

FIRST READING {David is anointed king of Israel.}

Samuel 16:1.6-7. 10-13

The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed stands there before him,' but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him: God does not see as man sees: man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

Responsorial Psalm {Response: *The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.*}

Psalm 22

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1. The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit.</p> <p>3. You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing.</p> | <p>2. He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort.</p> <p>4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever.</p> |
|--|--|

SECOND READING {*Rise from the dead and Christ will shine on you.*}

Ephesians 5:8-14

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said: Wake up from your sleep, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

Gospel Acclamation

Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God! I am the light of the world, says the Lord; anyone who follows me will have the light of life. Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!

GOSPEL {*The blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored.*}

John 9: 1-41

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. His disciples asked him, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, for him to have been born blind?' 'Neither he nor his parents sinned,' Jesus answered 'he was born blind so that the works of God might be displayed in him. 'As long as the day lasts I must carry out the work of the one who sent me; the night will soon be here when no one can work. As long as I am in the world I am the light of the world.' Having said this, he spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man, and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored. His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.' So they said to him, 'Then how do your eyes come to be open?' 'The man called Jesus' he answered 'made a paste, daubed my eyes with it and said to me, "Go and wash at Siloam"; so I went, and when I washed I could see.' They asked, 'Where is he?' 'I don't know' he answered. They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.' Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man. However, the Jews would not believe that the man had been blind and had gained his sight, without first sending for his parents and asking them, 'Is this man really your son who you say was born blind? If so, how is it that he is now able to see?' His parents answered, 'We know he is our son and we know he was born blind, but we do not know how it is that he can see now, or who opened his eyes. He is old enough: let him speak for himself.' His parents spoke like this out of fear of the Jews, who had already agreed to expel from the synagogue anyone who should acknowledge Jesus as the Christ. This was why his parents said, 'He is old enough; ask him.' So the Jews again sent for the man and said to him, 'Give glory to God! For our part, we know that this man is a sinner.' The man answered, 'I don't know if he is a sinner; I only know that I was blind and now I can see.' They said to him, 'What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?' He replied, 'I have told you once and you wouldn't listen. Why do you want to hear it all again? Do you want to become his disciples too?' At this they hurled abuse at him: 'You can be his disciple,' they said 'we are disciples of Moses: we know that God spoke to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.' The man replied, 'Now here is an astonishing thing! He has opened my eyes, and you don't know where he comes from! We know that God doesn't listen to sinners, but God does listen to men who are devout and do his will. Ever since the world began it is unheard of for anyone to open the eyes of a man who was born blind; if this man were not from God, he couldn't do a thing.' 'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away. Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him. Jesus said: 'It is for judgement that I have come into this world, so that those without sight may see and those with sight turn blind.' Hearing this, some Pharisees who were present said to him, 'We are not blind, surely?' Jesus replied: 'Blind? If you were, you would not be guilty, but since you say, "We see," your guilt remains.

The Parish of Saint Cuthbert and Saint Joseph, North Shields

Saint Cuthbert Catholic Church
Albion Road West
North Shields

Tynemouth Priory Partnership



Saint Joseph Catholic Church
Wallsend Road
North Shields

Father Christopher Hughes, St Joseph's Church, Wallsend Road, Chirton, North Shields, NE29 7AA

☎ (Tel) 0191 257 5801 / ☎ (Fax) 0191 259 2589

✉ (Email) northshields.stjoseph@rcdhn.org.uk / northshields.stcuthbert@rcdhn.org.uk

Parish website information at: <http://www.northtynesidecatholic.org.uk>

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.

Partnership Telephone Numbers

Monsignor Andrew Faley ☎ 0191 252 8021

Father Martin Stempczyk ☎ 0191 251 3770

St Cuthbert's Church ☎ 0191 257 3408

Partnership Telephone Numbers

Father John McElhone ☎ 0191 262 3820

Hospital Chaplaincy: Fr Stephen Watson ☎ 07768 3873931

Father David Smith: ☎ 0191 262 3882

		Sunday, 22nd March 2020 – Fourth Sunday in Lent - A	
		Masses, Devotions and Services	
		St Cuthbert's Church	St Joseph's Church
Saturday	21 st March	9:30am: Mass 10:00am: Confessions	4:45-5:15pm: Confessions 5:30pm: Mass: People of the Parish
Sunday	22 nd March 4 th Sunday in Lent - A	11:00am: Mass: Anne Berry	
Monday	23 rd March	9:30am: Word & Communion	
Tuesday	24 th March		9:30am: Mass Holy Souls
Wednesday	25 th March	9:30am: Mass:	
Thursday	26 th March		9:30am: Mass:
Friday	27 th March	9:30am: Mass: Private Intentions (JM)	:
Saturday	28 th March	9:30am: Mass 10:00am: Confessions	4:45-5:15pm: Confessions 5:30pm: Mass: Irene Fatkin
Sunday	29 th March 5 th Sunday in Lent - A	11:00am: Mass: People of the Parish	

Closed to congregation

St Cuthbert and St Joseph, North Shields - Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle | Registered Company No.7732977 | Registered Charity Number 1143450

Scripture Readings © 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton, Longman & Todd, and Doubleday and Co. Inc., Psalm © The Grail, and all used by permission

In the Cycle of Prayer for Lent Pope Francis invites us to pray for: Candidates for the Sacraments; Women; The Needy and Hungry of the World; Penitents and Wanderers; Survivors of Sexual Abuse
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, Veronica Owens, Sheelagh Goodwin, Alf McManus, Barbara & Tony Hicks and 'Baby Stevie Dawn Roadment'. Please pray for all those who have died recently and all those whose anniversaries are at this time.

Suspension of Masses A Parish Perspective

The Bishops of England and Wales have announced that from Friday evening public worship will be suspended.

The Bishops have asked that Priests still say Masses at the usual times so that people may know that these celebrations are still taking place. Therefore, the usual weekly pattern of Masses will be said but with no congregation. I am exploring the possibility of streaming the Sunday morning Mass.

The Bishops have also asked that we are attentive to the needs of the vulnerable and poor in our community and those who are isolating themselves. We are encouraged to support foodbanks or other services to respond to those in need.

We have also been encouraged by the Bishops to keep the Churches open for prayer. If our churches are to be kept open for at least part of the day, I would appreciate any volunteers who are willing to 'church sit' to ensure the security and safety of those in the Church. Ideally I think two people should church sit at the same time. I am proposing 10am-2pm Monday to Friday. With St Cuthbert's open on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday and St Joseph's on a Tuesday and Thursday. That would be 20 hours a week so 40 volunteers would be needed. Is this possible? Any possible volunteers please e-mail me or call me.

At this time of uncertainty with many people anxious about the future may we be a community rooted in a crucified and risen Christ, still united in the Spirit. May we be a parish that in prayer and acts of compassion sustains our communion with God and with each other and is always in complete solidarity with those in need.

May continue to pray for each other and all those across the world who have been impacted by the C 19 virus.

I am conscious that some people may need help, such as with shopping, I am also aware that some of you may be willing to help. If you need help or are willing to help please contact 0191 2573408 or email: northshields.stcuthbert@rcdhn.org.uk

Fr Chris

Penitential Services in the Partnership

All Cancelled

Mercy Associates - Coffee Morning.

The Mercy Associates regrets to advise that their planned Coffee Morning on Tuesday March 31st has had to be cancelled.

Year of the Word Roadshow at Ushaw College, 9th-10th May - Cancelled

Charity Shop

The Trinity Charity Shop is another casualty of the Coronavirus and is closed until further notice.

COVID-19 Pandemic – Partnership Guidelines

These guidelines are drawn from those released by Bishop Byrne and the Bishops' Conference for England and Wales. Further information and updates can be found on the Diocesan and Bishops' Conference websites.

SUNDAY AND WEEKDAY MASSES

There will be no public Sunday or Weekday Masses celebrated in any of our churches until public gatherings are restored by the UK Government.

The Parish Priest will continue to celebrate Mass in the Parish but without parishioners, deacons or altar servers being present. The continuing celebration of Masses ensures that Mass Intentions will continue to be offered, including the obligatory Pro Populo Masses for the people of the parish. Parishioners can join in the celebration of Mass by making a Spiritual Communion (Catechism of the Catholic Church N.1364). The Parish Priest may announce the time at which he will celebrate Mass.

Live streaming of Mass from various cathedrals, basilicas and churches in the UK and other countries is available via the Internet -for example at www.churchservices.tv and EWTN on Sky TV. Mass will also be available via the Internet from St Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle and from other parishes -please see the diocesan website for the links. The National Shrine of Our Lady at Walsingham will continue its full liturgical programme, and is available at www.walsingham.org.uk.

PRIVATE PRAYER IN CHURCH

Churches and Chapels In the Partnership will be open for private prayer at times announced in each Parish. Please see the information available on parish bulletins and via the Partnership website: www.northtynesidecatholic.org.uk.

BAPTISMS

Baptisms will be deferred until the Government announces the restoration of public gatherings. In case of necessity, baptisms will be celebrated with all the necessary hygiene precautions. Families who have made baptism arrangements will be contacted by each Parish.

FIRST RECONCILIATION AND FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

These celebrations are postponed until a time that allows for families to gather safely within the Parish. New dates will be announced when it is safe to do so.

MATRIMONY

The Sacrament of Matrimony is deferred until the time when congregations are permitted to gather. Only in the most pressing of circumstances will a marriage take place and will then be restricted to the celebrant, bride and groom and witnesses and immediate family, and if necessary, the legal Registrar. The Parish Priest will contact couples preparing for marriage in due course.

HOLY WEEK AND THE SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION

These celebrations will depend on the forthcoming decisions of the Bishops for the Holy Week ceremonies. The Parish Priest will contact those preparing for the Sacraments of Initiation in due course.

CONFIRMATION

The celebration of Confirmation will be deferred until the Government announces that congregations can resume public worship.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

No pastoral visits will be made to people except in an emergency. However, parishes and their ministers will offer phone support. The Anointing of the Sick will be carried out by the Priest who will avoid physical contact and adhere to hygiene procedures. Visits to people in care homes or hospitals will follow advice from the staff on infection control.

HOLY COMMUNION AND PASTORAL VISITS TO THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

Since many Eucharistic Ministers are over the age of 70, visits are suspended for the foreseeable future, and phone support will be offered.

FUNERALS

Funerals services will only be conducted at the graveside or crematorium, subject to the conditions laid down by the cemetery or crematorium authorities. Arrangements will be made for memorial Masses to be celebrated later when congregations are allowed to gather. The Parish Priest and funeral director will work together to support families who are experiencing bereavement.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Confession may be offered on request only as long as hygiene and social distancing requirements are observed -i.e. a physical barrier between the penitent and the priest such as a grille and veil. The use of Rite II and Rite III of the Rite of Penance is not permitted as this, by necessity, requires the gathering of people in church.

For further information, please contact your local Parish Priest.

Mgr Andrew J Faley Partnership Dean

Lockdown

Yes there is fear. Yes there is isolation.
Yes there is panic buying. Yes there is sickness.
Yes there is even death.
But, they say that in Wuhan after so many years of noise
You can hear the birds again.
They say that after just a few weeks of quiet
The sky is no longer thick with fumes, but blue and grey and clear.

They say that in the streets of Assisi
People are singing to each other across the empty squares,
keeping their windows open so that those who are alone may
hear the sounds of family around them.
They say that a hotel in the West of Ireland
Is offering free meals and delivery to the housebound.

Today a young woman I know is busy spreading fliers with
her number through the neighbourhood
So that the elders may have someone to call on.

Today Churches, Synagogues, Mosques and Temples
are preparing to welcome and shelter the homeless, the sick,
the weary
All over the world people are slowing down and reflecting
All over the world people are looking at their neighbours in a
new way
All over the world people are waking up to a new reality

To how big we really are. To how little control we really have.
To what really matters. To Love.
So we pray and we remember that Yes there is fear.
But there does not have to be hate. Yes there is isolation.
But there does not have to be loneliness. Yes there is panic
buying.
But there does not have to be meanness. Yes there is
sickness.
But there does not have to be disease of the soul
Yes there is even death. But there can always be a rebirth of
love.
Wake to the choices you make as to how to live now.

Today, breathe. Listen, behind the factory noises of your
panic. The birds are singing again. The sky is clearing,
Spring is coming, And we are always encompassed by Love.
Open the windows of your soul
And though you may not be able to touch across the empty
square, Sing.

Brother Richard, A Capuchin Friar

Happy Mother's Day

To all mums in our parish, have a wonderful
day. We give thanks for care and love shown
by all our mother on earth and in heaven.