

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH, YEAR C, 25TH & 26TH DECEMBER 2021

DIOCESAN YEAR OF THE EUCHARIST

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

During Advent and Christmas we are asked to pray for these intentions: **Migrants and Refugees; Expectant Mothers.**

CHRISTMAS DAY AND THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

It has been a difficult year, but we are celebrating the birth of our beloved Lord who was sent by the Father as a gift to save us and open up the way of salvation. However, it is not a time to sit back, there is work to be done, or at least started. Christmas Day marked the beginning of our Christian Mission to bring God's hope and promise to the world. The opening of St John's gospel has a special place in our Christian faith because it sums up the work of redemption. God's creation begins with the Word, which was made flesh through the grace and peace of the first coming of Jesus Christ. On the feast of the Holy Family the boy Jesus goes missing, but whilst his parents were retracing their steps and searching frantically for him, he was not looking for them. He was sitting among the teachers in the temple and they were astounded at his understanding and his answers. So let us have a great peaceful Christmas. God Bless.

Deacon Terry

CHRISTMAS PRAYERS & THANKS

Many thanks for the Christmas cards and gifts which have been gratefully received at the Presbytery. Deacon Terry and I are grateful for your kindness and support and assure you of our prayers for Christmas and the new year ahead.

A special word of thanks goes to our stewards who have so faithfully looked after us in our churches. Their diligence and patience are very much appreciated in these challenging COVID times.

We also thank everyone who help in so many ways in our Parish, especially those who support the sick and the house-bound, those who minister in our churches, including sacristans, servers, readers, eucharistic ministers, flower arrangers and musicians, and those who support Parish administration, including Julie our Parish Secretary, members of the Finance Committee and the members of the newly-formed Parish Pastoral Council.

A great deal of care is taken by those who support our enquirers on their journey in faith, those who prepare and support families at the baptism of their children, and also the consolation team members who with support the bereaved in the preparation and celebration of the funerals of their loved ones. For all of this we are very grateful.

Thanks also to Mrs Kathryn Dimambro, Headteacher of Star of the Sea School, to the school governors and staff and pupils. We assure them of our prayers for the new year.

We move into this new year with hope for a better way ahead, in support of one another, and in thanksgiving for all that God gives us. Happy New Year!

Mgr Andrew Faley

TOWARDS A SYNODAL CHURCH: COMMUNION – PARTICIPATION – MISSION

In his October pastoral letter, Bishop Robert announced our part as a Diocese in the Synod called by Pope Francis. The core questions Pope Francis asks of us are: 'How do we journey together as a local church?', and 'What steps does the Holy Spirit invite us to take in order to grow in our "journeying together"?' These are good questions to reflect on as we emerge as a Church from the Pandemic. For guidance, we are offered some questions which the Diocese has printed in a leaflet, framed within the account of the disciples on the road to Emmaus from St Luke's Gospel. We need time to prayerfully reflect on them. The leaflet is available to take home. Please reflect on the questions during Advent and Christmas. A gathering for reflection for parishioners from across the Partnership will take place at St Cuthbert's, North Shields, on Saturday, 29 January 2022. More details to follow.

DIOCESAN YEAR OF THE EUCHARIST & SYNOD

Resources and points for reflection on the Year of the Eucharist and the Synod are available on the new diocesan website: <https://diocesehn.org.uk>.

WEEKEND MASSES

Parishioners are still required to book places for weekend mass. Please phone **07340 169249** on Thursdays only, 10.00am - 12.00 Noon or 6.00pm - 8.00pm.

FOOD BANK

Thank you all very much for your generosity this year. We will resume food bank collections on Monday January 3rd 2022. I hope you all have a happy and holy Christmas and a joyous New Year.

MASSES & OTHER SERVICES	
DAY & DATE	CHURCH
Saturday 25th December THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD	IMMACULATE HEART CHURCH 9.30am The Gallagher Family (TM) ST EDWARD'S CHURCH 11.00am Georgina 'Ursula' Quinn (MQ)
Sunday 26th December THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH	ST EDWARD'S CHURCH 10.00am People of the Parish
Monday 27th December ST JOHN	ST EDWARD'S CHURCH 9.30am Private Mass
Tuesday 28th December THE HOLY INNOCENTS	ST EDWARD'S CHURCH 9.30am Andrea McFarlane (FS)
Wednesday 29th December ST THOMAS BECKET	IMMACULATE HEART CHURCH 9.30am Michael Wilson
Thursday 30th December	ST EDWARD'S CHURCH 9.30am Sheila Clapperton (L & BH)
Friday 31st December	IMMACULATE HEART CHURCH 9.30am Pete Hughes (PH)
Saturday 1st January MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD	IMMACULATE HEART CHURCH 6pm People of the Parish
Sunday 2nd January 2ND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS	ST EDWARD'S CHURCH 10.00am Steven Knowles (RK)

BAPTISM	ST EDWARD'S CHURCH
Sunday 2nd January 11.30am (Father Andrew)	Oliver James Leggett

Please remember in your prayers:

Layton Jay Newton, David Johnson, Ann Stroud, Eileen Scott and Win Foley who are ill. Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time and for those who have died recently, especially Albert Whiting, Mary Dalby and Florence Lipinski. May they rest in peace. Amen.

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.

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.

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

Mgr Andrew Faley 0191 2528021, Canon Martin Stempczyk 0191 2513770, Fr Chris Hughes 0191 2575801, 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 C, 25TH & 26TH DECEMBER 2021

First Reading

1 Samuel 1:20-22,24-28

Hannah conceived and gave birth to a son, and called him Samuel 'since' she said 'I asked the Lord for him.' When a year had gone by, the husband Elkanah went up again with all his family to offer the annual sacrifice to the Lord and to fulfil his vow. Hannah, however, did not go up, having said to her husband, 'Not before the child is weaned. Then I will bring him and present him before the Lord and he shall stay there for ever.' When she had weaned him, she took him up with her together with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour and a skin of wine, and she brought him to the temple of the Lord at Shiloh; and the child was with them. They slaughtered the bull and the child's mother came to Eli. She said, 'If you please, my lord. As you live, my lord, I am the woman who stood here beside you, praying to the Lord. This is the child I prayed for, and the Lord granted me what I asked him. Now I make him over to the Lord for the whole of his life. He is made over to the Lord.'

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

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 127(128):1-5

We say the Psalm together

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.
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.
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!

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! Open our heart, O Lord, to accept the words of your Son. Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 2:41-52

Every year the parents of Jesus used to go to Jerusalem for the feast of the Passover. When he was twelve years old, they went up for the feast as usual. When they were on their way home after the feast, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem without his parents knowing it. They assumed he was with the caravan, and it was only after a day's journey that they went to look for him among their relations and acquaintances. When they failed to find him they went back to Jerusalem looking for him everywhere. Three days later, they found him in the Temple, sitting among the doctors, listening to them, and asking them questions; and all those who heard him were astounded at his intelligence and his replies. They were overcome when they saw him, and his mother said to him, 'My child, why have you done this to us? See how worried your father and I have been, looking for you.' 'Why were you looking for me?' he replied. 'Did you not know that I must be busy with my Father's affairs?' But they did not understand what he meant. He then went down with them and came to Nazareth and lived under their authority. His mother stored up all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom, in stature, and in favour with God and men.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**