

2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER, Year A, 18TH & 19TH APRIL 2020

The Cycle of Prayer

Eastertide

During Eastertide we are asked to pray for these intentions: **New Members of the Church; Vocations; The Right Use of the Media; the Church; Human Work.**

SUNDAY READINGS REFLECTION

The disciples were afraid and had shut themselves away. Then the risen Christ comes into the middle of their isolation and says to them 'Peace be with you, and showed them his hands and his side'. You would have thought that a transformed, exalted and glorious risen body that passed through closed doors could have miraculously erased the marks the crucifixion made but he chose not to. Why was this? The resurrected Christ did not wish to come over as someone remote from our human experience, he kept his scars as evidence of his love. Thomas's doubts speak for all of us, but when the Lord showed him the marks of his passion he was able to say 'My Lord and my God'. More than ever in these challenging times we need the love of Jesus in our lives. To give us hope and confidence that times will get back to normal. That we can meet with our friends again and even do something as simple as popping out to the shop. **Deacon Terry**

EASTER BLESSINGS

This Easter, we are celebrating the Resurrection of Jesus isolated from the parish and each other. We have been turned to look more closely at our own personal faith by these circumstances, and to trust in God for the direction in which he is taking us. And yet, despite being distanced from the Sacraments, we have found nourishment in personal prayer, in following Mass and other services online, and by keeping in contact with each other.

Thank you for the messages of Easter joy which have arrived at St Edward's. Please be assured that you are in my daily celebration of Mass and my prayers. God bless you, your family and friends. Mgr Andrew.

EASTER 2020

Prayer Resources for Easter and the continuing COVID-19 Pandemic are available on the home page of the diocesan website. The 'Magnificat' booklet is also recommended as an excellent resource, and is available online and free of charge. This provides Morning, Evening and Night Prayer, the daily Mass Readings, a daily meditation and Saint of the Day at: <https://us.magnificat.net/free>.

DAILY MASS ON FACEBOOK

Mass is celebrated each day at St Edward's and can be followed on the 'Our Lady Star of the Sea' group page on Facebook.

RECENTLY DECEASED

- Please pray for the repose of the soul of Noreen Skelly of The Lawns Care Home, Monkseaton, who died on 8th April aged 103 years. A Funeral Service will be celebrated at 12.45pm on Friday, 17th April, at Whitley Bay Crematorium for immediate family only, due to COVID-19 restrictions. May she rest in peace. Amen.

CONSOLATION PRAYER & SUPPORT

Thanks to the Consolation Team for organising prayer among themselves and parishioners during the funerals at this time. This is very much appreciated by the families and friends of the recently deceased.

LOCK-DOWN LIVING & PRAYING

During this time of isolation, why not share your favourite family and solitary prayers and practices in the bulletin? Email details to: parishofficeolss@btconnect.com.

LUNCHEON CLUB TEAM

Our thanks to the luncheon club team, who are continuing to contact members on a regular basis to ensure that they are well and whether help is required during this worrying time. Thank you so much.

THANKS FROM JOE & DEIRDRE

Joe and Deirdre James would like to thank everyone for your gifts, greetings and good wishes as we celebrated our Golden Wedding last Saturday. It was wonderful to be embraced in spirit and in prayer by so many despite the current restrictions.

Many thanks, Joe & Deirdre.

URGENT REQUEST FOR HELP

The Diocesan J&P Refugee Project in Newcastle had to close it's doors last Monday. It was running out of food because our churches had closed and we could not contact our supporters. We are unable to continue to support 400 with food bags but we intend to try and support another group, 120 of the most destitute, with a monthly payment of cash. If you feel you can commit to a monthly donation, please visit the Diocesan website where you can follow instructions for donating. Contact Anna Griffith 2522703 for further information.

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 or ring St Edward's Church on 0191 2528021. A Mass may still be requested from the Parish Office via email. Any articles for the next bulletin will be gratefully received.

OTHER NOTICES

GOOD NEIGHBOURS SCHEME - HELP WITH SHOPPING, DELIVERIES OF ESSENTIALS.

VODA (North Tyneside) have a scheme in place to help those who are self isolating and for those who cannot get out because they are elderly or vulnerable. You can ring the gateway team on 0191 6432632 for assistance or for more information. Anyone who is interested in volunteering for the above project please email admin@voda.org.uk

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 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 18th April	9.00am Lawrence Anastasi (JA)		
Sunday 19th April 2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER	9.00am People of the Parish		
Monday 20th April	9.00am Gregory Close (PO)		
Tuesday 21st April ST ANSELM	9.00am Private Intention		
Wednesday 22nd April	9.00am Private Intention		
Thursday 23rd April ST GEORGE, PATRON OF ENGLAND	9.00am Pauline Thompson (GR)		
Friday 24th April	9.00 am Brenda Trewick (KS)		
Saturday 25th April ST MARK, EVANGELIST	9.00am People of the Parish		
Sunday 26th April 3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER	9.00am The Recently Deceased		

Please remember in your prayers Nicola Burns, Shelagh Goodwin, and Marie Rooney who are ill. Please also remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time and those who have died recently, Elizabeth Bartley, Bernadette Stephenson and Noreen Skelly.

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
2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER, 19TH APRIL 2020

First Reading

Acts 2:42-47

The whole community remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the brotherhood, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers. The many miracles and signs worked through the apostles made a deep impression on everyone. The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common; they sold their goods and possessions and shared out the proceeds among themselves according to what each one needed. They went as a body to the Temple every day but met in their houses for the breaking of bread; they shared their food gladly and generously; they praised God and were looked up to by everyone. Day by day the Lord added to their community those destined to be saved.

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

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 117(118):2-4,13-15,22-24

Response: *Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.*

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| 1. Let the sons of Israel say:
'His love has no end.'
Let the sons of Aaron say:
'His love has no end.'
Let those who fear the Lord say:
'His love has no end.' | 2. I was thrust down, thrust down and falling,
but the Lord was my helper.
The Lord is my strength and my song;
he was my saviour.
There are shouts of joy and victory
in the tents of the just. |
| 3. The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes.
This day was made by the Lord;
we rejoice and are glad. | |

Second Reading

Peter 1:3-9

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy has given us a new birth as his sons, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead, so that we have a sure hope and the promise of an inheritance that can never be spoilt or soiled and never fade away, because it is being kept for you in the heavens. Through your faith, God's power will guard you until the salvation which has been prepared is revealed at the end of time. This is a cause of great joy for you, even though you may for a short time have to bear being plagued by all sorts of trials; so that, when Jesus Christ is revealed, your faith will have been tested and proved like gold – only it is more precious than gold, which is corruptible even though it bears testing by fire – and then you will have praise and glory and honour. You did not see him, yet you love him; and still without seeing him, you are already filled with a joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls.

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

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus said: 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'
Alleluia!

Gospel

John 20:19-31

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you', and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you. 'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.' After saying this he breathed on them and said: 'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.' Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him: 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.' There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

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