TYNEMOUTH PRIORY PARTNERSHIP
Parish of Our Lady Star of the Sea

St Edward, Coquet Avenue,
Whitley Bay, NE26 1EE
Immaculate Heart of Mary, Church Close,
Monkseaton, NE25 9PG
Our Lady and St Edmund, Station Road,
Backworth, NE27 0RU

3RD SUNDAY OF LENT, Year A, 14th & 15th MARCH 2020

The Cycle of Prayer **Lent**

During Lent we are asked to pray for these intentions: **Candidates for the Sacraments; Women; The Needy and Hungry of the World; Penitents and Wanderers; Survivors of Sexual Abuse.**

SUNDAY READINGS REFLECTION

Life can get tough at times. It is part of our earthly experience. God knows this and always gives us encouragement to endure whatever comes. The key for us is to go through it without grumbling. This is the point of the first reading. At Massa and Meribah the people of God had lost their faith and complained to Moses who prayed for them, the Lord then produced living water from the rock. St. Paul outlines a world that is sunk in sin but also says that our hope in God is not in vain. The promise of salvation is fulfilled though obedience to Jesus Christ. On the three Sundays before Palm Sunday we enter afresh into the living and nourishing water of God's love, given at our Baptism. This week it's the woman at the well, then the cure of man born blind and finally the raising of Lazarus. **Deacon Terry**

TYNEMOUTH PRIORY PARTNERSHIP - PRECAUTIONS AGAINST CORONAVIRUS

At their meeting on 4th March 2020, the Partnership Development Group discussed the Coronavirus outbreak, including independent medical advice. It was agreed that, until further notice, the following precautions should be taken from this weekend in all the churches In our Partnership. These precautions are in line with the Bishops' Conference guidelines:

- The distribution of Holy Communion under both kinds is suspended.
- Holy Communion will be distributed in the hand only.
- Clergy and Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist are to wash their hands in hot soapy water or use sanitised gel before and after they distribute Holy Communion.
- The Sign of Peace is suspended.
- Holy Water stoups are to be emptied and/or removed.
- Everyone attending Mass is asked to clean their hands as they come into church using sanitized gel dispensers available in church porches and entrances.
- Everyone is asked to maintain good personal hygiene, especially at Mass and parish gatherings.

Bishop Byrne has approved these arrangements. If you have any concerns or questions, please speak to your parish priest. **Mgr Andrew Faley — Partnership Dean**

CORONAVIRUS - PRECAUTIONS IN CHURCH & PRAYERS

Many thanks for your understanding and cooperation regarding the precautions being taken in our churches. A prayer leaflet is available at the back of the church, which guides our prayer during this difficult time. Please also take copies for those at home and the elderly. Many thanks.

LENT & HOLY WEEK 2020 - THE GOD WHO SPEAKS IN POWER AND MERCY

The God Who Speaks in Power and Mercy is the theme this Lent in the Year of the Word. A weekly group open to all will reflect on the theme for an hour in the upper meeting room after Friday 9.30am Mass at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church. Leaflets are available for Parishioners to use during Lent, and are at the back of each church.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be available before morning Mass at St Edward's Church and Immaculate Heart of Mary Church for half an hour beginning at 9.00am.

Stations of the Cross will be celebrated on Tuesdays at St Edward's Church at the beginning of the evening Mass at 6.45pm, and Wednesdays at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church at 7.30pm. Children's Stations of the Cross will be celebrated on Good Friday at 10.00am at Immaculate Heart, West Monkseaton.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available as usual 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. The children being prepared for First Holy Communion will make their First Confession at St Edward's Church on Wednesday 18th March at 6.00pm. The Partnership Penitential Service will take place at 7.00pm on **Wednesday 1st** April at St Cuthbert's, North Shields.

The Rededication of England as the Dowry of Mary is a national event on Sunday 29th March. We will join in following the 11.00am Mass at St Edward's Church. Information at www.behold2020.com.

The Easter Triduum this year-7.30pm Maundy Thursday's Mass of the Lord's Supper, 3.00pm Good Friday's Liturgy of the Lord's Passion and 8.00pm Holy Saturday's Easter Vigil- will all be celebrated at St Edward's Church, Whitley Bay. On Holy Saturday morning, the Office of Readings and Morning Prayer will be celebrated at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church at 10.00am.

MARCH LUNCHEON CLUB - CANCELLATION

Due to the great uncertainty of the Coronavirus situation and after great thought and discussion the decision has been made to cancel the luncheon club on the 25th March. If you know any of those who come from other parishes please let them know of our decision. We will keep you fully informed regarding April's lunch.

WALKING GROUP

The next walk will be on Tuesday 17th March. Jim Gunning will lead a 5.5 mile walk from Wolsingham to Tunstall Reservoir dam and back. This is a walk over field paths and woodland with only a gentle climb. Meet at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church car park at 9.30am. For further details contact Jim on 01912669035 or 07932696795.

FIRST RECONCILIATION AND HOLY COMMUNION

The children being prepared for First Holy Communion will make their First Confession at St Edward's Whitley Bay at 6.00pm on Wednesday 18th March. Please keep them in your prayers at this special time.

MILL HILL FATHERS

The Mill Hill Fathers wish to thank St Edward's Church for their generous support throughout the year. The grand sum of £3,704 was raised in 2019. There is a poster in the narthex for all to see. Many thanks. Liz Hickey. (St. Edward's red box secretary.)

EASTER EGG TOMBOLA AT OUR LADY'S AND ST EDMUND'S, BACKWORTH

We will be having our Annual Easter Egg Tombola on Easter Sunday after Mass at Our Lady and St Edmund's Church. We are thanking 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.

OUR LADY'S & ST EDMUND'S, BACKWORTH - ROTAS

New rotas are available at the back of the church.

THE JAM LADIES - OUR LADY'S & ST EDMUNDS, BACKWORTH

We would be grateful for any donations of spare fruit from your gardens for our jam, particularly rhubarb, apple and berries as these are expensive to buy. Donations can be left at church or collected from your home. Ring Ann Donnelly, 2584454 or Joan Skelton, 2511197. Thank you.

GIFT AID

The current Gift Aid envelopes will end on the 5 April 2020 at the end of the tax year. New boxes will be available this Saturday/Sunday at the back of our churches, which will operate from 12 April. We will shortly be submitting our claim for 2019-2020 and thanks to your continued generosity and support for the Parish, we received £10,494 for the previous year. People who don't pay tax and place donations on the collection plate also enabled us to recover a further £5,145. Do you pay tax and could you join the Gift Aid scheme? To join or for more information, please contact Michael Cosgrove on 0191 2686006 or Michael Reynolds on 0191 6704364.

OTHER NOTICES

LOURDES HOSPITALITE FUNDRAISER

The Hexham and Newcastle Lourdes Hospitalite presents 'Diggin the Dancing Queen', a 'nearly' ABBA show on Friday 27th March at Gateshead Fell Cricket Club, Low Fell, NE9 5UB. All are warmly invited to join in the evening's entertainment and fundraising activities. All monies raised go towards the Hospitalite funds. Doors and bar open at 7.30pm. Fancy dress optional! Tickets cost: £5 adults, £3 for Lourdes youth, children- free. For tickets please call 07896581835.

SCRIPTURE ROAD SHOW

The Year of the God Who Speaks is a wonderful opportunity for us as a diocese to grow in Christ. He speaks to us throughout the Scriptures as he spoke with the two disciples on the road to Emmaus. As they listened to him their hearts burned within them; this was the power that impelled them from their fear and isolation to go to all the world with the good news that Christ is risen. The same can happen here and now if we will open ourselves to his life in the Word and the Eucharist. Please encourage people to come to the Roadshow. My hope and prayer is that it will encourage everyone to be inspired by the Bible and as you see from the programme there's something for everyone. Further information to follow.

Contact email addresses, numbers and website:

Monsignor Andrew Faley (St. Edward)	stedwardsne26@btconnect.com	(0191) 2528021
Star of the Sea Primary School	staroftheseа.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 and 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 14th March	9.00am Exposition 9.30am Jayne Storey (MS) 10.00am **CONFESSIONS**	5.30pm - 5.50pm **CONFESSIONS** 6.00pm People of the Parish	
Sunday 15th March **3RD SUNDAY OF LENT**	11.00am Monica & George Thrift (MT)		9.30am Ida Convey (TW)
Monday 16th March	9.00am Exposition 9.30am Word & Communion	9.00am Exposition 9.30am Word & Communion	
Tuesday 17th March **ST PATRICK**	6.45pm Stations of the Cross 7.00pm Julia Judge (J & MC)		
Wednesday 18th March	6.00pm First Confessions 8.00pm Prayer Group	9.00am Exposition 9.30am Word & Communion 7.30pm Stations of the Cross	
Thursday 19th March **ST JOSEPH, HUSBAND OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**	9.00am Exposition 9.30am Joan Leeder & John Styles (EF) 7.00pm Compline		
Friday 20th March **ST CUTHBERT**		9.00am Exposition 9.30am Hilda Valentine (JT)	
Saturday 21st March	9.00am Exposition 9.30am Dipak Mukherjee (J & MR) 10.00am **CONFESSIONS**	5.30pm - 5.50pm **CONFESSIONS** 6.00pm People of the Parish	
Sunday 22nd March **4TH SUNDAY OF LENT**	11.00am Stephanie Thompson (AA)		9.30am Mary Holmes (SVP)

Please remember in your prayers Nicola Burns, Sheila Godwin, Mary Stevenson and Marie Rooney who are ill. Please also remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time and those who have died recently, Margaret Donnelly, Winifred Peart, Patricia Sainty and Rose Marriott.

HOSPITAL CHAPLAINS

North Tyneside General Hospital & **Northumbria Specialist Emergency Care Hospital, Cramlington:** Contact Fr Stephen Watson and Deacon Stephen Boulter on 07768 387393.

RVI, Freeman and Walkergate Hospitals: Contact Fr Arockia Mariadass Pagyasamy OCD, at St Teresa's, Heaton 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. Deacons Terry McGann and Frank Forde, contact via the Parish Office: 0191 2527066.

READINGS AT MASS

3RD SUNDAY OF LENT, 15th March 2020

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

First reading **Exodus 17:3-7**

Tormented by thirst, the people complained against Moses. 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt?' they said. 'Was it so that I should die of thirst, my children too, and my cattle?' Moses appealed to the Lord. 'How am I to deal with this people?" he said. 'A little more and they will stone me!' the Lord said to Moses, 'Take with you some of the elders of Israel and move on to the forefront of the people; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the river, and go. I shall be standing before you there on the rock, at Horeb. You must strike the rock, and water will flow from it for the people to drink.' This is what Moses did, in the sight of the elders of Israel. The place was named Massah and Meribah because of the grumbling of the sons of Israel and because they put the Lord to the test by saying, 'Is the Lord with us, or not?'

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm **Psalm 94(95):1-2,6-9**

Response: *O that today you would listen to his voice! 'Harden not your hearts.'*

1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;
   hail the rock who saves us.
   Let us come before him, giving thanks,
   with songs let us hail the Lord.

2. Come in; let us bow and bend low;
   let us kneel before the God who made us:
   for he is our God and we the people who belong to his pasture,
   the flock that is led by his hand.

3. O that today you would listen to his voice!
   'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
   as on that day at Massah in the desert
   when your fathers put me to the test;
   when they tried me, though they saw my work.'

Second Reading **Romans 5:1-2,5-8**

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, by faith we are judged righteous and at peace with God, since it is by faith and through Jesus that we have entered this state of grace in which we can boast about looking forward to God's glory. And this hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us. We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man – though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**.

Gospel Acclamation

Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God! Lord, you are really the saviour of the world: give me the living water, so that I may never get thirsty. Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!

Gospel **John 4:5-16,19-26,39-42**

Jesus came to the Samaritan town called Sychar, near the land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well is there and Jesus, tired by the journey, sat straight down by the well. It was about the sixth hour. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, 'What? You are a Jew and you ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink?' – Jews, in fact, do not associate with Samaritans. Jesus replied: 'If you only knew what God is offering and who it is that is saying to you: Give me a drink, you would have been the one to ask, and he would have given you living water.' 'You have no bucket, sir,' she answered 'and the well is deep: how could you get this living water? Are you a greater man than our father Jacob who gave us this well and drank from it himself with his sons and his cattle?' Jesus replied: 'Whoever drinks this water will get thirsty again; but anyone who drinks the water that I shall give will never be thirsty again: the water that I shall give will turn into a spring inside him, welling up to eternal life.' 'Sir,' said the woman 'give me some of that water, so that I may never get thirsty and never have to come here again to draw water. I see you are a prophet, sir. Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, while you say that Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.' Jesus said: 'Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know: for salvation comes from the Jews. But the hour will come – in fact it is here already – when true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth: that is the kind of worshipper the Father wants. God is spirit, and those who worship must worship in spirit and truth.' The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah – that is, Christ – is coming; and when he comes he will tell us everything.' 'I who am speaking to you,' said Jesus 'I am he.' Many Samaritans of that town had believed in him on the strength of the woman's testimony when she said, 'He told me all I have ever done', so, when the Samaritans came up to him, they begged him to stay with them. He stayed for two days, and when he spoke to them many more came to believe; and they said to the woman, 'Now we no longer believe because of what you told us; we have heard him ourselves and we know that he really is the saviour of the world.'

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.

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