

**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

**5TH SUNDAY OF LENT, Year A, 28th & 29th 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**

The scene of the first reading is a graveyard, the ultimate place of death and decay. Three divine statements of reversal are made: sealed graves will be opened; those who are dead will rise; the exiled will return home. The passage testifies to God's absolute and unconditional control over the powers of life and death, destruction and restoration. St Paul contrasts two ways of living: life in the flesh and life in the spirit. Although these refer to two distinct aspects of our human nature they also point to the whole of our human experience. The spirit of God is the Spirit of Christ and it is through this spirit that resurrection is promised. It is clear that Lazarus' illness was fatal. To show to others that He is the resurrection and the life Jesus stays where He is for two days to make certain that death has occurred so that He can demonstrate that He is Lord of death and of life. As a man like us, Jesus wept for Lazarus his friend. As eternal God, He raised Lazarus from the dead. Several times in the story our attention is drawn to the love that Jesus felt towards his friend and his sisters Martha and Mary. Human love exposes the heart to pain and sorrow. The heart which loves is tender and sensitive and it bleeds in the suffering of the loved one. So when Jesus sees the tears of Mary and the other mourners, his heart is deeply distressed. St John has caught a moment of deep emotion when he writes that with 'a sigh that came straight from the heart he says 'where have you put him' Then Jesus wept, the shortest verse in the Bible are these two words "Jesus wept" and they need no further comment. The spirit is the power in our lives and it is in this faith that the fear of death is taken away

**Deacon Terry**

**COVID-19 Pandemic – Parish Guidelines**

These guidelines are drawn from those released by Bishop Byrne and the Bishops' Conference for England and Wales. Further information and updates will be posted here and on the Partnership website.

**SUNDAY AND WEEKDAY MASSES**

There will be no public Sunday or Weekday Masses celebrated in any of our churches and the churches will remain closed at all times until public gatherings are restored by the UK Government. The Blessed Sacrament has been removed from Immaculate Heart and Our Lady's & St Edmund's Churches.

The Parish Priest will celebrate Mass each day at 9.00am in St Edward's Church, Whitley Bay, but without parishioners, deacons or altar servers being present. The continuing celebration of Masses ensures that Mass Intentions will 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 while the Mass is being celebrated.

***You can watch a video recording of the Mass on the Parish Facebook Group page from 9.30am.***

Live streaming of Mass from various cathedrals, basilicas and churches in the UK and elsewhere is available via the Internet - for example at [www.churchservices.tv](http://www.churchservices.tv) and EWTN on Sky TV. Mass is also live streamed 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 to view at [www.walsingham.org.uk](http://www.walsingham.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 the 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.

## **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.

## **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.

## **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 Mgr Andrew at St Edward's—0919 2528021.

## **RECENTLY DECEASED**

- Please pray for the repose of the soul of Elizabeth Bartley who died on 16th March 2020 aged 79 years. A Funeral Service will take place at 10.30am on Thursday 2nd April at Whitley Bay Crematorium. Please note that because of current COVID-19 restrictions only 10 of her immediate family will be allowed to attend. May she rest in peace. Amen.
- Please pray for the repose of the soul of Mary Stevenson who died on 22nd March. Funeral arrangements have not been released. May she rest in peace. Amen.

## **WALKING GROUP**

Because of the coronavirus situation it has been decided to suspend the walks until we return to normal. If you need more information please contact Peter Weighill, 0191 2512917.

## **CORONAVIRUS LOCKDOWN - HOW CAN I STILL GIVE TO THE PARISH?**

Parishioners have been asking how they might still contribute to the Parish without the regular Sunday Mass Collection. You can make a donation through Internet Banking by using the Parish bank account details, which are: HSBC, Sort code 40-34-45, Account number 21157523.

## **GIFT AID**

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.

## **PARISH OFFICE**

If you need to contact the Parish Office for any reason please email [parishofficeolss@btconnect.com](mailto:parishofficeolss@btconnect.com) or ring St Edward's Church on 0191 2528021.

## **OTHER NOTICES**

### **HELPING THE ELDERLY & VULNERABLE**

Can you, or people from your church, help the elderly and vulnerable in North Tyneside during this Coronavirus crisis?

Are you aged between 16 and 69 years, with no Covid-19 symptoms or underlying health issues? The Bay Foodbank needs additional volunteers to help with supplying essential food items to vulnerable people, many of whom are aged and self-isolating. If you can supply practical help in any way please email your full details to [wbaydct@gmail.com](mailto:wbaydct@gmail.com) and we will pass this information on, please don't contact the foodbank direct. Thank you. Please share this information widely.  
Blessings, Peter - WBDCT Admin.

## **Contact email addresses, numbers and website:**

Monsignor Andrew Faley (St. Edward)	<a href="mailto:stedwardsne26@btconnect.com">stedwardsne26@btconnect.com</a>	(0191) 2528021
Star of the Sea Primary School	<a href="mailto:starofthesea.primary@ntlp.org.uk">starofthesea.primary@ntlp.org.uk</a>	(0191) 6432080

**Cluster Website** [www.northtynesidecatholic.org.uk](http://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](mailto: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 28th March	9.00am People of the Parish		
Sunday 29th March <b>5TH SUNDAY OF LENT</b>	9.00am The Recently Deceased		
Monday 30th March	9.00am Vera Larkin (JC & RR)		
Tuesday 31st March	9.00am Kath Walker (MS & Family)		
Wednesday 1st April	9.00am Maureen Folan		
Thursday 2nd April	9.00am Pat Sainty (EW)		
Friday 3rd April	9.00am Nancy Tulip (JT)		
Saturday 4th April	9.00am Angela Brown (EB)		
Sunday 5th April <b>PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD</b>	9.00am People of the Parish		

**Please remember in your prayers** Nicola Burns, Sheila Godwin, 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, Rose Marriott, Elizabeth Bartley and Mary Stevenson.

#### 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**  
**5TH SUNDAY OF LENT, 29th March 2020**  
*The Order of Mass is in the Laudate Hymn book from page 200.*

**First reading**

The Lord says this: I am now going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this – it is the Lord who speaks.

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

**Ezekiel 37:12-14**

**Responsorial Psalm**

**Response:** *With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption*

**Psalm 129(130)**

1. Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord,  
Lord, hear my voice!  
O let your ears be attentive  
to the voice of my pleading.
2. If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt,  
Lord, who would survive?  
But with you is found forgiveness:  
for this we revere you.
3. My soul is waiting for the Lord.  
I count on his word.  
My soul is longing for the Lord  
more than watchman for daybreak.  
(Let the watchman count on daybreak  
and Israel on the Lord.)
4. Because with the Lord there is mercy  
and fullness of redemption,  
Israel indeed he will redeem  
from all its iniquity.

**Second Reading**

**Romans 8:8-11**

People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

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

**Gospel Acclamation**

Glory and praise to you, O Christ! I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord; whoever believes in me will never die. Glory and praise to you, O Christ!

**Gospel**

**John 11:3-7,17,20-27,33-45**

Mary and Martha sent this message to Jesus, ‘Lord, the man you love is ill.’ On receiving the message, Jesus said, ‘This sickness will end not in death but in God’s glory, and through it the Son of God will be glorified.’ Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, yet when he heard that Lazarus was ill he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, ‘Let us go to Judaea.’ On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. When Martha heard that Jesus had come she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, ‘If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that, even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.’ ‘Your brother’ said Jesus to her ‘will rise again.’ Martha said, ‘I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.’ Jesus said: ‘I am the resurrection and the life. If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?’ ‘Yes, Lord,’ she said ‘I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.’ Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, ‘Where have you put him?’ They said, ‘Lord, come and see.’ Jesus wept; and the Jews said, ‘See how much he loved him!’ But there were some who remarked, ‘He opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man’s death?’ Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb: it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, ‘Take the stone away.’ Martha said to him, ‘Lord, by now he will smell; this is the fourth day.’ Jesus replied, ‘Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?’ So they took away the stone. Then Jesus lifted up his eyes and said: ‘Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer. I knew indeed that you always hear me, but I speak for the sake of all these who stand round me, so that they may believe it was you who sent me.’ When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, ‘Lazarus, here! Come out!’ The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with bands of stuff and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, ‘Unbind him, let him go free.’ Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary and had seen what he did believed in him.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Memorial Acclamation**

We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.