

4TH SUNDAY OF LENT, YEAR C, 26TH & 27TH MARCH 2022

DIOCESAN YEAR OF THE EUCHARIST

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

The Cycle of Prayer

During Lent we are asked to pray for these intentions: **Candidates for the Sacraments; Women; The Needy and Hungry of the World; Penitents and Wanderers.**

SUNDAY REFLECTION

Here we have the story of the Prodigal Son. Writing people off as lost causes is at its heart. The sinners and tax collectors come to hear Jesus, but the Pharisees and Scribes complain that Jesus welcomes them. They want Jesus to let the sinners stay lost but he wants them to realise they are not superior and that we are all sinners. There are three characters and we can see ourselves in each. The Father who has a keen eye on those who are lost and when a party is needed to welcome their return. The younger son who wants to grab everything he can and try everything he shouldn't and the elder brother who wants to make other people pay for having a loveless attitude. All the characters are within us and Lent is a time to ensure we get the right balance.

Deacon Terry

TOWARDS A SYNODAL CHURCH: COMMUNION – PARTICIPATION – MISSION

Reflections have been received from across the Diocese by the Bishop's team which manages the synod process. The Bishop will release his final reflection next month, and send it on to the national stage of the process. Our Partnership reflection is available at the back of the church.

LENT 2022

During Lent, Stations of the Cross are prayed at 7.00pm on Friday at Immaculate Heart Church. In this Year of the Eucharist, the Blessed Sacrament is exposed from 9.00am before weekday Mass. Lent calls us to God's mercy. Confessions are heard on Saturday at 5.30pm in the ground floor meeting room at Immaculate Heart Church.

RECENTLY DECEASED

- Please pray for the repose of the soul of Robert Ramsay of Whitley Bay, who died on 4 March aged 89 years. A funeral service will be held at 1.30pm on 29 March at St Edward's Church, followed by committal at Tynemouth Crematorium. May he rest in peace. Amen.
- Please pray for the repose of the soul of Teresa Stark of Langdale, Monkseaton, who died on 8 March aged 83 years. A funeral service will take place at Tynemouth Crematorium at 12.00 Noon on 8 April. May she rest in peace. Amen.

PARISH COVID CONTROLS

If you show any COVID symptoms, please stay at home and isolate. Please sanitise hands on entry and exit of churches. All attending are asked to wear a face covering. 1-metre social distancing continues between households. We are grateful for the stewards who continue to look after our parishioners. Church meeting spaces have re-opened to groups at Immaculate Heart and St Edward's Churches.

UKRAINIAN APPEAL

There is a message from Bishop Robert this weekend about our support of the people of Ukraine. We continue to pray for the people of Ukraine. You can still hand in donations at church or donate at: www.cafod.org.uk.

FIRST RECONCILIATION AND HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2022

An introductory meeting for parents/carers took place on 24th March at Star of the Sea School. Father Andrew and the catechists are looking forward to meeting the children when the programme starts on the 9th May. Any enquiries should be directed to 1holycommunionolss@gmail.com.

HOLY WEEK PREPARATION MEETING

There will be a meeting after 9.30am Mass in the upstairs meeting room at Immaculate Heart Church on Wednesday, 30 March to prepare this year's Holy Week. Anyone interested is very welcome to attend.

LENTEN REFLECTIONS

A few parishioners are coming together to read and reflect on Lenten readings. This started on Wednesday 23rd March from 2 - 3pm and continues each Wednesday. If you would like to join us please come along to St Edward's Parish Rooms in the Presbytery, 1 Coquet Avenue, Whitley Bay.

WALKING GROUP

The next walk will be on Tuesday 5th April. Please meet at West Monkseaton Metro Station at 9.30am to go to North Shields then take the ferry to South Shields and then metro to Tyne Dock. We will walk to Cleadon Hill and on to East Boldon to catch the metro home. If you require more information, please contact Peter Weighill on 0191 2512917

PIETY STALL AT ST EDWARD'S CHURCH

I will be re-opening the piety stall on April 3rd and 10th. After that I hope to run it on the first and third Sundays of the month. If anyone feels they could help with the stall please do contact me, Jenny Hooper on 0191 2526386, or speak to Derek, if you know who we are. Then it would be possible to open more often. Stock might be a bit low initially, but it is a start!

FOOD BANK

Thank you to everyone who continues to support the food bank through donations of food or money. This week we ask for Long life milk, Meatballs, Toothbrush/toothpaste & Coffee. Thank you.

USED STAMPS

In the past someone collected stamps and forwarded them on for good causes. If anyone knows anything about this or would like to continue with it, please contact Julie in the parish office at Immaculate Heart Church. Thank you.

MILL HILL MISSIONARY SOCIETY

The Spring edition of Mission Today is now available for Members to pick up at either St. Edwards or Immaculate Heart.

DONATIONS

A big thank you for all your generous donations, which are greatly appreciated. Should you wish to transfer to standing order or bank transfer, the Parish bank details are:

Name: Our Lady Star of the Sea **Bank:** HSBC
Sort Code 40-34-45 **Account Number** 21157523.

If you wish to remember the Parish in your Will, further information is available from the Parish Office.

OTHER NOTICES

LENTEN REFLECTIONS BOOKLET

As Christians, we have a hope that shines along every rough road. We trust that this year's booklet will foster prayerful reflection on the Scriptures' relevance to our daily Christian living as we look forward to Easter. The reflections have been written by clergy, religious and lay people to express the richness and variety of our diocesan community. The dedicated Lenten reflection page on the diocesan website is: <https://diocesehn.org.uk/living-the-faith/liturgy-prayer/#seasonal>

WHITLEY BAY & DISTRICT CHURCHES+TOGETHER - FUNDRAISING LUNCHES AT ST PAUL'S

St Paul's Church in Whitley Bay will be serving home-made soups and bread rolls each Saturday until Saturday 2nd April. Soup and roll lunch will be served from 12noon to 2pm and all proceeds will be shared between The BAY Foodbank and the Samaritans of Tyneside. **Please join us and support these worthy local charities.**

DO YOU FEEL CALLED TO ACCOMPANY THOSE SEEKING INNER HEALING?

The Diocese will be providing training in this ministry, initially to help you discern how God may be directing you. A residential training course will take place at Minsteracres Retreat Centre and will run across 2 sessions:

Session 1: 22nd - 23rd April 2022

Session 2: 15th - 16th July 2022

For more information contact the Vicariate for Faith & Mission Admin Team who can provide further details and application forms. adminfaith.mission@diocesehn.org.uk

CATHOLIC WOMEN SPEAK

Catholic Women Speak, an international forum for dialogue and awareness-raising around issues to do with women in the Catholic Church, invites Catholic women to take part in a survey that will form part of a submission to the Synodal process. The survey takes about 10 minutes to complete and is available in six languages, with further information available here: <https://catholicwomenspeak.com/catholic-women-international-synod-survey>

PARTNERSHIP RETREAT TO AMPLEFORTH

A reminder that our annual retreat to Ampleforth Abbey is returning this year from Monday 25th - Wednesday 27th July and will be led by one of the monks from the Abbey. At the moment we have 10 people who are interested. This will not be enough to finance hiring a coach to take us there but it is just enough to make the retreat viable. It would mean that participants will have to organise their own transport but on the positive side the overall cost of the retreat will be reduced. If anyone else is interested in coming, please contact Pauline Keavey (Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish) on 0191 2521790 before 31st March so that a decision can be made about hiring a coach.

Contact email addresses, numbers and website:

Monsignor Andrew Faley	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 in our Parish. Telephone the number below if you have an enquiry.

Current Parish Office opening hours: Wednesday & Thursday, 9.15am - 4pm and Friday 9.15am - 2pm, 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 3.00pm on Wednesday.

MASSES & OTHER SERVICES	
DAY & DATE	CHURCH
Saturday 26th March	IMMACULATE HEART CHURCH 6pm People of the Parish
Sunday 27th March 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT	ST EDWARD'S CHURCH 10.00am Stephanie Thompson (AA)
Monday 28th March	No Mass
Tuesday 29th March	ST EDWARD'S CHURCH 9.00am Exposition 9.30am Mass: Maria Quinn (LL) 1.30pm Funeral Service Robert Ramsay
Wednesday 30th March	IMMACULATE HEART CHURCH 9.00am Exposition 9.30am Mass: Michael Wilson (Wilson family)
Thursday 31st March	ST EDWARD'S CHURCH 9.00am Exposition 9.30am Mass: Tom Bittle (KB)
Friday 1st April	IMMACULATE HEART CHURCH 9.00am Exposition 9.30am Word & Communion 7pm Stations of the Cross
Saturday 2nd April	IMMACULATE HEART CHURCH 6pm David Allan (MA)
Sunday 3rd April 5TH SUNDAY OF LENT	ST EDWARD'S CHURCH 10.00am People of the Parish

Please remember in your prayers:

David Johnson, Ann Stroud, Eileen Scott, Win Foley and Sarah Walton who are sick. Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time and for those who have died recently, especially Florence Palmejar, Dorothy Noble, Maria Quinn, Kathleen Myers, Maureen Barrett, Fr Harry Ryan, Robert Ramsay & Teresa Stark. May they rest in peace. Amen.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only son, our lord, **(at the words that follow, all bow.)** *who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,* suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. Amen

PRAYER FOR THE PEOPLE OF UKRAINE

Loving God,
we pray for the people of Ukraine,
for all those suffering or afraid,
that you will be close to them and protect them.
We pray for world leaders,
for compassion, strength and wisdom
to guide their choices.
We pray for the world that in this crisis:
may we reach out in solidarity
to our brothers and sisters in need.
May we walk in your ways
so that peace and justice become real
for the people of Ukraine
and for all the world.
Through Christ Our Lord. 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
4TH SUNDAY OF LENT, YEAR C, 26TH & 27TH MARCH 2022

First Reading

Joshua 5:9-12

The Lord said to Joshua, 'Today I have taken the shame of Egypt away from you.' The Israelites pitched their camp at Gilgal and kept the Passover there on the fourteenth day of the month, at evening in the plain of Jericho. On the morrow of the Passover they tasted the produce of that country, unleavened bread and roasted ears of corn, that same day. From that time, from their first eating of the produce of that country, the manna stopped falling. And having manna no longer, the Israelites fed from that year onwards on what the land of Canaan yielded.

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

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 33(34):2-7

We say the Psalm together

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| 1. I will bless the Lord at all times,
his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad. | 2. Glorify the Lord with me.
Together let us praise his name.
I sought the Lord and he answered me;
from all my terrors he set me free. |
| 3. Look towards him and be radiant;
let your faces not be abashed.
This poor man called, the Lord heard him
and rescued him from all his distress. | |

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

For anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here. It is all God's work. It was God who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the work of handing on this reconciliation. In other words, God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, not holding men's faults against them, and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled. So we are ambassadors for Christ; it is as though God were appealing through us, and the appeal that we make in Christ's name is: be reconciled to God. For our sake God made the sinless one into sin, so that in him we might become the goodness of God.

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

Gospel Acclamation

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.' Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus!

Gospel

Luke 15:1-3,11-32

The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. 'This man' they said 'welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he spoke this parable to them: 'A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, "Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me." So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery. 'When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything. Then he came to his senses and said, "How many of my father's paid servants have more food than they want, and here am I dying of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants." So he left the place and went back to his father. 'While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. Then his son said, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son." But the father said to his servants, "Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found." And they began to celebrate. 'Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. "Your brother has come" replied the servant "and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound." He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, "Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But, for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property – he and his women – you kill the calf we had been fattening." 'The father said, "My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it was only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found.'"

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