

**MASS READINGS**

**SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C)**

**FIRST READING**

*The Lord put you in my power, but I would not raise my hand.*

**Samuel 26:2. 7-9. 12-13.22-23**

Saul set off and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, accompanied by three thousand men chosen from Israel to search for David in the wilderness of Ziph.

So in the dark David and Abishai made their way towards the force, where they found Saul lying asleep inside the camp, his spear stuck in the ground beside his head, with Abner and the troops lying round him. Then Abishai said to David, 'Today God has put your enemy in your power; so now let me pin him to the ground with his own spear. Just one stroke! I will not need to strike him twice.' David answered Abishai, 'Do not kill him, for who can lift his hand against the Lord's anointed and be without guilt? The Lord forbid that I should raise my hand against the Lord's anointed! But now take the spear beside his head and the pitcher of water and let us go away.' David took the spear and the pitcher of water from beside Saul's head, and they made off. No one saw, no one knew, no one woke up; they were all asleep, for a deep sleep from the Lord had fallen on them.

David crossed to the other side and halted on the top of the mountain a long way off; there was a wide space between them. David then called out, 'Here is the king's spear. Let one of the soldiers come across and take it. The Lord repays everyone for his uprightness and loyalty. Today the Lord put you in my power, but I would not raise my hand against the Lord's anointed.'

**Responsorial Psalm**

**Response: The Lord is compassion and love**

**Psalm 102**

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| <p>a) My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name. My soul, give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings.</p>          | <p>b) It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion.</p> |
| <p>c) The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy. He does not treat us according to our sins nor repay us according to our faults.</p> | <p>d) As far as the east is from the west so far does he remove our sins. As a father has compassion on his sons, the Lord has pity on those who fear him.</p>   |

**Second Reading**

*We who have been modelled on the earthly man will be modelled on the heavenly man.*

**Corinthians 15:45-49**

The first man, Adam, as scripture says, became a living soul; but the last Adam has become a life-giving spirit. That is, first the one with the soul, not the spirit, and after that, the one with the spirit. The first man, being from the earth, is earthly by nature; the second man is from heaven. As this earthly man was, so are we on earth; and as the heavenly man is, so are we in heaven. And we, who have been modelled on the earthly man, will be modelled on the heavenly man.

**Alleluia**

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

**GOSPEL**

*Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate.*

**Luke 6:27-38**

Jesus said to his disciples: 'But I say this to you who are listening: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly. To the man who slaps you on one cheek, present the other cheek too; to the man who takes your cloak from you, do not refuse your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and do not ask for your property back from the man who robs you. Treat others as you would like them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what thanks can you expect? For even sinners do that much. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners lend to sinners to get back the same amount. Instead, love your enemies and do good, and lend without any hope of return. You will have a great reward, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.

'Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate. Do not judge, and you will not be judged yourselves; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned yourselves; grant pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and there will be gifts for you: a full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap; because the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back.'

**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

Canon 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

**19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> February 2022 - 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year - C**

**Masses, Devotions and Services**

|  | <b>St Cuthbert's Church</b>   | <b>St Joseph's Church</b>                |
|--|---|--|
| <b>Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> February</b>   |   | <b>5:30pm: Mass</b> Peace on Europe      |
| <b>Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> February</b><br><b>7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year</b> | <b>11:00am: Mass: People of the Parish</b><br><b>Live streamed</b>      |  |
| <b>Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February</b>   | <b>No Mass</b>  |  |
| <b>Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February</b>  |   | <b>9:30am: Mass: Terry Reay</b>          |
| <b>Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February</b>  | <b>9:30am: Mass: Anthony</b>  |  |
| <b>Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> February</b>   | <b>No Mass</b>  |  |
| <b>Friday 25<sup>th</sup> February</b>   |   | <b>7:00pm: Mass: Mary Robson</b>         |
| <b>Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> February</b>   |   | <b>5:30pm: Mass</b> People of the Parish |
| <b>Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> February</b><br><b>8<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year</b> | <b>11:00am: Mass: Rhona &amp; Vincent Jones</b><br><b>Live streamed</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 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 Patricia Appleton, all those who have died recently, and also for all those whose anniversaries are at this time.

### Baptisms

Last Sunday at St Joseph's Dolcie Harvey was baptised. For this Sunday at the 11.00am Mass, Grace Dunn will be baptised by the visiting priest Fr Peter Randall SJ.

We pray for Dolcie and Grace and their families as they are united with Christ and join our Christian family

### From Minsteracres: Wakening up with the garden

We would like to invite you to a gardening and 'wakening up' day in the walled garden on Wednesday 16th March and / or Saturday 19th of March. These dates are close to the equinox entering a time of spring and summer.

The garden has been resting over the last months. The storm has blown over a lot of plants. However new growth is underway! So we would like to tidy up the garden and clear the way for new growth. There are many different jobs from light ones to more challenging ones. The most important thing is to enjoy what we are doing. If people like just to sit or meander in the garden that is fine too. The date is from 10.00am to 4pm  
Directions: Turn from the A68 onto the main drive to Minsteracres Retreat Centre. Before the first cattle grid turn right into a small tarmac road that leads around a wall. You can park at the end (limited spaces). There is a green gate that leads into the walled garden. An alternative is to park on the parking space before the cattle grid at the left side of the drive. Please bring - if possible - your own gloves and small gardening tools (secateurs). We are still a bit short of these items.

E-mail: [lyavollering@gmail.com](mailto:lyavollering@gmail.com)

### News from Tyne and Wear Citizens

Tyne and Wear Citizens Accountability Assembly will be on Thursday March 17th 6-8pm at the Civic Centre, Newcastle. At this event we will be asking those who have the power to make changes on the following campaigns:

Improving air quality on our streets, countering racism in the work place, fairer bus fares for young people, Living Wage for Health and Care Workers, Improving Mental Health Provision

We hope to fill the room of 600 seats which will put pressure on decision makers.

The parish 'turn out captain' is Austin Oshegbu. He and Fr Chris will be encouraging parishioners to sign up for assembly. The link to sign up is: <https://actionnetwork.org/events/tyne-wear-citizens-accountability-assembly/>

#### • Together We Can

This is an initiative to support asylum seekers who are going through the process to seek leave to remain. They have appointed a worker who will support refugees. I am delighted to say that it is one of the parishioners, Austin Oshegbu who has been appointed to this role. Congratulations to Austin and we wish him every blessing and success in this important role

- Sara Bryson, the lead organiser for Tyne and Wear Citizens, will be joining us at the Masses on the week-end of 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> March

### Tynemouth Priory – Partnership Meeting on Synodal Process

This meeting took place on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at St Cuthbert's :- 10:30 – 1200. Twenty two people attended this meeting of which five were clergy and the rest were parish representatives from across the whole partnership.

The record below is an attempt to capture the essence of what was shared from across the group. There was a whole range of topics talked about during the time of this meeting. Although not a full summary these can be given in an overview as follows:

- gratitude for the synodal process which has already led to new ways for lay people to meet and talk about faith and church matters,
- wanting points of view and discussions to be heard especially by the Bishop,
- wanting a better quality of church leadership in some areas, e.g. use of media
- youth inclusion especially in regard to new and fresh expressions of faith
- greater inclusion of women based on a fair and equitable respect,
- extended roles for women in the church including the possibility of ordained ministry,
- use of language –
  - to reflect accurately church as a community of women and men,
  - building a new language register for conversations about our faith with people marginalised within and without our regular / normal ways of being church
  - to reflect a sense of belonging to a community of equals rather than reflecting one's formal or ministerial position in the church,
  - developing a language of inclusion not exclusion
- listening to the signs of the times – big picture thinking in regard to inclusivity not least of all in regard to women in the church,
- acknowledging the time for change is ripe
- Becoming more minded about being a church of mission –
  - open questioning in regards to matters of faith and church e.g. 'How can we be church in a secular world?' – as well as, engaging with seeking and finding ways forward in answer to such questions,
  - reaching out to those not directly involved in the synodal process, i.e. reaching the 95% not immediately present or part of the process,
  - being more overtly church in relation to social and ecological issues,
  - registering or becoming aware of the small signs of change and their importance as and when they happen,
  - actively engaging with people of other faiths,
  - seeking ways to create safe spaces within our churches for people who have views of life and faith that are from extreme vantage points due to diverse and challenging life experiences, including trauma.

- 1) There is a clear and overarching theme here of: **becoming a more inclusive church, both within the church as well as in terms of being a church that reaches out to include others.**

This theme was expressed in many dimensions, as noted above, and the overall desire of wanting a better way of being church, left room for further discussion about how the more cultural and operational dimensions of this theme might be further addressed.

How might this greater inclusivity be achieved was a question reflected back several times during the meeting.

- 2) Another theme also emerged in the manner or style of presentation across the group. Each topic or aspect of church and faith life listed above was spoken with great feeling, which reflected a careful, thought through and passionate presentation. This rational emotive dimension of faith included expressions of: frustration, the sense of holding on with one's finger tips, desperation, being keen to find ways forward to develop well, some sadness at stuckness in the church, excitement at new possibilities and a strong felt sense of things needing to change with various degrees of perceived urgency. This is a collective expression of:  
**a strong desire for change.**
- 3) Related to the above theme was an additional theme of wanting to be able to trust in the process of the synodal way, i.e. of wanting to see actual change as a result of faithful and prayerful dialogue. Sporadically expressed was a clear idea of not wanting the synodal process to simply be another talking shop leading to more of the same, there were two dimensions of this theme:  
**'not wanting another opportunity in the life of the church for faith based change to leave the status quo in place' and equally strongly, 'wanting the synodal process to encapsulate a credible way forward.'**

### Additional Comments

Comments received in response to the initial drafting of this document are as follows:

- a) There was one issue however that was not addressed in your account and that was of married clergy. In one parish alone in the last decade we have lost half a dozen priests because they could not continue their ministry without the love and support of a partner within the sacrament of marriage. "Good husbands could make good priests and good priests could make good husbands". The two roles are not mutually exclusive. This issue has been discussed at many meetings over the years by committed Catholics but our leaders have always bypassed it. We desperately need a change of thinking in our hierarchy or our church will become irrelevant to many elements of our society.
- b) There is one important issue that was shared but has not clearly stated, that being married priests. This is a concern that has been raised for many years and there is a strong body of opinion that our church leaders have listened but not heard and definitely not acted on. We now have an opportunity to raise the matter again and I pray our Bishop listens and responds.
- c) I used the word 'crisis' to describe the current situation - few priests and decreasing; steady disaffiliation or connection of laity. And we have been watching this for years. I also said in connection with this that the priests that we have will be exhausted and there is little slack in the system to attend to the 'crisis'. I do feel the priests have an important role to play and this will require re-training, support and care for them.

Not said at the meeting and I wish I had. Our greatest asset is Pope Francis.

### The Synod and a listening Church' – Webinar 5<sup>th</sup> March 11am Sr. Nathalie Becquart

Sr. Nathalie Becquart is the under secretary to the Synod of Bishops at the Vatican. She is currently organising the synod process and empowering the Church across the world to journey towards the international Synod. She will be the guest speaker at a webinar on the 5<sup>th</sup> March 11am-12.30pm for people across the diocese. A time to listen, discuss and question her on the church and the way forward. To register please email [admin@ymt.org](mailto:admin@ymt.org) requesting 'webinar registration'

### Feedback from Pastoral Carers Group

The parish listeners are being approached by parishioners. Lou Laggan has kindly offered another session on 'stress busting'. The last session was very much appreciated by those who took part.

Date: 12<sup>th</sup> March Time: 9.30am – 12.30pm Location: Zoom

Join us for a morning of interactive learning to help you live a life with less stress. By the end of the Masterclass you will:

- Understand The Difference Between Good & Bad Stress
  - Understand The Full Impact Of Stress
  - Have Identified Your Main Causes of Stress
  - Be Equipped With A Range Of Practical Strategies To Reduce & Manage Stress
- Lou's events are always participative, fun and engaging; find out what others have thought of them here: <https://loulaggancoaching.co.uk/testimonials/>

Places are limited so booking is essential. Please contact Lou via email if you have any questions about the masterclass and to book your place.

[Lou@LouLagganCoaching.co.uk](mailto:Lou@LouLagganCoaching.co.uk)

### Confirmations

The Partnership Confirmation Programme for students in Year 10 and Year 11 will begin on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2022 and run for 5 weeks until Thursday April 7<sup>th</sup> 2022. Young people are now invited to sign-up by filling out the Confirmation Application Form. This is available from your parish priest or by emailing the Chaplain at St Thomas More on [mthompson@stmacademy.org.uk](mailto:mthompson@stmacademy.org.uk).

### World Day of Prayer 2022 Services,

This year's theme is: I Know The Plans I Have For You. We join in this ecumenical movement on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March. We have two services. Afternoon 2.00pm, at Holy Saviour's Church, Tynemouth, Evening 7.30pm, at the Methodist Church, Cullercoats, Everyone is welcome at either service. Light refreshments will be available after both services.

### Northern Cross

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

### 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](mailto:nehmasiwa@yahoo.com) or Ruth Corless on 07752009361.