

**MASS READINGS**  
**FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT (Year C)**

**FIRST READING**

*Out of you will be born the one who is to rule over Israel.*

**Micah 5:1-4**

The Lord says this: You, Bethlehem Ephrathah, the least of the clans of Judah, out of you will be born for me the one who is to rule over Israel; his origin goes back to the distant past, to the days of old. The Lord is therefore going to abandon them till the time when she who is to give birth gives birth. Then the remnant of his brothers will come back to the sons of Israel. He will stand and feed his flock with the power of the Lord, with the majesty of the name of his God. They will live secure, for from then on he will extend his power to the ends of the land. He himself will be peace.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

**Response: God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.**

**Psalm 79**

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| <p>1. O shepherd of Israel, hear us,<br/>shine forth from your cherubim throne.<br/>O Lord, rouse up your might,<br/>O Lord, come to our help.</p>   | <p>2. God of hosts, turn again, we implore,<br/>look down from heaven and see.<br/>Visit this vine and protect it,<br/>the vine your right hand has planted.</p> |
| <p>3. May your hand be on the man you have chosen,<br/>the man you have given your strength.<br/>And we shall never forsake you again:<br/>give us life that we may call upon your name.</p> |  |

**SECOND READING**

*Here I am! I am coming to obey your will.*

**Hebrews 10:5-10**

This is what Christ said, on coming into the world: You who wanted no sacrifice or oblation, prepared a body for me. You took no pleasure in holocausts or sacrifices for sin: then I said, just as I was commanded in the scroll of the book, "God, here I am! I am coming to obey your will." Notice that he says first: You did not want what the Law lays down as the things to be offered, that is: the sacrifices, the oblations, the holocausts and the sacrifices for sin, and you took no pleasure in them; and then he says: Here I am! I am coming to obey your will. He is abolishing the first sort to replace it with the second. And this will was for us to be made holy by the offering of his body made once and for all by Jesus Christ.

**Alleluia**

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

**GOSPEL**

*What must we do?*

**Luke 1:39-44**

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, "Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled."

**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

**Parish Administrator: Mrs Katherine Main - Tuesday-Friday 9.00am-1.00pm**

**Tel: 07506 176996**

**Email: [northshields.stcuthbert@rcdhn.org.uk](mailto: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 David Smith ☎ 0191 262 3882

Hospital Chaplaincy: Fr Paul Jenkins ☎ 01670 712476

Deacon: Rev Stephen Boulter: ☎ 07816077858

**18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> December 2021 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent - C**

**Masses, Devotions and Services**

	<b>St Cuthbert's Church</b>	<b>St Joseph's Church</b>
<b>Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> December</b>		<b>5:30pm: Mass: People of the Parish</b>
<b>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent - C</b>	<b>11:00am: Mass: Lillian and Luther Shotton Live streamed</b>	
<b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>No Mass</b>	
<b>Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> December</b>		<b>9:30am: Mass: Florence &amp; Herbert Redpath</b>
<b>Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> December</b>	<b>9:30am: Mass: Margaret &amp; David Howells</b>	
<b>Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> December</b>	<b>No Mass</b>	
<b>Friday 24<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>8:00pm: Mass of Christmas Night The People of the Parish Live streamed</b>	<b>5.00pm: Mass of Christmas Night Emily Murton</b>
<b>Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Day</b>	<b>11:00am: Mass: Ron Boulton Live streamed</b>	<b>9:30am: Mass The O'Kane Family No Vigil Mass</b>
<b>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> December Feast of the Holy Family</b>	<b>11:00am: Mass: Live streamed</b>	<b>9:30am: Mass: People of the Parish</b>

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

**WhatsApp group:** text your name & 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

### Prayer List

Prayer Intentions for Advent and Christmas: Migrants and Refugees, Expectant Mothers and the Homeless.

We pray for all who are sick, including Patricia Conlon, Ros McGann, Father Richard Harriott, Gary James, Gerry Thirsk, Tom Wright, Mary Wood, Sarah Harrison, Scott Oakley, Pat Skelly, Jean Slater, Frank Whillis, Barbara & Tony Hicks 'Baby Stevie Dawn Roadment', Jim Campbell, Richard Sutherland, Irene Keenaghan, Eileen Stevens and Paula More.

Please pray for Fr Peter Smith, Fr Kevin Daley and all those who have died recently, and also for all those whose anniversaries are at this time.

### Christmas 2021

Once again, we approach Christmas with uncertainty due the pandemic, and although this could cast a cloud it is important that we keep focus on the birth of Jesus means. God is not distant from creation but in Christ, God is deeply immersed into what it means to be human, with all its joys, loves and hope and fragilities, struggles and sorrow. God's total gift of God is an indication of love and a source of hope since the birth of Jesus is about redeeming and transforming a broken humanity.

After another difficult year we ask God to give us mercy, healing and strength to face the challenges of this time, knowing that the coming of God as human is a light to dispel darkness.

Wishing you and your families all the hope, love, peace and joy of this time.

On a personal note thanks for your cards, generous gifts and best wishes. The support from the parish this year has been invaluable. Many thanks

### Diamond Wedding Celebrations

Very warm and sincere congratulations to Patricia and Joseph Saint who will be celebrating their Diamond Wedding on December 23<sup>rd</sup>. We wish them a very joyous and blessed celebration on Thursday.

### Tyne & Wear Citizens Update

- \* The North Shields Hub won the award at the AGM Tyne and Wear Citizens for 'Most effective use of meeting time'. Well done to all involved!!
- \* In the new year we will be starting a campaign to against the appalling amount of dog dirt near St Cuthbert's School. The more involved especially with those who have had some training the more power we will have to be effective in this campaign
- \* Citizens UK National Campaign –
- \* Real Living Wage for Health and Social Carers
- \* As a parish we are now part of the national alliance of Citizens UK through our membership of Tyne and Wear Citizens. Citizens UK have adopted a national campaign that all Health and Social Care workers be given the re National Living Wage which from April next year will be £9.90 an hour. I am conscious that some of our parish community, many though not exclusively, are part of our ethnic minorities, work in this area. We are looking for people's experiences as testimony. If anyone has experiences to share of life as a low paid health and social care worker or can say how your life would be improved if you were receiving £9.90 an hour, please contact Fr Chris.

- \* Training: Introductory Community Organising Training On the evenings of 19th, 26th Jan, 2nd & 9th Feb 2022 5.30-8pm Online via Zoom
  - \* This introductory training aims to equip individuals to help lead community organising in their institutions. The training will cover all essential aspects of the curriculum for community organising, including:
  - \* Listening: Why and how to communicate self-interest, do 121s, listen for issues affecting people in your institution
  - \* Issues: How to present issues and work with others to prioritise issues in a broad-based organization.
  - \* Research: How to present issues and work with others to prioritise issues in a broad-based organization.
  - \* Action: How to understand different cultures and organise a public action
  - \* Negotiation: How to generate turnout and negotiate with power holders
  - \* Evaluation: How to evaluate, celebrate, reflect on power and leadership, develop a habit of action
- To book a place please contact Sara Bryson, Senior Community Organiser, Sara.Bryson@citizensuk.org

### Organ recital by Peter Locke (Organist and Catholic liturgical musician)

Cathedral Church of Saint Nicholas, Newcastle upon Tyne Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> December, 2021, at 1.05pm Admission: free (collection).

### Christmas Celebrations in the Parish

Masses around the Christmas period will need to ensure that we do not have too many in our Churches and adapt to Christmas day being a Saturday. So, around the Christmas period Masses will be as follows:

#### Friday 24<sup>th</sup> December - First Masses of Christmas

\*5.00pm St Joseph's

\*8.00pm St Cuthbert's

**\*You need to book for both these Masses;**

**Tuesday -Friday 11am-1pm on 07506 176996**

#### Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Day

9.30am St Joseph's

11.00am St Cuthbert's

**No Vigil Mass at St Joseph's**

#### Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> December - Feast of the Holy Family

9.30am St Joseph's

11.00am St Cuthbert's

#### Saturday January 1<sup>st</sup> - New Year's Day

11.00am St Cuthbert's - Mass for the Feast of the Mother of God

5.30pm St Joseph's - Vigil Mass for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Christmas

#### Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> January

11.00am St Cuthbert's 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Christmas

#### Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January - Feast of the Epiphany

9.30am St Joseph's

7.00pm St Cuthbert's

#### Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> January

5.30pm St Joseph's - Vigil Mass for the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

#### Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> January

11.00am St Cuthbert's - Sunday Mass for the

Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

**Weekday Masses will be as normal during this period**

### CAFOD and Disasters Emergency Committee Afghanistan Appeal

CAFOD have announced that they are working with the Disasters Emergency Committee with AN appeal for the humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan.

There will be a retiring collection for the rest of Advent and Christmas for this important appeal. You can also donate at: <https://cafod.org.uk/donations/picker?singleamount=25&regularamount=&defaultuniversaltype=single&Appeal=124814>

### Christmas Carol Service

Our annual Christmas Carol Service will be at St Joseph's on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm. My thanks to the music group at St Joseph's for preparing the service.

### Northern Cross

Paper copies of the Diocesan Newspaper are now available at the back of church. Cost is £1.50.

### Northern Catholic Calendar

The Northern Catholic Calendar for 2022 is now available at the back of Church. Ring-bound £3.50 Flat £3.00.

### Synodal Process

My thanks for those who stayed behind to make their comments last week. Here are some of the key points that came from the discussion

Inclusivity and Equality are seen to be major parts of modern culture, but it is not reflected in the Church. A welcoming and open Church is essential that must be engage with all spectrums of what it means to be human such as gender, race, social background and sexuality To a culture that has little understand of the Catholic tradition we need to communicate in a way that will be relevant to people outside the Church. The front image of the new Diocesan Website of the Bishop leading Benediction was offered as an example as an image that would have little resonance with people beyond the Church or even to many within it.

There needs to be genuine dialogue between laity and clergy about a mutual understanding of Evangelising and Mission. It was expressed that much evangelising does not do justice to the richness and diversity of our tradition. Two examples of aspects that could be brought to people's attention is the richness and diversity of spirituality especially coming from Religious Orders such as the Carmelites, Franciscans, Jesuits and Benedictines and also the depth and breadth of Catholic Social Teaching. There is also the need to constantly engage with an everchanging and diverse culture. The reflection and questions based on the Road to Emmaus story did little to address the major need for changing structures faced with fewer priests and younger priests having more traditional perspectives than many of the people they serve. A Church that really allowed the laity to be part of the decision-making process of the Church is needed.

It was also expressed that within the parish would like to see more communal events and gatherings as was the case before the pandemic.

### Confessions

I will be available for Confession in the chapel at St Joseph's on Saturday between 4.45 and 5.15pm. I will also be available in the chapel at St Cuthbert's from 9.00 to 9.20am on Wednesdays during advent.

### Parish Council

There are four vacancies in the parish council. Please let me know if you would like to be nominated for the council or there is someone you would like to nominate. I want the council to reflect the broad diversity of the parish.

### Charity Shop

I am very grateful to all the work carried out in the Trinity Charity Shop on Wallsend Road by our volunteers on a Thursday. More volunteers are needed especially between 1-3pm. Please let me know if you are interested.

### First Holy Communions

At a meeting with teachers and catechists it was decided that starting in the new year there will be a shortened programme with four First Communion Liturgies within Mass between February and May. We will not have one big Mass but perhaps up to three events if needed. These will take place in June.

There will be an initial meeting via zoom on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> January at 7.00pm. If your child is in year four or above and does not attend either St Cuthbert's or St Joseph's School, please let me know

### Would you like someone to talk to?

A trained listener is available who can offer a confidential listening service to anyone who needs a listening ear. This could include issues such as loss, anxiety, loneliness or any other matters of concern. An initial phone call can be made with the option of meeting one to one or continuing on the telephone.

Please contact Fr Chris or email, leaving your name and contact details and a listener will get in touch.

'Being listened to and heard is one of the greatest desires of the human heart'

### Mumspace

This project to support mothers of young children is now fully re-opened. Volunteers are needed. If interested contact Wendy McConnell: Tel: 07950 426786

Email: [wendy.mccconnell@citizensuk.org](mailto:wendy.mccconnell@citizensuk.org)

### Rosary group

When two or three are gathered in my name..."All welcome to join a small group of parishioners praying the Rosary each week over Zoom.

**Day: Thursday - Time: 7:30pm**

For more information contact Nestah Masiwa at: [nehmasiwa@yahoo.com](mailto:nehmasiwa@yahoo.com) or Ruth Corless on 07752009361.

### This week's QR Code

What a beautiful name.

A moment of reflection as we approach the Birth of Christ,



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nQWFzMvCfLE>