

**MASS READINGS TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (C)**

**FIRST READING**

*Who can divine the will of the Lord?*

What man indeed can know the intentions of God? Who can divine the will of the Lord? The reasonings of mortals are unsure and our intentions unstable; for a perishable body presses down the soul, and this tent of clay weighs down the teeming mind. It is hard enough for us to work out what is on earth, laborious to know what lies within our reach; who, then, can discover what is in the heavens? As for your intention, who could have learnt it, had you not granted Wisdom and sent your holy spirit from above? Thus have the paths of those on earth been straightened and men been taught what pleases you, and saved, by Wisdom.

**Wisdom 9:13-18**

**Responsorial Psalm** *(To be read together by the whole congregation)*

**Response:** *O Lord, you have been our refuge, from one generation to the next.*

**Psalm 89**

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| <p>1. You turn men back into dust and say: 'Go back, sons of men.' To your eyes a thousand years are like yesterday, come and gone, no more than a watch in the night.</p> | <p>2. You sweep men away like a dream, like grass which springs up in the morning. In the morning it springs up and flowers: by evening it withers and fades.</p>        |
| <p>3. Make us know the shortness of our life that we may gain wisdom of heart. Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever? Show pity to your servants.</p>                       | <p>4. In the morning, fill us with your love; we shall exult and rejoice all our days. Let the favour of the Lord be upon us: give success to the work of our hands.</p> |

**SECOND READING**

*Have him back, not as a slave any more, but as a dear brother.*

**Philemon 1:9-10. 12-17**

This is Paul writing, an old man now and, what is more, still a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for a child of mine, whose father I became while wearing these chains: I mean Onesimus. I am sending him back to you, and with him – I could say – a part of my own self. I should have liked to keep him with me; he could have been a substitute for you, to help me while I am in the chains that the Good News has brought me. However, I did not want to do anything without your consent; it would have been forcing your act of kindness, which should be spontaneous. I know you have been deprived of Onesimus for a time, but it was only so that you could have him back for ever, not as a slave any more, but something much better than a slave, a dear brother; especially dear to me, but how much more to you, as a blood-brother as well as a brother in the Lord. So if all that we have in common means anything to you, welcome him as you would me. The word of the Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, Alleluia! I call you friends, says the Lord, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father. Alleluia!

**John 15:15**

**GOSPEL**

*None of you can be my disciples unless he gives up all his possessions.*

**Luke 14:25-33**

Great crowds accompanied Jesus on his way and he turned and spoke to them. If any man comes to me without hating his father, mother, wife, children, brothers, sisters, yes and his own life too, he cannot be my disciple. Anyone who does not carry his cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. 'And indeed, which of you here, intending to build a tower, would not first sit down and work out the cost to see if he had enough to complete it? Otherwise, if he laid the foundation and then found himself unable to finish the work, the onlookers would all start making fun of him and saying, "Here is a man who started to build and was unable to finish." Or again, what king marching to war against another king would not first sit down and consider whether with ten thousand men he could stand up to the other who advanced against him with twenty thousand? If not, then while the other king was still a long way off, he would send envoys to sue for peace. So in the same way, none of you can be my disciple unless he gives up all his possessions.'

Then he said to his host, 'When you give a lunch or a dinner, do not ask your friends, brothers, relations or rich neighbours, for fear they repay your courtesy by inviting you in return. No; when you have a party, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; that they cannot pay you back means that you are fortunate, because repayment will be made to you when the virtuous rise again.'

**The Parish of Saint Cuthbert and Saint Joseph, North Shields**

<p><b>Saint Cuthbert Catholic Church</b> Albion Road West North Shields</p>	<p>Tynemouth Priory Partnership</p> 	<p><b>Saint Joseph Catholic Church</b> Wallsend Road North Shields</p>
<p><b>Father Christopher Hughes, St Joseph's Church, Wallsend Road, Chirton, North Shields, NE29 7AA</b> ☎ (Tel) 0191 257 5801 / ☎ (Fax) 0191 259 2589 ✉ (Email) northshields.stjoseph@rcdhn.org.uk / northshields.stcuthbert@rcdhn.org.uk</p>		
<p><b>Parish website information at: <a href="http://www.northtynesidecatholic.org.uk">http://www.northtynesidecatholic.org.uk</a></b> <small>We are three Roman Catholic Parishes in the eastern half of the borough of North Tyneside, within the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle. Our website gives an overview of our three parishes and seven churches, as well as mass times, and details of parish ministries and groups.</small></p>		
<p><b>Partnership Telephone Numbers</b> Monsignor Andrew Faley ☎ 0191 252 8021 Father Martin Stempczyk ☎ 0191 251 3770 St Cuthbert's Church ☎ 0191 257 3408</p>	<p><b>Partnership Telephone Numbers</b> Father John McElhone ☎ 0191 262 3820 Hospital Chaplaincy: Fr Stephen Watson ☎ 07768 3873931 Father David Smith: ☎ 0191 262 3882</p>	

**Sunday, 8th September 2019 – 23rd Sunday of the Year - C**

Masses, Devotions and Services			
		St Cuthbert's Church	St Joseph's Church
Saturday	7th September	9:30am: No Mass	4:45-5:15pm: Confessions 5:30pm: Mass: People of the Parish
Sunday	8th September 23rd Sunday of the Year - C	11:00am: Mass: Mary Antony	
Monday	9th September	9:00am: Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9:30am: Word & Communion	
Tuesday	10th September		9:00am: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9:30am: Mass:
Wednesday	11th September	9:00am: Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9:30am: Mass: Colette	
Thursday	12th September		9:00am: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9:30am: Mass: Tony Tynan
Friday	13th September	9:00am: Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9:30am: Mass: Franco	
Saturday	14th September	9:30am: Mass	4:45-5:15pm: Confessions 5:30pm: Mass: Joseph Gascon
Sunday	15th September 24th Sunday of the Year - C	11:00am: Mass: People of the Parish	

**Bidding Prayers and our Partnership**

We seek the intercession of our parish saints and pray:

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|---------------------------|-----------------|
| 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 |

In this Ordinary Time of Autumn we are as a Church asked to pray for: all involved in the education and the development of children and young adults; The Spread of the Gospel; Harvest Time; the Fruits of Human Work and the Reverent Use of Creation; Justice and Peace in the World; All Victims of War; Young People; Women and Men in Prison and their Families.

Those who are sick: please pray for all who are sick, for all who are in hospital, hospice or nursing homes, including Patricia Conlon, Ros McGann, Father Richard Harriott, Gary James, Catherine West, Gerry Thirsk, Tom Wright, Florence Redpath, Mary Wood, Sarah Harrison, Fred Stimpson, Scott Oakley, Pat Skelly, Jean Slater, Frank Whillis, and James Laing

#### Baptism

This Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup> at the 11.00am Mass, at St Cuthbert's, we have the baptism of Rory McRae. We pray for Rory and his parents as he is united in Christ and welcomed into our Christian Community.

#### The Season of Creation

The Church under the guidance of Pope Francis has designated the time from September 1<sup>st</sup> to the Feast of St Francis on October 4<sup>th</sup> as the 'The Season of Creation'. Pope Francis invites all to a conversion that enable to truly to hear the cries of the earth and the poor. The disturbing images of the fires devastating the Tropical Rain Forest in Brazil and Bolivia, what have been called 'The Lungs of the World' call us to reflect on what humanity is doing to the planet. We are called to look on how we impact is either creative or destructive on creation, which of course includes human beings as well.

#### Harvest Celebration

To mark the end of the Season of Creation, Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> of October will be 'Harvest Sunday'. On this Sunday we as a parish will give thanks for all that God has given us. We will also reflect on the gift of Creation and how we can protect and appreciate this precious gift.

There will be a meeting open to all to prepare for 'Harvest Sunday' on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September at St Cuthbert's at 7pm. We are told that concern for the environment is of a particular concern for young people. It would be great if some of our young people were able to come to the meeting to express what they would like to see for 'Harvest Sunday'.

#### Vision of the Parish: Your Opportunity to Express Your Opinion

At the last meeting of the parish council, the council decided that it would be important that a parish vision is not just shaped by their views and wishes for the parish. So, this weekend you will be given a piece of paper for you take home and after some reflection we would like you to express what you would like to see in the parish. Please bring piece of paper with you the following week.

#### Pilgrimage to Santiago De Compostela 1<sup>st</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Following the wonderful Camino Frances in March this year, a meeting has been arranged to launch the Camino Ingles Pilgrimage 1<sup>st</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> March 2020. The meeting will take place at St. Cuthbert's on Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> September at 6.00 pm. This will be followed by a meeting at 7.00 pm for those going on the Camino Frances Pilgrimage 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> October 2019. Everyone very welcome.

#### Newman Association Tyneside Circle

Our next talk will be by Michael Kerrigan: "Clericalism: A 'Cancer' in the Church?" on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm in the Church Hall at St. Mary's Cullercoats. He will begin by asking what clericalism is, then why it is such a bad thing, and finally what we can do about it. All Welcome.

#### Annual Conference of the Society of the Protection of the Unborn Child ( SPUC)

The annual conference for SPUC is taking place at Swanwick in Derbyshire, next weekend, 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> September. Sponsored places are available for young adults. If interested please contact Ruth Corless at: [ruthcorless@btinternet.com](mailto:ruthcorless@btinternet.com).

#### Pro-Life Pilgrimage

This Pro-Life Pilgrimage of Prayer and Reparation for the Sanctity of Life will be at Osmotherly 6<sup>th</sup> October 2019. Please see notice board.

#### Live Simply Tip

Use Fairtrade products, including cleaning products.

#### Mercy Associates "a way of living out your baptismal call"

Mercy Associates were born out of the vision of Venerable Catherine McAuley, the foundress of the Sisters of Mercy. Her aim was to gather together a group of lay women who would support her in her ministry to alleviate the suffering of the poor, sick and uneducated but who would be able to return to their worldly life. These she liked to call her "associates". It was only later that the Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy was founded.

Mercy Associates as we know them today are a result of Vatican II. The Council called for all Religious to stay faithful to the spirit of their founder, to rediscover their charism and share it with the laity. To lay people it emphasised that their Baptismal Vocation was first and foremost "a call to personal holiness".

With this in mind the General Chapter of the Sisters of Mercy in 1980 allowed interested sisters throughout the UK to set about inviting lay people to form associate groups. The main purpose of the groups being to deepen our Christian call, be merciful wherever we are and to help others in practical ways.

They are encouraged to meet regularly, to join together in prayer and to share the Mercy Vocation with each other.

The first recorded groups were formed in Oldham and Colwyn Bay in 1982. The North Shields group was formed in 1994. There are local groups in Heaton and Alnwick, more throughout the UK as well as in Kenya, the Philippines and Romania.

There are 14 Associates in the North Shields group. 11 of us meet once month in the afternoon in the Convent, 3 unable to attend support us in prayer. There we share the monthly prayer, listen to a mercy related talk, catch up on news of Mercy projects throughout the world and plan our own projects. We join with our neighbouring groups for an annual retreat day, hold at least 2 coffee mornings a year to help fund the appeals we have received, we collect food for Christmas parcels and have been active in raising funds to support those affected by human trafficking.

We have strong links to St Joseph's School. The Youth Mercy Association was founded here at St Joseph's in 2000. It now meets fortnightly during the lunch hour, taking part in prayer, discussion and activities to deepen their awareness of the Works of Mercy. They have been active in raising funds for the Mercy Missions and Mary's Meals and have visited the Little Sisters of the Poor Care Home. Working towards a "care of the environment" badge using the Mercy International Season of Creation calendar they are trying to increase their understanding of the 8<sup>th</sup> Work of Mercy given to us by Pope Francis – "caring for our common world".

We would like to express our grateful appreciation to everyone who has supported us in any way and hope you will continue to do so in the future and, if you would like to join us you would be made very welcome.

If you would like more information, please telephone Catherine Kelly on 07759101970 or email [raygk@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:raygk@hotmail.co.uk)

#### Parish Christmas Coffee Morning

This will take place at St Cuthbert's on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November from 11.00am.

#### Charity Concert

On Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> of October there will be a charity concert entitled "A Concert for Hope" at St Cuthbert's in aid of the charity PROPS NE which supports families, carers and children living with people suffering from problems of substance misuse. The concert is also in memory of Anne Greaves' daughter Helen. The concert starts at 7 pm and will feature a varied programme of light classics, folk and performance poetry, with members of the music group and the excellent Voices of Hope choir among the performers. Tickets are £5 and £3 for concessions (pensioners, students, benefit claimants) and will be available on the door from 6 pm, from Anne after mass or online at <https://www.wegotickets.com/event/480953>. A donation will also be made to the charity Turning Point.

#### Partnership Community and Property Review

During the summer it was announced that after an initial pilot scheme involving three partnerships, the next seven partnerships in the Diocese to undergo a Partnership Community and Property Review (PCPR), would include the Tynemouth Priory Partnership. This PCPR will have a number of strands:

- Inviting each parish to explore the spiritual and social needs within their parish and wider community.
- To review the property assets in each parish.
- To explore how property within parishes and the parish could be used to meet identified needs.
- To decide on what is the most productive use of our properties for our mission.

The Partnership Development Group will be meeting the Diocesan Co-ordinator of the PCPR, Jeremy Brock, in September. At this meeting, Jeremy will explain the nature of the PCPR process.

In consultation with Jeremy Brock, Mgr Faley as Partnership Dean, and Ian Pearson as Chair of the PDG, it has been agreed that to help parishes to identify needs in their area training will be offered. This training will be provided members by Tyne and Wear Citizens, which will include parishioners in the partnership. It is hoped that this training will provide parishes with the tools to engage with people in the community to discover the concerns and needs within our communities. This training will take place at St Cuthbert's on Saturday October 12<sup>th</sup> from 10am-3pm. If you have any queries about any of the above please contact Fr Chris. Please keep the PCPR process in your prayers.

#### Parish Jumble Sale – Saturday, 5<sup>th</sup> October commencing 11:00am

At St Cuthbert's - Goods needed, no electrics please. Thank you.

#### Celebration of the Canonisation of Blessed John Henry Newman

'There will be an afternoon to celebrate the canonisation of Blessed John Henry Newman on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October at St. Mary's Cullercoats. It will begin at 2pm with a series of talks in the Hall and end with Mass at 5pm in the Church. The timetable will be:

- 2:00pm Fr. Andrew Downie, "Newman and the Development of Doctrine"
- 2:45pm Prof. Terry Wright, "Newman and the Bible"
- 3:30pm Refreshments
- 4:00pm Dr. Sheridan Gilley, "Newman and Holiness"
- 5:00pm Mass.

There will be no charge but you are asked to let me know by email at [Terry.Wright@ncl.ac.uk](mailto:Terry.Wright@ncl.ac.uk) or by phone at 0191-2748653 if you wish to attend.'

#### Inter-Faith Events

##### Annual Walk For Peace

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2019. Meeting from 10.00 am at the Hindu Temple, West Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE4 9QB. The Walk will begin at 11.00am. For further information please contact Hari Shukla on 0191 2433620.

#### 'Echoes of Contempt.' A history of Judeophia and the Christian Church

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September. Revd. Bruce Thompson will give a talk at the United Hebrew Congregation Synagogue, in Graham Park Road, Gosforth.

**Also** on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September The Third Order of St. Francis will celebrate 800 years since St. Francis met with the Sultan of Egypt. They will meet at the Mosque in Heaton Road, where members of this group will discuss their faith, belief and practice.

What's On in our Parish All are very welcome to participate in these activities			
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Mercy Associates meet Monthly in the afternoon. More details to follow.</b> Prayer and practical compassionate support for those in need. <b>SVP meets fortnightly. More details to follow.</b> Putting concern into action. Visiting the sick and housebound and providing practical support for those in need in our community.		
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Mum's Space</b> <i>Parents and Children Together</i>	<b>1:30pm</b>	Church Hall at St. Cuthbert's
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Coffee Morning</b>	<b>10:00am</b>	Upstairs Room at St. Cuthbert's
	<b>Craft Class</b>	<b>1:30pm</b>	Upstairs Room at St. Cuthbert's
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Mum's Space</b> <i>Parents and Children Together</i>	<b>9:30am</b>	Church Hall at St. Cuthbert's
	<b>Bible Study</b> <i>A study and discussion on Scripture for Masses the following weekend.</i>	<b>7:30pm</b>	Upstairs Room at St. Cuthbert's
<b>Friday</b>			
<b>Saturday</b>			
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Children's Liturgy of the Word</b> <i>This will resume in September</i>	<b>Mass</b>	Children to meet in the chapel before Mass
	<b>Coffee/Tea</b>	<b>After Mass</b>	Church Hall at St. Cuthbert's

#### RCIA – Journey in Faith

If anyone is interested in attending the 'RCIA i.e. Journey of Faith' course which will run from September 2019 to Easter 2020, please let Fr Chris know. Our Journey in Faith programme has been exceptionally successful this year 2018-2019 with four of our parishioners being received into the faith community over the Easter period, along with seven other members from our Parish Cluster. The course runs not only for people who want to join our Catholic Faith Community, but also for anyone who wants to know more about their faith, support or sponsor a friend, or simply attend the meetings to discuss, explore and share their own faith journey with others. We already have two members interested for next year and hope more people might reflect upon joining us.

This year's 'Journey of Faith' series begins on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September in the parish rooms at St Edward's and will run on alternate Thursdays, 7pm - 9pm, from then on until after Easter. The sessions are aimed at anyone considering becoming a Catholic, or anyone already a Catholic who wishes to refresh or update their understanding of their faith. Please contact Fr Chris if would like to take part.