LL)	10.00am Funeral Service, Esther Lagan	
Wednesday 3rd April	8.00pm Prayer Group	10.00am Jim Jack (FJ)	
Thursday 4th April	9.30am Malcolm Louvre (LL) 7.00pm Compline	7.00pm Stations of the Cross	
Friday 5th April		10.00am Word & Communion	
Saturday 6th April	9.30am Philip Rafferty (T&SC) 10.00am—10.30am CONFESSIONS	5.30pm—5.50pm CONFESSIONS 6.00pm People of the Parish	
Sunday 7th April <b>5TH SUNDAY OF LENT</b>	11.00am Kathleen O'Herlihey		9.30am Nellie Waugh (SVP)

**Please remember in your prayers** those who are ill: Patrick McAdam and Norah Blewitt. Please also remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time and those who have died recently especially Brian Smith, John Percy, Jean Kelly, Anne McLaughlan, Dorothy Eden and Esther Lagan.

**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

**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.

**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.

**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

4TH SUNDAY OF LENT, 31ST MARCH 2019

*The Order of Mass is in the Laudate Hymn book from page 200.*

**First Reading**

**Joshua 5:9-12**

The Lord said to Joshua, 'Today I have taken the shame of Egypt away from you.' The Israelites pitched their camp at Gilgal and kept the Passover there on the fourteenth day of the month, at evening in the plain of Jericho. On the morrow of the Passover they tasted the produce of that country, unleavened bread and roasted ears of corn, that same day. From that time, from their first eating of the produce of that country, the manna stopped falling. And having manna no longer, the Israelites fed from that year onwards on what the land of Canaan yielded. The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm**

**Psalm 33(34):2-7**

**Response:** *Taste and see that the Lord is good.*

- 1 I will bless the Lord at all times,  
his praise always on my lips;  
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.  
The humble shall hear and be glad.
2. Glorify the Lord with me.  
Together let us praise his name.  
I sought the Lord and he answered me;  
from all my terrors he set me free.
3. Look towards him and be radiant;  
let your faces not be abashed.  
This poor man called, the Lord heard him  
and rescued him from all his distress.

**Second Reading**

**2 Corinthians 5:17-21**

For anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here. It is all God's work. It was God who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the work of handing on this reconciliation. In other words, God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, not holding men's faults against them, and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled. So we are ambassadors for Christ; it is as though God were appealing through us, and the appeal that we make in Christ's name is: be reconciled to God. For our sake God made the sinless one into sin, so that in him we might become the goodness of God. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation**

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.' Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus!

**Gospel**

**Luke 15:1-3,11-32**

The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. 'This man' they said 'welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he spoke this parable to them: 'A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, "Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me." So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery. 'When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything. Then he came to his senses and said, "How many of my father's paid servants have more food than they want, and here am I dying of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants." So he left the place and went back to his father. 'While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. Then his son said, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son." But the father said to his servants, "Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found." And they began to celebrate. 'Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. "Your brother has come" replied the servant "and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound." He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, "Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But, for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property – he and his women – you kill the calf we had been fattening." 'The father said, "My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it was only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found.'" The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Memorial Acclamation**

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.