

MASS READINGS
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT, GAUDETE SUNDAY (YEAR B)
FIRST READING

I exult in joy in the Lord.

Isaiah 61:1-2. 10-11

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for the Lord has anointed me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor, to bind up hearts that are broken; to proclaim liberty to captives, freedom to those in prison; to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord. 'I exult for joy in the Lord, my soul rejoices in my God, for he has clothed me in the garments of salvation, he has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity, like a bridegroom wearing his wreath, like a bride adorned in her jewels. 'For as the earth makes fresh things grow, as a garden makes seeds spring up, so will the Lord make both integrity and praise spring up in the sight of the nations.'

Responsorial Psalm

Response: *My soul rejoices in my God.*

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| <p>1. My soul glorifies the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.
He looks on his servant in her nothingness;
henceforth all ages will call me blessed.</p> | <p>2. The Almighty works marvels for me.
Holy his name!
His mercy is from age to age,
on those who fear him.</p> |
| <p>3. He fills the starving with good things,
sends the rich away empty.
He protects Israel, his servant,
remembering his mercy.</p> | |

SECOND READING

May you all be kept safe, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of the Lord.

Thessalonians 5:16-24

Be happy at all times; pray constantly; and for all things give thanks to God, because this is what God expects you to do in Christ Jesus. Never try to suppress the Spirit or treat the gift of prophecy with contempt; think before you do anything – hold on to what is good and avoid every form of evil. May the God of peace make you perfect and holy; and may you all be kept safe and blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has called you and he will not fail you.

Alleluia

Alleluia, Alleluia! The spirit of the Lord has been given to me.
He has sent me to bring good news to the poor. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

There stands among you – unknown to you – the one who is coming after me.

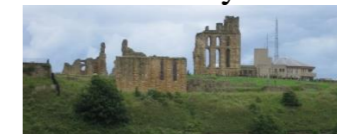
John 1:6-8. 19-28

A man came, sent by God. His name was John. He came as a witness, as a witness to speak for the light, so that everyone might believe through him. He was not the light, only a witness to speak for the light. This is how John appeared as a witness. When the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' he not only declared, but he declared quite openly, 'I am not the Christ.' 'Well then,' they asked 'are you Elijah?' 'I am not' he said. 'Are you the Prophet?' He answered, 'No.' So they said to him, 'Who are you? We must take back an answer to those who sent us. What have you to say about yourself?' So John said, 'I am, as Isaiah prophesied: a voice that cries in the wilderness: Make a straight way for the Lord.' Now these men had been sent by the Pharisees, and they put this further question to him, 'Why are you baptising if you are not the Christ, and not Elijah, and not the prophet?' John replied, 'I baptise with water; but there stands among you – unknown to you – the one who is coming after me; and I am not fit to undo his sandal-strap.' This happened at Bethany, on the far side of the Jordan, where John was baptising.

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 ☎ 07815 702089
 Father David Smith: ☎ 0191 262 3882

19 th /20 th December 2020 – 3 rd Sunday of Advent - B			
Masses, Devotions and Services			
		St Cuthbert's Church	St Joseph's Church
Saturday 12th December	Attendance by prior booking		5:30pm: Mass: People of the Parish Attendance by prior booking
Sunday 13th December 3rd Sunday of Advent - B		11:00am: Mass: Attendance by prior booking Live Streaming	
Monday 14 th December		No Mass	
Tuesday 15 th December			9:30am: Mass: Fr Michael Hickey
Wednesday 16 th December			9:30am: Mass: James Hughes
Thursday 17 th December			9:30am: Mass Fr Michael Hickey No Congregation - Live Streaming
Friday 18 th December			7:00pm: Mas:
Saturday 19th December			10.00am: First Holy Communion Mass for St Cuthbert's School at St Cuthbert's (Invitation only)
Sunday 20th December 4th Sunday of Advent - B		11:00am: Mass: Lillian & Luther Shotton Attendance by prior booking Live Streaming	

The Parish of St Cuthbert's and St Joseph's, North Shields

WhatsApp group: text your name and number to 07752009361 to be added to *StCuthStJosNshields* Group

Facebook: search - - The Parish of Saint Cuthbert and Saint Joseph, North Shields.

Website: www.northtynesidecatholic.org.uk

Parish office: 0191 257 3408

Please contact us for help needed or offered

Telephone booking system for Masses at St. Cuthbert's
Mass Booking line: 07506 176996 at the following times

Tuesday	11am-1pm & 6pm-8pm
Wednesday	11am-1pm
Thursday	11am-1pm
Friday	11am-1pm

At Advent time We pray for all victims of the pandemic; migrants and refugees, expectant mothers and openness to the Word of God. We pray for all who are sick, including Patricia Conlon, Ros McGann, Father Richard Harriott, Gary James, Gerry Thirsk, Tom Wright, Florence Redpath, Mary Wood, Sarah Harrison, Fred Stimpson, Scott Oakley, Pat Skelly, Jean Slater, Frank Whillis, Alf McManus, Barbara & Tony Hicks 'Baby Stevie Dawn Roadment', Jim Campbell, and Marilyn Redpath.

Please pray for Ines Fox, Fr Gerard Martin, Anne Davies and all those who have died recently, and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time'.

Campaigning Against Food Poverty

The Trussell Trust, which support many Food Banks across the country, asks us to raise our voices in solidarity and spread the news of our fight for a Hunger Free Future. Add your voice by downloading and displaying our plate poster in your window today.

<https://www.trusselltrust.org/plateprotest/>

Simply download the poster, print it off and write a short message on the plate, and place it in your window. Take a photo of it and share online using the hashtag #HungerFreeFuture.

Parish Council

We have five vacancies on the parish council. Due to the Covid crises I have asked those on the Parish Council whose term was coming to an end to stay for another year. I want to ensure that as many of the groups of the parish are represented. Please reflect on whether you or someone else in the parish council would be suitable to serve the parish in this way

Stewards for Masses

I am grateful for those who committed to serve as stewards. Your role is vital. With no stewards Mass cannot go ahead. Due to work commitments and people getting the virus we need more stewards especially for Vigil Mass on a Saturday. Volunteers would be most appreciated

Young People and Advent

This week's QR Code for young people below



Reopening of Churches

It is lovely to have re-opened Church and to welcome some of you at the Weekend Masses.

Thanks to all who have prepared the Church for its re-opening. This will be a different Advent but I hope the joy, peace and hope of this time will be with you and all you love at this time.

Confirmations and Reception

On Friday 11th December we had the Confirmations of six teenagers: Kirby Estorba, Christy Jayne, Amy McCoy, Anastasia O'Donnell, Julian Medina, Martin Puente and two adults, Juliet Lockey and Celene Robson. Juliet was also received into Full Communion of the Church. Congratulations to Kirby, Christy, Amy, Anastasia, Julian, Martin, Juliet and Celene. Please keep them in all in your prayers.

First Holy Communions

On Saturday December 19th at 10.00am, we will have the First Holy Communion of five St Cuthbert's pupils. Please also keep them in your prayers as they finally meet Jesus in the Eucharist.

Nite Bite

Nite Bite are putting together Christmas gifts for those that are part of their community, which normally met for a meal each Tuesday. Since that stopped being a possibility, they have continued providing food, and most recently hot meals, every week including for some who are part of New to the UK. If you, or any of your church fellowship, would like to contribute financially towards these gifts, it would be very gratefully received.

The account details are: Sort Code 20-62-09 Account number 70172111 Please mark the transfer as "Christmas donation"

Masses for Christmas Day

Since we will be limited in terms of Mass places on what is the busiest day of the year, I have decided to put on an extra Mass for Christmas:

Christmas Eve

5.00pm Mass - St Joseph's
8.00pm Mass - St Cuthbert's

Christmas Day

9.30am Mass - St Joseph's
11.00am Mass - St Cuthbert's

Boxing Day, Saturday, 26th December

5:30am Vigil Mass - St Joseph's

Sunday, 27th December

11.00am Mass - St Cuthbert's

Friday, 1st January

11.00am Mass - St Joseph's

You can book now for Christmas Masses.

Advent Reflections

During Advent there will be reflections online at 4pm on a Sunday. This week Fr Chris will lead a reflection with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and readings.

The Diocese has prepared a number of high quality resources.

There will be daily video and written reflections and for each day of Advent. These can be found at: <http://www.rcdhn.org.uk/faithandmission/prayeradventresources.php>

Fr Chris will endeavour to put these daily resources on the parish facebook page.

I hope that you will find time and space for prayer and quiet and be able to use the resources provided by the diocese.

Face Coverings

Face coverings in places of worship are now a legal requirement. The stewards and I are aware that there are exemptions, including if you have breathing problems. Face masks will be available if you come to church without a face covering or other means. Thank you so much for your ongoing support – it is vital at this time. God bless you.

Booking for Mass

If you wish to attend the Mass on Saturday evening or Sunday morning please call 07506 176996 at the following times.

- Tuesday 11am-1pm & 6pm-8pm
- Wednesday 11am-1pm
- Thursday 11am-1pm
- Friday 11am-1pm

When booking for Masses for 19th/20th December you can also book for Masses for the 26th/27th December

If you come to the Masses on Tuesday, Wednesday or Friday, you will be asked to leave your name and a contact detail:

By using this telephone booking system we will ask for your name and contact number/email. In this way we are able to operate a track and trace system. Following GDPR and safeguarding guidelines only your name will be provided to the door stewards and the list kept for 21 days before being destroyed.

Should you call and there are no available spaces then you will be offered a place the following week.

Sunday Mass will continue to be Live Streamed on the parish Facebook page.

SVP Appeal for Sudan and South Sudan

The SVP 'Twinning Programme' have brought to our attention the situation in Sudan and South Sudan. For more information please click on the YouTube link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i7EoqSs3LXA> £50 would feed a baby for a year, or perhaps you could help supply water or medicines. Whatever you can afford will make a difference. Please send donations to me Helen Haywood, The Beeches, Grove House Drive, Durham DH1 1UP. Gift Aid if you can. (Cheques payable to "SVP Twinning")

PeerTalk North Tyneside

This group is for those living with depression, anxiety and related conditions. Find out more at: enquiries@peertalk.org.uk or www.peertalk.org.uk or 07719 562 617.

Mercy Associates - update

Mercy Associates Christmas Food Parcel Appeal

Due to the new lockdown and the churches being closed our appeal is being rearranged. It will now take place from 2nd-9th December. The churches are now open and your non-perishable food donations can be left in the bags at both churches.

The Mercy Associates are praying for all our parish at this difficult time and thank you again for your kindness.

Diocesan Refugee Project

This project re-opened on December 9th. It will be re-opening in new premises at St Vincent's, New Bridge Street, Newcastle. If you have any donations for the Refugee Project please leave at the back of St Joseph's or St Cuthbert's. Financial contributions are also very welcome too: Cheques to DH&N DESTITUTE ASYLUM FUND. Address: Refugee Project, 2 Summerhill Grove, Newcastle NE4 6EE. Bank transfers – HSBC Sort code: 40-34-18 Account number: 52854058.

COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Pandemic – Church Response: Do you need to speak to someone for support?:

For those who are seeking a Priest with whom they can speak at this time, could you please contact the Parish Priest at your local Church. For this parish it is 0191 2575801.

Dedicated counsellors and listeners are also available at the Cathedral Listening Service on 0191 232 6953 and on the Northumberland Listening Service on 07732 980740.

Safe Families

Safe Families is a charity which offers practical support to families in our area. Volunteers help in a wide variety of ways and help is always needed. Could you make a difference to a family in need? It's your time and presence they need. Check out <https://safefamilies.uk/> or contact 0191 7070033.

Financial Offerings

I am very grateful to parishioners who have either posted envelopes or offerings through the door. I am also aware that many of you are now making your contributions through standing orders and/or bacs transfer. Your continued support is much appreciated at a time when many are facing financial difficulties. A big thank-you.

If you would like to set up a standing order or make a transfer please see the details below.

Name: DHN North Shields St Cuthbert & St Joseph
Bank: HSBC
Sort code 40-34-45, account number 91146513