

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR B, 19TH & 20TH DECEMBER 2020

The Cycle of Prayer

Advent and Christmas

PLEASE TAKE THIS BULLETIN WITH YOU AND DISPOSE OF IT OUTSIDE THE CHURCH

During Advent and Christmastide we are asked to pray for these intentions: **Openness to the Word of God; Migrants and Refugees; Expectant Mothers**

SUNDAY READINGS REFLECTION

We often have a perception of Angels as being 'warm and cuddly'. However, in the bible, those who are visited by angels are not always that thrilled by it. They perceived that when God sent an Angel to you, something major was about to happen and it may well demand some hardship. There would be some rearrangement in your life, things were going to get more turbulent not less. Hence when the Angel appeared to Mary she is described as being troubled. After the exchange, Mary does reply that she consents to what is asked of her. Thankfully for us she didn't say no. Although we may not see a winged archangel coming with a message, God does come to us in various ways. When he does, it could be through illness or a loss, can we say with Mary – 'I am the handmaid of the Lord, let it be done?' Advent is nearly over. We have been waiting for the fulfilment of the promise made to David and we find this in Mary's answer of yes. Have a lovely Christmas from Monsignor and myself. God bless. **Deacon Terry**

ADVENT 2020

Advent is when the Church re-sets the calendar of our remembering and celebrating the saving work of Christ. This Advent is more challenging due to the pandemic. Resources have been created by Clergy and Laity from across the Diocese and are offered as a life-buoy, remedy and prayer book for the days ahead. It is hoped that you can print the resources for those who do not have access to the internet. The resources are available at:
www.rcdhn.org.uk.

CONFESSIONS DURING COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS

The Sacrament of Confession is available at St Edward's by appointment only. Please call 0191 2528021 to arrange a time. Confessions are heard with social distancing and face coverings in the Presbytery meeting room.

PRAYER FOR PROTECTION DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick. At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith. You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need. We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us: He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen. We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God. Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen. (Pope Francis)

CHRISTMAS OCTAVE MASSES

Due to Covid-19 regulations, numbers attending this year's

Christmas Masses will be limited at St Edward's and Immaculate Heart Churches. You must phone to reserve places for the Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. The phone number is **07340 169249** and bookings for Christmas will be taken on Monday 21st & Tuesday 22nd December at 10.00am - 12.00 Noon, 2.00pm - 4.00pm and 6.00pm - 8.00pm. Bookings for the following weekend will be taken on Wednesday 23rd December at the same times.

Christmas Eve Masses will be 5.30pm at St Edward's Church and 7.30pm at Immaculate Heart Church. Christmas Day Masses will be 9.30am at Immaculate Heart Church and 11.00am at St Edward's Church. Once the restricted capacity of the church has been reached, people will not be able to enter.

Instead of attending Mass on Christmas Day, come to Christmas Mass on one of the other 7 days of the Christmas Octave, which lasts until 1 January. **Mass on 26 December will be at 9.30am and 6.00pm, and on Sunday at 10.00am - all at St Edward's Church.** There will also be Mass at 9.30am at St Edward's Church each day up to and including 1 January. I would be grateful if stewards would volunteer to cover the Christmas Octave Masses which are not on the rota. Mgr Andrew.

FINANCIAL OFFERINGS

The Parish is very grateful for your generosity at this difficult time for everyone. Donations continue to be made by Standing Order, envelope and at weekend Masses and at times of private prayer. If you would like to contribute online or by standing order the Parish bank account details are:

Name: Our Lady Star of the Sea **Bank:** HSBC
Sort Code: 40-34-45 **Account No.** 21157523

RECENTLY DECEASED

- Please pray for the repose of the soul of Margaret Ward of the Eothen Home, Wallsend, who died on 5 December aged 73 years. Requiem Mass will be celebrated at 12.30pm at Immaculate Heart Church, West Monkseaton on 21 December, followed by burial at Whitley Bay Cemetery. Attendance is limited due to Covid-19 restrictions. May she rest in peace. Amen.
- Please pray for the repose of the soul of Maria Adelaide Kennedy of Parkfield, Seaton Sluice, who died on 11 December aged 99 Years. A Funeral Service will take place at 9.45am on 30 December at Whitley Bay Crematorium followed by committal. Attendance is limited due to Covid-19 restrictions. May she rest in peace. Amen.

THE PARISH CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

Thank you so much to all our Nativity Children, Parents, Readers and volunteers who have all worked so hard to put together our Parish Christmas Celebration. The celebration will be shown on the **Our Lady Star of the Sea Facebook page** and also on **YouTube - Our Lady Star Of the Sea Parish - North East** from **Christmas Eve**. We hope you enjoy watching and seeing familiar faces from across the Parish. Hoping we all have a happy and safe Christmas, God Bless, The Nativity Team.

SVP 200 CLUB LOTTERY

Subs are now due. Please make your £12 cheque payable to 'SVP 200 Club' and give your cheque to Rena Rowe, telephone no. 0191 2522761. Thank you.

READERS' ROTA FOR DECEMBER

Day	Date	Name
Saturday	19	Claire James
Sunday	20	Peter Nesbitt
Thursday	24	Anne Wilson
Friday	25	Máire Cross
Saturday	26	Carolyn Duffy
Sunday	27	Joe James

Please note, if you would like to read during Mass contact Liz Louvre [07411046075](tel:07411046075) and she will put you on the next available rota. Thank you.

NO FOOD BANK COLLECTION

There will be no Food Bank Collection on Monday 21st December as there is a funeral that morning.

MESSAGE FROM THE PARISH OFFICE

Next week's bulletin will be produced a little earlier, so if you would like to put something in, the deadline is Tuesday the 22nd at 10am.

DONATION THANKS

The Parish has received thanks from MacMillan Cancer Support and CAFOD for the generous donations made recently. Both organisations recognise what a difficult time this year has been and are grateful for our continued support.

OTHER NOTICES

SEA SUNDAY - 20TH DECEMBER

Stella Maris is the Catholic Charity which works with seafarers worldwide, who are key workers in the global economy, and many spend months away from their families in tough and lonely conditions. Please visit www.stellamaris.org.uk/ for more information or to make a donation.

HELPING ROUGH SLEEPERS IN WINTER - NORTH TYNESIDE

During Winter, please note how you can help rough sleepers you may see in the area. The telephone numbers to access North Tyneside support are: Housing Advice Team: 0800 011 6511 (8am to 6pm Monday to Friday) and Out of Hours Support: 0191 643 1870 6pm to 8am Monday to Friday and weekends, 6pm Friday to 8am Monday. Register the person in need on Streetlink www.streetlink.org.uk or contact Chris Lincoln (Street Pastors) on 07549 015 896.

NORTHERN CROSS SUBSCRIPTION

These are challenging times and In order to secure the future of the paper we do need to build a significantly larger subscription base. Would you consider taking out an annual subscription to Northern Cross or buy a year's subscription as a Christmas present for someone? We encourage you to take out a postal print subscription for £36 a year including post and packing costs. If you prefer reading it online, you could sign up for the digital edition at £20 a year. Please email editor@northerncross.org.uk or call 01429 274 408 for more information. You can pay by cheque made out to Northern Cross and posted to: c/o WM Fortune & Son, Collingwood House, Church Square, Hartlepool, TS24 7EN or make a BACS transfer to: Northern Cross. Account number: 81602292. Sort code: 40-43-11. With grateful thanks.

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. Telephone the number below if you have an enquiry.

Current Parish Office opening hours: Thursday 11.30am - 3.30pm, 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 4.00pm on Wednesday.

MASSES & OTHER SERVICES	
DAY & DATE	CHURCH
Saturday 19th December	ST EDWARD'S 9.30am Hayes & Rowe Families (RR) 6.00pm The Recently Deceased
Sunday 20th December 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT	ST EDWARD'S 10.00am People of the Parish
Monday 21st December	IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY 12.30pm Requiem Mass Margaret Ward
Tuesday 22nd December	ST EDWARD'S 9.30am Helen Thompson, Pat Sainty, Margaret Webber (AA)
Wednesday 23rd December	ST EDWARD'S (Private Mass) 9.00am Michael Snowdon (MS)
Thursday 24th December	ST EDWARD'S 5.30pm Beatrice & Pat O'Shea (MR) IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY 7.30pm Helen Fenwick (CC)
Friday 25th December THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD	IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY 9.30 Tom Murray (TM) ST EDWARD'S 11.00am Bill Devlin (PK)
Saturday 26th December ST STEPHEN	ST EDWARD'S 9.30am David Marshall (P & DK) 6.00pm People of the Parish
Sunday 27th December THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH	ST EDWARD'S 10.00am Bill Devlin (LL)

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, *(At these words, all bow.)* and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Please remember in your prayers:
Nicola Burns, Marie Rooney, Mary Woodman, Julie Stobbs, Clifford Browne, Christopher Browne, David Johnson and Ann Stroud who are ill. Please also pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time and those who have died recently, especially Catherine Sanderson, Lee Patterson, Daniel McPherson, Muguette Renwick, Fr Derek Peel, Fr Stephen Johnson, Edward Vesey, Ines Fox, Henry Diamond, Margaret Ward, Michael Lafferty and Maria Adelaide Kennedy. May they rest in peace. Amen.

HOSPITAL CHAPLAINS

North Tyneside General Hospital & Northumbria Specialist Emergency Care Hospital, Cramlington: Contact Deacon Stephen Boulter on 07768 387393.

RVI, Freeman and Walkergate Hospitals: Contact Fr Arockia Mariadass Pagyasamy OCD, at English Martyrs, Newcastle on 0191 2733903. **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. Deacon Terry McGann -contact via the Parish Office: 0191 2527066.

READINGS AT MASS
4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR B, 19TH & 20TH DECEMBER 2020

First Reading

2 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. And when your days are ended and you are laid to rest with your ancestors, I will preserve the offspring of your body after you and make his sovereignty secure. I will be a father to him and he a son to me; if he does evil, I will punish him with the rod such as men use, with strokes such as mankind gives. Your House and your sovereignty will always stand secure before me and your throne be established for ever."'

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

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 88(89):2-5,27,29

We say the psalm together

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

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

Second Reading

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.

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

Gospel Acclamation

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

Gospel

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 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.