

MASS READINGS

THIRD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (C)

FIRST READING

Ezra read from the law of God and the people understood what was read.

Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, consisting of men, women, and children old enough to understand. This was the first day of the seventh month. On the square before the Water Gate, in the presence of the men and women, and children old enough to understand, he read from the book from early morning till noon; all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law. Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden dais erected for the purpose. In full view of all the people – since he stood higher than all the people – Ezra opened the book; and when he opened it all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people raised their hands and answered, 'Amen! Amen!'; then they bowed down and, face to the ground, prostrated themselves before the Lord. And Ezra read from the Law of God, translating and giving the sense, so that the people understood what was read. Then Nehemiah – His Excellency – and Ezra, priest and scribe and the Levites who were instructing the people said to all the people, 'This day is sacred to the Lord your God. Do not be mournful, do not weep.' For the people were all in tears as they listened to the words of the Law. He then said, 'Go, eat the fat, drink the sweet wine, and send a portion to the man who has nothing prepared ready. For this day is sacred to our Lord. Do not be sad: the joy of the Lord is your stronghold.'

Nehemiah 8:2-6, 8-10

Responsorial Psalm

Response: Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life.

Psalm 18:

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| <p>1. The law of the Lord is perfect, it revives the soul. The rule of the Lord is to be trusted, it gives wisdom to the simple.</p> | <p>2. The precepts of the Lord are right, they gladden the heart. The command of the Lord is clear, it gives light to the eyes.</p> |
| <p>3. The fear of the Lord is holy, abiding for ever. The decrees of the Lord are truth and all of them just.</p> | <p>4. May the spoken words of my mouth, the thoughts of my heart, win favour in your sight, O Lord, my rescuer, my rock!</p> |

SECOND READING

You together are Christ's body; but each of you is a different part of it.

Corinthians 12:12-30

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink. Nor is the body to be identified with any one of its many parts. If the foot were to say, 'I am not a hand and so I do not belong to the body', would that mean that it stopped being part of the body? If the ear were to say, 'I am not an eye, and so I do not belong to the body', would that mean that it was not a part of the body? If your whole body was just one eye, how would you hear anything? If it was just one ear, how would you smell anything? Instead of that, God put all the separate parts into the body on purpose. If all the parts were the same, how could it be a body? As it is, the parts are many but the body is one. The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I do not need you', nor can the head say to the feet, 'I do not need you.' What is more, it is precisely the parts of the body that seem to be the weakest which are the indispensable ones; and it is the least honourable parts of the body that we clothe with the greatest care. So our more improper parts get decorated in a way that our more proper parts do not need. God has arranged the body so that more dignity is given to the parts which are without it, and that there may not be disagreements inside the body, but that each part may be equally concerned for all the others. If one part is hurt, all parts are hurt with it. If one part is given special honour, all parts enjoy it. Now you together are Christ's body; but each of you is a different part of it. In the Church, God has given the first place to apostles, the second to prophets, the third to teachers; after them, miracles, and after them the gift of healing; helpers, good leaders, those with many languages. Are all of them apostles, or all of them prophets, or all of them teachers? Do they all have the gift of miracles, or all have the gift of healing? Do all speak strange languages, and all interpret them?

Alleluia

Alleluia, Alleluia! The Lord has sent me to bring the good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

The text is being fulfilled today.

Luke 1:1-4, 4:14-21

Seeing that many others have undertaken to draw up accounts of the events that have taken place among us, exactly as these were handed down to us by those who from the outset were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word, I in my turn, after carefully going over the whole story from the beginning, have decided to write an ordered account for you, Theophilus, so that your Excellency may learn how well founded the teaching is that you have received. Jesus, with the power of the Spirit in him, returned to Galilee; and his reputation spread throughout the countryside. He taught in their synagogues and everyone praised him. He came to Nazara, where he had been brought up, and went into the synagogue on the sabbath day as he usually did. He stood up to read and they handed him the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. Unrolling the scroll he found the place where it is written: The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for he has anointed me. He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives and to the blind new sight, to set the downtrodden free, to proclaim the Lord's year of favour. He then rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the assistant and sat down. And all eyes in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to speak to them, 'This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.'

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

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

22nd/23rd January 2022–3rd Sunday of the Year - C

Masses, Devotions and Services

	St Cuthbert's Church	St Joseph's Church
Saturday 22nd January		5:30pm: Mass Peter Hughes
Sunday 23rd January 3rd Sunday of the Year	11:00am: Mass: People of the Parish Live streamed	
Monday 24th January	No Mass	
Tuesday 25th January		9:30am: Mass: Arturo Agustin
Wednesday 26th January	9:30am: Mass Ellen Hazelgrave	
Thursday 27th January	No Mass	
Friday 28th January		7:00pm: Mass: Winifrid Burfield
Saturday 29th January		5:30pm: Mass People of the Parish
Sunday 30th January 4th Sunday of the Year	11:00am: Mass: Agnes and Barney Conway Live streamed	

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

Parish office: 0191 257 3408

Prayer List

Prayer Intentions for Ordinary Time in Winter: Peace on Earth; Openness to the Word of God; Christian Unity; The Sick and Those Who Care for Them; Victims of Trafficking and Those Who Combat it; the Unemployed

We pray for all who are sick, including Patricia Conlon, Ros McGann, 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, Paula More, Tony Cocalis, Mary Quinn and Ann Smiles

Please pray for John Smiles and all those who have died recently, and also for all those whose anniversaries are at this time.

Prayer of Christian Unity

We continue in our week of Prayer of Christian Unity. The prayers for this week have come from Christian united in being persecuted. We pray for them

New year, new opportunity?

Do you like meeting new and interesting people? Do you like to learn about other cultures? Can you offer warmth where others shy away and may seem a bit cold? Do you have an idea that God might be nudging you into a new thing to do?

If the answer to any of these is 'yes' or 'maybe', consider becoming a volunteer with New to the UK, one of established projects of Churches Together in North Shields. No initial commitment is needed – just come and find out what we do one Wednesday between 11am and 1pm at the Baptist Church in Howard Street and make up your mind if this is for you or not.

Want to have a chat before that? Call Pat on 07963972756 (or email: pbond15@virginmedia.com) who can give you more details.

Saint Columba's United Reformed Church, North Shields

Learning from Luke – Six Conversations Thursday evenings at 7.15 p.m. on ZOOM, starting 20th January 2022. To join in the conversations, email stcolumbasevents8@gmail.com to receive the Zoom link for the meetings.

Lent. Narrating the Passion Story

As stated in my Christmas Sermon I was inspired by a set of essays written by members of the Anglican Communion who identify with the Catholic tradition. They asked how Sacrament and the Liturgy can be used as part of evangelism. At the Proclaimers meeting last week we discussed the idea that at 12 noon on every Saturday in Lent we would narrate the Passion story outside. We would use the two crucifixes in the grounds as a focus for Christ's death and use a tent as a tomb. When in came to the burying of Christ, the Blessed Sacrament would be exposed from the tent, the reminder of the Passion narrative would be read out and we would finish with silence. For 3-4 weeks we would be at St Joseph's with the remainder at St Cuthbert's. My idea is that we used the biblical texts- my preference is John's Gospel, but it is enacted with people reading out key roles such as Jesus, Peter, Mary and Pilate, with us moving across the grounds.

If you would like to get involved with this, please let me know. Anyone with a skill for drama would be especially appreciated. I am not asking the same people to make a commitment for seven Saturdays so we will need a pool of people

Citizens UK National Campaign

As stated at the end of last year, the new National Campaign for Citizens UK is to ensure that all Health and Social Care workers receive the National Living Wage which will be from April 1st outside London £9.90 an hour. If you would like to be involved in this campaign or you know of people for whom this is relevant please ask them to contact Fr Chris.

The Cedarwood Trust, North Shields – Appointment of new Trustees – Spring 2022

The Cedarwood Trust is dedicated to building social capital, creating education and economic opportunities, tackling poverty and food insecurity, and promoting and supporting the growth of families and individuals in the Meadow Well estate, North Shields and beyond. Building on the strengths of the people, we want to bring about positive change for the long term.

We have a vibrant centre, a welcoming place for all to socialise, spend family time, and get support. It houses our Nurture Academy, Nourish Bistro, Food Membership Store and Thriving Families. You can find out more about us here: www.cedarwoodtrust.com.

We are expanding our Board of Trustees with four new positions. We are looking for two people who live in Meadow Well, North Shields. All you need is to share our values of "Nurture, Nourish and Thrive" for the people and place of Meadow Well, and a willingness to contribute to this responsible role.

We are also looking for two people with experience and expertise of strategy and management of organisations, in a commercial or other environment, who share our vision and values.

These are the people we need to help to govern the Trust, and to lead and develop our strategy.

For an informal chat, please contact our CEO Wayne Dobson at wayne.dobson@cedarwoodtrust.com. For more information and an Application Form, please contact louise@cedarwoodtrust.com. Closing date for applications: 7th February 2022.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is traditionally observed from the 18th to the 25th January – the octave of St. Peter and St. Paul. The story of the Magi visiting the Holy Family in Bethlehem is one very familiar to us. The Magi have sometimes been seen as a symbol of the world's diversity – different religions and cultures – that comes to pay homage to the Christ-child. The story might therefore represent the unity of all created that God desires.

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in 2022 has been prepared by the churches of the Middle East, the history of which was, and still is, characterised by conflict and strife, tainted with blood and darkened by injustice and oppression. The Christians of the Middle East offer these resources conscious that the world shares many of the travails and much of the difficulties that it experiences, and yearns for a light to lead the way to the Saviour who is the light that overcomes darkness.

Serving the Gospel today requires a commitment to the human being, especially the poorest, the weakest and those marginalised. It requires from the churches transparency and accountability in dealing with the world, and with each other. This means churches need to cooperate to provide relief to the afflicted, to welcome the displaced, to relieve the burdened, and to build a just and honest s

Synodal Process

If you have any comments to make as part of the Synodal process please let me know. It is difficult to evaluate what will be heard and offered forward by the Bishop. What I am sure is that the Pope takes this process very seriously and is open to the working of the Spirit in us all, so please feel free to share your comments.

I. The Journeying Companions

Look at who forms the community which is journeying together? Who are on the peripheries who we need to reach out to? Who do we know who no longer walk with us, who used to and now we don't see? How do we engage with the covid curious? What is our welcome like?

II. Listening

Do we listen to each other? How do we best do this – people to people, clergy to clergy, bishops to bishops and each to each other? How do we make our listening "a listening of the heart" not just of the issues and subjects at hand? How do we listen to the signs of the times outside the Church and respond to them?

III. Speaking Out

What is the communication like in our group/parish/diocese? Do we have the freedom, truth and charity to speak with parrhesia and prudence? What defines our speaking – when we speak, what to say, how to say it? How am I living out my prophetic vocation given at baptism?

IV. Celebrating

Does the liturgy of the Church inspire a deeper encounter with the risen Lord? How does my prayer – both individually and in community – affect my discernment of my participation in the mission of the Church? Is the Eucharist the centre of my, and my community's life? What flows from the Sunday (or daily) Eucharist out of the Church into the world from our communities? What do I give thanks to God for in prayer? What do I seek from him?

V. Co-responsibility in the Mission

Who do I understand the mission of the Church both in my own life and participation, and in the local church and the universal church? How is what we are doing relate to the Great Commission of Jesus (Matt 28:18-20)? What formation do I need to be more committed to the mission of the Church? what impact is our local community making in the area – do we make a difference?

VI. Dialogue in Church and Society

How do we understand dialogue in and outside of the Church? Do we see dialogue as a unique contribution that the Church can make to the world? How do we address the challenges that dialogue brings about? How do we begin to dialogue with others?

VII. With the other Christian Denominations

What is our relationship with the other denominations like? Do we listen to each other as we journey on our pilgrim way? What enriches us from the other traditions? What do we offer them from ours?

VIII. Authority and Participation

How is authority exercised in our communities? What are the organs of co-responsibility that allows for the expression of our baptismal consecration as priest, prophet and king? How do the lay faithful collaborate effectively in the life of the local church? What are the fruits of this collaboration, and what are the obstacles and challenges?

IX. Discerning and Deciding

How do we discern together the direction in which the Holy Spirit is leading us? Is there freedom to exercise our particular ministry in the Church and participate in this common work of discernment and decision making? Is my local community accountable and transparent in decision making? What can help improve this? Do I support the Bishops and the Priests in arriving at their decisions?

X. Forming ourselves in Synodality

What additional formation do I need to be a missionary disciple? Is the local community effective in catechising and passing on the faith? What tools are necessary for the Church to be truly synodal, listening and journeying together? How do we continue the listening and dialogue beyond this process so that the Church have a "lived synodality" as the Holy Father asks?

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.

First Holy Communions

It would appear that we may have over 30 candidates for this years First Holy Communion Programme. The First Holy Communion Liturgies will be spread over two weekends for each theme so that capacity will not be exceeded. The first Liturgy will be next week-end of 29th/30th January. Please pray for our candidates and their families

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'

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 or Ruth Corless on 07752009361.