

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR A, 7th & 8th December 2019

The Cycle of Prayer

During Advent and Christmastide we are asked to pray for these intentions: **Openness to the Word of God; Migrants and Refugees; expectant Mothers.**

Advent and Christmas

John the Baptist's call is for us to repent, we would prefer instead the warm and peaceful picture of paradise which Isaiah describes. There, the wolf lives with the lamb, calf and lion feed together etc. We want Easter but not Lent, Christmas but not Advent. However, the repentance of John's call is positive because he is calling us to change our direction in preparation for the 'Day of the Lord' - the coming of our Saviour. Jesus brings peace and love, for on him "rests the spirit of the Lord". As we prepare to celebrate this great event with our families let us remember those whose families may not join them and who may feel alone during this time.

Deacon Terry

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS 2019

DATE	CELEBRATION	CHURCH
Second Sunday of Advent, 8 December	Justice & Peace Group Carols	St Edward's, Whitley Bay, after 11.00am Mass
Monday, 9 December, Immaculate Conception	Word & Communion	St Edward's, Whitley Bay, 9.30am Immaculate Heart, West Monkseaton, 9.30am
Wednesday, 11 December	Luncheon Club Christmas Dinner (Ticket only)	Immaculate Heart, West Monkseaton, 12.00 Noon
Thursday, 12 December	Star of the Sea School Years 5 & 6 & Families Advent Service of Light	St Edward's, Whitley Bay, 6.00pm
Thursday, 12 December	Partnership Advent Penitential Service	St Thomas More Academy, Lynn Road, North Shields, 7.00pm
Gaudete Sunday, 15 December	Partnership Advent Service	St Bernadette's, Wallsend, 4.30pm
Saturday, 21 December	Nuptial Mass – Kate Lowes & Mark Gibbins	St Edward's, Whitley Bay, 3.00pm
Fourth Sunday of Advent, 22 December	Parish Carol Service	Our Lady's & St Edmund's, Backworth, 4.00pm
Tuesday, 24 December	Christmas Eve - Carols & Masses	St Edward's, Whitley Bay, 5.30pm Immaculate Heart, West Monkseaton, 7.30pm
Wednesday, 25 December	Christmas Day Masses	Our Lady's & St Edmund's, Backworth, 9.30am St Edward's, Whitley Bay, 11.00am
Tuesday, 31 December	New Year's Eve Mass	St Edward's, 9.30am
New Year's Day, 1 January 2020	Parish Mass & Shared New Year Lunch	Immaculate Heart, West Monkseaton, 12.00 Noon

HELP NEEDED

Several people are needed to assemble and erect the Christmas tree at St Edward's Church. If you are able to assist on the afternoons of the 14th & 21st December, please message Freda Jack on 07982 258476.

PARISH MONDAY CLUB

The Parish Monday Club will meet in the Parish Rooms at St Edward's on the 9th December after the Service. We'll have our "Mince Pie Morning" and "Christmas card alternative" collection. Everyone is welcome.

LUNCHEON CLUB CHRISTMAS LUNCH

The Christmas Lunch is on Wednesday 11th December at 12 noon. On this occasion it is Ticket Only to help us prepare for the correct numbers.

MINDFUL HOUR

The Mindful Hour for December will be on Wednesday 11th December at St Edwards's at 7pm. The theme this month is: Preparing for the joy of Christmas. All are welcome.

GENERAL ELECTION 2019

The Bishops of England and Wales have issued a statement regarding the General Election on 12th December. Copies are available at the back of each church.

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY CHURCH - FOOD BANK

The Food Bank thank you for your continuing generosity - they are particularly in need of sugar, custard, jam and biscuits etc. A big thank you also to the 1st Wellfield Rainbows who meet at the church on Tuesday evenings. As one of their charitable actions they decided to donate a wonderful selection of goods to the food bank and we are very grateful.

POSTAGE STAMPS

When your deluge of Christmas cards begins, please save the stamps. These used stamps are collected at the back of each church for St. Joseph's Care Home and their sale raises useful funds for the Little Sisters of the Poor.

ST EDWARD'S SECTION OF THE CATHOLIC WOMENS' LEAGUE

The members of St Edward's section of the Catholic Women's' League are sad to announce that unfortunately we have had to close due to falling numbers. The few members who are left are all getting older and it hasn't been possible to attract younger members to join us. We would like to thank the Parish for all of the support we have been given over the last 64 years, and a special thank you to Monsignor Andrew for the beautiful mass we closed the league with on Tuesday - Ethel Welton.

TYNEMOUTH PRIORY PARTNERSHIP – PROPERTY & COMMUNITY AUDIT

As part of the Community Audit being carried out across our Partnership, our Parish is seeking to learn more about our local community needs and to identify a project through which we as the Church can better provision. The research will help us to judge how we can best use our buildings in the future. The Parish Community Audit Team would like to hear from you about any gaps in the provision of our local services and which the local Church might be able to fill. We would be grateful if you could forward your ideas by the end of December to the Parish Office either on paper or by email to: jjames9241@aol.com, marked: "Community Audit". Many thanks from the Parish Community Audit Team.

OTHER NOTICES

ADMISSION APPEALS PANEL MEMBERS:

The Diocesan Department for Education welcomes applications from Catholic persons willing to be considered as lay or non-lay members of appeal panels for school admissions. Suitable persons will be appointed to serve on panels hearing appeals for Catholic schools within The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle. Please see poster for more details or the Diocesan vacancies website.

STAR OF THE SEA NURSERY PLACES

Star of the Sea Primary School currently has places available in the morning and afternoon sessions in their Nursery. If you would like further information about applying for a place please contact the school office on 0191 6432080.

Contact email addresses, numbers and website:

Monsignor Andrew Faley (St. Edward)	stedwardsne26@btconnect.com	(0191) 2528021
Star of the Sea Primary School	starofthesea.primary@ntlp.org.uk	(0191) 6432080
Cluster Website	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 if you have an enquiry (number below).

Parish Office opening hours: Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays 10.00am - 1.00pm, 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 10.00am on Thursdays.

MASS INTENTIONS & OTHER SERVICES			
DAY	ST EDWARD'S	IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY	OUR LADY AND ST EDMUND'S
Saturday 7th December ST AMBROSE	9.30am Judy Ashton (LA) 10.00am CONFESSIONS	5.30pm - 5.50pm CONFESSIONS 6.00pm Kevin Clarke (DC)	
Sunday 8th December 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT	11.00am People of the Parish		9.30am Private Intention (LH)
Monday 9th December THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, PATRON OF THE DIOCESE	9.30am Word & Communion	9.30am Word & Communion	
Tuesday 10th December	7.00pm Mass for Vocations (Tynemouth Catenians)		
Wednesday 11th December ST DAMASCUS	8.00pm Prayer Group	9.30am Private Intention (JT)	
Thursday 12th December OUR LADY OF GUADELOUPE	9.30am Bill Devlin (LL) 7.00pm Compline		
Friday 13th December ST LUCY		9.30am Brian Smith (KS)	
Saturday 14th December ST JOHN OF THE CROSS	9.30am Sheila Clapperton (LL) 10.00am CONFESSIONS	5.30pm - 5.50pm CONFESSIONS 6.00pm The Recently Deceased	
Sunday 15th December 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT	11.00am Mary Bridget Murphy (JB)		9.30am People of the Parish

Please remember in your prayers Terry Murphy, Nicola Burns, Kathryn Newton-Henderson, Margaret Ward, Fr Tom Cunningham and Margaret Donnelly who are ill. Please also remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time and those who have died recently, especially Noel Bogie, Beatrice O'Shea, George Miller, Margaret Webber and Paul Thomson.

Hospital Chaplaincies

North Tyneside General Hospital, Rake Lane, North Shields & Northumbria Specialist Emergency Care Hospital, Northumbria Way, Cramlington: Contact Fr Stephen Watson 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.

READINGS AT MASS
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, 8th December 2019
The Order of Mass is in the Laudate Hymn book from page 200.

First reading

Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot springs from the stock of Jesse, a scion thrusts from his roots: on him the spirit of the Lord rests, a spirit of wisdom and insight, a spirit of counsel and power, a spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord. (The fear of the Lord is his breath.) He does not judge by appearances, he gives no verdict on hearsay, but judges the wretched with integrity, and with equity gives a verdict for the poor of the land. His word is a rod that strikes the ruthless, his sentences bring death to the wicked. Integrity is the loincloth round his waist, faithfulness the belt about his hips. The wolf lives with the lamb, the panther lies down with the kid, calf and lion feed together, with a little boy to lead them. The cow and the bear make friends, their young lie down together. The lion eats straw like the ox. The infant plays over the cobra's hole; into the viper's lair the young child puts his hand. They do no hurt, no harm, on all my holy mountain, for the country is filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters swell the sea. That day, the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples. It will be sought out by the nations and its home will be glorious. The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 71(72):1-2,7-8,12-13,17

Response: *In his days justice shall flourish, and peace till the moon fails.*

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| 1. O God, give your judgement to the king,
to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice
and your poor in right judgement. | 2. In his days justice shall flourish
and peace till the moon fails.
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the Great River to earth's bounds. |
| 3. For he shall save the poor when they cry
and the needy who are helpless.
He will have pity on the weak
and save the lives of the poor. | 4. May his name be blessed for ever
and endure like the sun.
Every tribe shall be blessed in him,
all nations bless his name. |

Second Reading

Romans 15:4-9

Everything that was written long ago in the scriptures was meant to teach us something about hope from the examples scripture gives of how people who did not give up were helped by God. And may he who helps us when we refuse to give up, help you all to be tolerant with each other, following the example of Christ Jesus, so that united in mind and voice you may give glory to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. It can only be to God's glory, then, for you to treat each other in the same friendly way as Christ treated you. The reason Christ became the servant of circumcised Jews was not only so that God could faithfully carry out the promises made to the patriarchs, it was also to get the pagans to give glory to God for his mercy, as scripture says in one place: *For this I shall praise you among the pagans and sing to your name.*

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

Matthew 3:1-12

In due course John the Baptist appeared; he preached in the wilderness of Judaea and this was his message: 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' This was the man the prophet Isaiah spoke of when he said: *A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight.* This man John wore a garment made of camel-hair with a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judaea and the whole Jordan district made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. But when he saw a number of Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism he said to them, 'Brood of vipers, who warned you to fly from the retribution that is coming? But if you are repentant, produce the appropriate fruit, and do not presume to tell yourselves, "We have Abraham for our father," because, I tell you, God can raise children for Abraham from these stones. Even now the axe is laid to the roots of the trees, so that any tree which fails to produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown on the fire. I baptise you in water for repentance, but the one who follows me is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to carry his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand; he will clear his threshing-floor and gather his wheat into the barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.'

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.