

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH, YEAR B, 26TH & 27TH 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**

Feast of the Holy Family - Reflection

This feast gives us an opportunity to reflect on our own family life. It is a life that Jesus shared with us. Our families influence us greatly. We are not normally shaped by world events, although this year in particular has been very difficult for many people and it has affected them and shaped them. In normal times we are shaped by our families through events such as births, deaths, marriages and illness. It would be nice to say that after our Baptism the whole of Christian life unfolds automatically but it does not. We need to learn how to be a Christian, how to pray, how to be patient. The family is where these lessons are first learnt. In the gospel, Mary and Joseph bring Jesus to the temple to join their family to the larger family of Judaism. On the feast of the Holy Family we have a chance to reflect on family life in general and how we can strengthen our family's life in the coming year.

Deacon Terry

CHRISTMAS 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. **Robert Byrne, CO**

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM MONSIGNOR ANDREW

Many thanks for the Christmas cards and gifts which you have sent to the Presbytery. Deacon Terry and I are grateful for your support over the year and assure you of our prayers over the Christmas Season. On a personal note, you may have noticed that I'm using crutches during Mass for extra support due to an arthritic hip and foot. I will be facing surgery some time in the New Year and would be grateful for your continuing prayers.

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

Come to 9.30am Mass on one of the other days of the Christmas Octave, which lasts until 1 January.

CHRISTMAS DAY REFLECTION

When our prayer life becomes difficult as it does from time to time, we might be forgiven by thinking that God is not listening. Between us and God, silence may be the order of the day. But God does speak to us as the second reading says. 'At various times in the past he spoke through the prophets'. It's almost as if God wanted to keep his distance from us. Who would have thought then that God would speak a word like Jesus. At the heart of Christianity is a belief that 'The word was made flesh and he lived among us, we saw his glory'. At Christmas we celebrate the truth that God was not wrapped in silence, but in swaddling clothes and laid in a manger. He that is born on this day is the one who will teach us to call God our Father and who will die to prove the measure of God's love for us.

Deacon Terry

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 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.
- Please pray for the repose of the soul of Ursula Quinn who died on 21 December. Funeral arrangements to follow. 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.

READERS' ROTA FOR DECEMBER

Day	Date	Name
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.

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

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.

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good
will.

We praise you, we bless you,
we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

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 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)
Monday 28th December THE HOLY INNOCENTS	ST EDWARD'S 9.30am Private Intention
Tuesday 29th December ST THOMAS BECKET	ST EDWARD'S 9.30am The Holy Souls (J & MR)
Wednesday 30th December	ST EDWARD'S 9.30am James & Anthony Harrison (BH)
Thursday 31st December	ST EDWARD'S 9.30am Eileen Waters (HWW)
Friday 1st January MARY, MOTHER OF GOD	ST EDWARD'S 9.30am John & Margaret Keefe (SC)
Saturday 2nd January SS BASIL THE GREAT & GREGORY	ST EDWARD'S 9.30am Margret Ward (J & DJ) 6.00pm People of the Parish
Sunday 3rd January 2ND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS	ST EDWARD'S 10.00am Steven Knowles (P & RK)
BAPTISM	ST EDWARD'S CHURCH
Saturday 9th January (During 9.30 Mass) Father Andrew	Freddie Arthur Routledge

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, Maria Kennedy and Ursula Quinn. 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
THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH, YEAR B, 26TH & 27TH DECEMBER

First Reading

Genesis 15:1-6,21:1-3

The word of the Lord was spoken to Abram in a vision, 'Have no fear, Abram, I am your shield; your reward will be very great.' 'My Lord,' Abram replied 'what do you intend to give me? I go childless...' Then Abram said, 'See, you have given me no descendants; some man of my household will be my heir.' And then this word of the Lord was spoken to him, 'He shall not be your heir; your heir shall be of your own flesh and blood.' Then taking him outside he said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified. The Lord dealt kindly with Sarah as he had said, and did what he had promised. So Sarah conceived and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the time God had promised. Abraham named the son born to him Isaac, the son to whom Sarah had given birth.

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

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 127(128):1-5

We say the psalm together

O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways!

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| <p>1. O blessed are those who fear the Lord
and walk in his ways!
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.
You will be happy and prosper.</p> | <p>2. Your wife will be like a fruitful vine
in the heart of your house;
your children like shoots of the olive,
around your table.</p> |
| <p>3. Indeed thus shall be blessed
the man who fears the Lord.
May the Lord bless you from Zion
all the days of your life!</p> | |

Second Reading

Colossians 3:12-21

You are God's chosen race, his saints; he loves you, and you should be clothed in sincere compassion, in kindness and humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive each other as soon as a quarrel begins. The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same. Over all these clothes, to keep them together and complete them, put on love. And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts, because it is for this that you were called together as parts of one body. Always be thankful. Let the message of Christ, in all its richness, find a home with you. Teach each other, and advise each other, in all wisdom. With gratitude in your hearts sing psalms and hymns and inspired songs to God; and never say or do anything except in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Wives, give way to your husbands, as you should in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and treat them with gentleness. Children, be obedient to your parents always, because that is what will please the Lord. Parents, never drive your children to resentment or you will make them feel frustrated.

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

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! At various times in the past and in various different ways, God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; but in our own time, the last days, he has spoken to us through his Son. Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 2:22-40

When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord, – observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: *Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord* – and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons. Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord.

Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God; and he said: 'Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace, just as you promised; because my eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared for all the nations to see, a light to enlighten the pagans and the glory of your people Israel.' As the child's father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him, Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, 'You see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is rejected – and a sword will pierce your own soul too – so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid bare.' There was a prophetess also, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well on in years. Her days of girlhood over, she had been married for seven years before becoming a widow. She was now eighty-four years old and never left the Temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayer. She came by just at that moment and began to praise God; and she spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem. When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with 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.