

**MASS READINGS**  
**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR B)**

**FIRST READING**

*The kingdom of David will always stand secure before the Lord.*

**Samuel 7:1-5. 8-12. 14. 16**

Once David had settled into his house and the Lord had given him rest from all the enemies surrounding him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'Look, I am living in a house of cedar while the ark of God dwells in a tent.' Nathan said to the king, 'Go and do all that is in your mind, for the Lord is with you.' But that very night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: 'Go and tell my servant David, "Thus the Lord speaks: Are you the man to build me a house to dwell in? I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be leader of my people Israel; I have been with you on all your expeditions; I have cut off all your enemies before you. I will give you fame as great as the fame of the greatest on earth. I will provide a place for my people Israel; I will plant them there and they shall dwell in that place and never be disturbed again; nor shall the wicked continue to oppress them as they did, in the days when I appointed judges over my people Israel; I will give them rest from all their enemies. The Lord will make you great; the Lord will make you a House. Your House and your sovereignty will always stand secure before me and your throne be established for ever."

**Responsorial Psalm**

**Response: I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord.**

**Psalm 88**

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|---|--|
| <p>1. I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord;<br/>             through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth.<br/>             Of course I am sure, that your love lasts for ever,<br/>             that your truth is firmly established as the heavens.</p> | <p>2. 'I have made a covenant with my chosen one;<br/>             I have sworn to David my servant:<br/>             I will establish your dynasty for ever<br/>             and set up your throne through all the ages.</p> |
| <p>3. He will say to me: 'You are my father,<br/>             my God, the rock who saves me.'<br/>             I will keep my love for him always;<br/>             for him my covenant shall endure.</p>   |  |

**SECOND READING**

*The mystery, which was kept secret for endless ages, is now made clear.*

**Romans 16:25-27**

Glory to him who is able to give you the strength to live according to the Good News I preach, and in which I proclaim Jesus Christ, the revelation of a mystery kept secret for endless ages, but now so clear that it must be broadcast to pagans everywhere to bring them to the obedience of faith. This is only what scripture has predicted, and it is all part of the way the eternal God wants things to be. He alone is wisdom; give glory therefore to him through Jesus Christ for ever and ever. Amen.

**Alleluia**

Alleluia, Alleluia! I am the handmaid of the Lord:  
 let what you have said be done to me. Alleluia!

**GOSPEL**

*Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son.*

**Luke 1:26-38**

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. He went in and said to her, 'Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you.' She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favour. Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?' 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you' the angel answered 'and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too: your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God' 'I am the handmaid of the Lord,' said Mary 'let what you have said be done to me.' And the angel left her.

**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

**19th/20th December 2020 – 4th Sunday of Advent - B**

**Masses, Devotions and Services**

**St Cuthbert's Church**

**St Joseph's Church**

		St Cuthbert's Church	St Joseph's Church
<b>Saturday 19th December</b>	<b>Attendance by prior booking</b>	<b>10.00am:</b> First Holy Communion Mass for St Cuthbert's School at St Cuthbert's (Invitation only)	<b>5:30pm: Mass:</b> People of the Parish <b>Attendance by prior booking</b>
<b>Sunday 20th December</b> <b>4th Sunday of Advent - B</b>		<b>11:00am: Mass:</b> Lillian & Luther Shotton <b>Attendance by prior booking</b> <b>Live Streaming</b>	
Monday 21st December		<b>No Mass</b>	
Tuesday 22nd December			<b>9:30am: Mass:</b> Fr Michael Hickey
Wednesday 23rd December		<b>9:30am: Mass:</b> Kerry O'Neill	
<b>Thursday 24th December</b> <b>The First Mass of Christmas</b>		<b>8:00pm: Mass:</b> Paul Hull <b>Live Streaming</b>	<b>9:30am: Mass</b> No congregation <b>Live Streaming</b> <b>5:00pm: Mass:</b> People of the Parish
<b>Friday 25th December</b> <b>The Nativity of the Lord</b>		<b>11:00am: Mass:</b> Margaret Keenaghan <b>Live Streaming</b>	<b>9:30am: Mass:</b> Fr Michael Hickey
<b>Saturday 26th December</b>			<b>5:30pm: Mass:</b> <b>Attendance by prior booking</b>
<b>Sunday 27th December</b> <b>Feast of the Holy Family</b>		<b>11:00am: Mass:</b> People of the Parish <b>Attendance by prior booking</b> <b>Live Streaming</b>	

**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](http://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'.

### Christmas 2020

I appreciate that it's going to be a very different Christmas for most of us this year. Despite the restrictions and perhaps being isolated by ourselves. But with a Christmas stripped of so much perhaps it means that the true significance is made clearer. Christ came to a fragile and broken world with so much uncertainty, poverty and oppression. It was seen as a time of darkness. But in the reflections of the early Church, they appreciated in Christ there was someone they had seen, heard, touched who represented something beyond, the source of Life, love and light and all that is counter to those precious gifts, death, fear and hate and darkness, shall not have the final say.

This has been the most challenging year for our country and our communities since the end of World War II. In the darkness of this year, we have still seen how the human spirit can be so caring, self-giving and concerned for others. This does show that we are made in the image and likeness of God.

May the Word made flesh, truly find a home with you so that his life, love and light be shared for you.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank-you as a parish for being so understanding and be willing to work together so that we can still be a sacrament of Christ to each other and our wider community.

I am also aware of the love, support and kindness shown to me especially after the sudden death of Fr Michael. I am very grateful for your prayer and kind generosity.

We will face many challenges in 2021 but may the grace of Christ continue to work in us, knowing that he shares our darkness so that we can share in his life, light and love.

Wishing you all and your loved ones a blessed, peaceful, joyful and hopeful Christmas and New Year.

### Sea Sunday

The Bishops of England and Wales have asked that the second collection for the Apostleship of the Sea, that should have taken place in mid-July will take place this weekend. The Bishop for the Apostleship of the Sea is a 'local lad' Bishop Paul Mason. Please give what you can to this important ministry

### First Holy Communions

On Saturday December 19<sup>th</sup> at 10.00am, we had 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

### Mercy Associates Christmas Parcels

**THANK YOU** to everyone who donated items for our Christmas Parcel appeal. The parcels have been taken into St Joseph's School for distribution and are greatly appreciated. Thank you for your support and we wish you all a very Happy and Blessed Christmas.

### 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/platepost/> 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.

### 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 Fully Booked  
8.00pm Mass - St Cuthbert's Fully Booked

#### Christmas Day

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

#### Boxing Day, Saturday, 26<sup>th</sup> December

5:30am Vigil Mass - St Joseph's

#### Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> December

11.00am Mass - St Cuthbert's

#### Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> 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 Clare Harvey will lead us in our reflection online at 4pm 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.

### Stewards for Masses.

I am grateful for those who committed to serve as stewards. Your role is vital. Thanks to those who have recently volunteered. Any more offers of help would be appreciated

### 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

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](mailto:enquiries@peertalk.org.uk) or [www.peertalk.org.uk](http://www.peertalk.org.uk) or 07719 562 617.

### Diocesan Refugee Project

This project re-opened on December 9<sup>th</sup>. 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

### Message from Bishop Robert

As we approach Christmas, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all your hard work for your parish and the diocese in this time of pandemic. To those who have helped to keep our churches open for Mass and those who have reached out to the less fortunate I want to say a big thank you. It is by our faith and unity that we can be a sign to the world of the love Christ showed us in becoming one of us in the holy season. I would like to wish you and your family a happy and peaceful Christmas and a blessed New Year.

### QR Codes with a Christmas Theme

Here are three QR codes with videos and songs that explore the Christmas theme. No age limit on who looks at them!

