

## MASS READINGS

### THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

#### FIRST READING

*A Son is given to us.*

Isaiah 9:1-7

The people that walked in darkness has seen a great light; on those who live in a land of deep shadow a light has shone. You have made their gladness greater, you have made their joy increase; they rejoice in your presence as men rejoice at harvest time, as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils. For the yoke that was weighing on him, the barb across his shoulders, the rod of his oppressor, these you break as on the day of Midian. For all the footgear of battle, every cloak rolled in blood, is burnt, and consumed by fire. For there is a child born for us, a son given to us and dominion is laid on his shoulders; and this is the name they give him: Wonder-Counsellor, Mighty-God, Eternal-Father, Prince-of-Peace. Wide is his dominion in a peace that has no end, for the throne of David and for his royal power, which he establishes and makes secure in justice and integrity. From this time onwards and for ever, the jealous love of the Lord of Hosts will do this.

#### Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 95

**Response:** *Today a Saviour has been born to us; he is Christ the Lord.*

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|---|---|
| <p>1. O sing a new song to the Lord,<br/>sing to the Lord all the earth.<br/>O sing to the Lord, bless his name.</p>  | <p>2. Proclaim his help day by day,<br/>tell among the nations his glory<br/>and his wonders among all the peoples.</p> |
| <p>3. Let the heavens rejoice and earth be glad,<br/>let the sea and all within it thunder praise,<br/>let the land and all it bears rejoice,<br/>all the trees of the wood shout for joy<br/>at the presence of the Lord for he comes,<br/>he comes to rule the earth.</p> | <p>4. With justice he will rule the world,<br/>he will judge the peoples with his truth.</p>                            |

#### SECOND READING

Titus 2:11-14

*God's grace has been revealed to the whole human race.*

God's grace has been revealed, and it has made salvation possible for the whole human race and taught us that what we have to do is to give up everything that does not lead to God, and all our worldly ambitions; we must be self-restrained and live good and religious lives here in this present world, while we are waiting in hope for the blessing which will come with the Appearing of the glory of our great God and saviour Christ Jesus. He sacrificed himself for us in order to set us free from all wickedness and to purify a people so that it could be his very own and would have no ambition except to do good.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia! I bring you news of great joy:

today a saviour has been born to us, Christ the Lord. Alleluia!

#### GOPEL

Luke 2:1-14

*Today a saviour has been born to you.*

Caesar Augustus issued a decree for a census of the whole world to be taken. This census – the first – took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria, and everyone went to his own town to be registered. So Joseph set out from the town of Nazareth in Galilee and travelled up to Judaea, to the town of David called Bethlehem, since he was of David's House and line, in order to be registered together with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there the time came for her have her child, and she birth to a son, her first-born. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger because there was no room for them at the inn. In the countryside close by there were shepherds who lived in the fields and took it in turns to watch their flocks during the night. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone round them. They were terrified, but the angel said, 'Do not be afraid. Listen, I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the whole people. Today in the town of David a saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. And here is a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.' And suddenly with the angel there was a great throng of the heavenly host, praising God and singing: 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace to men who enjoy his favour.'

## 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 8.45am-12.45pm**

**Tel: 0191 2573408**

**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

Canon Martin Stempczyk ☎ 0191 251 3770

St Cuthbert's Church ☎ 0191 257 3408

#### Partnership Telephone Numbers

Father David Smith ☎ 0191 262 3882

Hospital Chaplaincy: ☎ 01670 712476

Deacon: Rev Stephen Boulter: ☎ 07816077858

## 24<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup> December 2022 – Christmas Day

### Masses, Devotions and Services

	St Cuthbert's Church	St Joseph's Church
<b>Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> December</b> <b>Christmas Night Mass</b>	<b>8:00pm: Mass:</b>	<b>5:00pm: Mass:</b>
<b>Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> December</b> <b>Christmas Day</b>	<b>10:00am: Mass: People of the Parish</b> <b>Live streamed</b>	
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>11.00am Mass</b>	
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> December		<b>9:30am: Mass:</b> Margaret Reay
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>9:30am: Mass:</b> Juozas,,Elena, Mikolas, Laimonas & Rita Gurskyte	
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> December		<b>9:30am: Mass:</b>
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>7:00pm: Mass:</b>	
<b>Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> December</b>		<b>5:30pm: Mass: People of the Parish</b>
<b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> January</b> <b>Feast of Mary Mother of God</b>	<b>11:00am: Mass:</b> Neil and Bill Henderson <b>Live streamed</b>	

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

**What'sApp 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 Intentions for Advent: peace in all areas of conflict; expectant mothers, migrants and refugees., the homeless. 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, Mary Quinn, Eleanor Robson, Vera Reay, Paul Atkinson, Leigh Miranda and Bishop Robert

Please pray for Christine Jenson, Michael Redican, Margaret Reay, Tony Cocalis, Molly Gregory and all those who have died recently.

### Liturgies for the New Year

Over the New Year Period these will be the following times of the key Christmas Celebrations

Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> December 5.30pm St Joseph's - Vigil Mass for the Feast of the of Mary Mother of God  
Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> January 11.00am St Cuthbert's - Mass for the Feast of the of Mary Mother of God

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> January 9.30 am St Cuthbert's - Mass for the Feast of the Epiphany  
Friday 6<sup>th</sup> January 7.00pm St Joseph's - Mass for the Feast of the Epiphany

### Christmas 2022

'Today a Saviour has been born for you, he is Christ the Lord'  
I will admit that I sigh when I hear versions of the well-known story of the birth of Jesus that decide to omit the start of the story where we are told that Augustus was emperor and Quirinius was the Governor. I appreciate they may not be the easiest names for children to read but their mention is really important. It not by accident that the powerful and the powerless, that is shepherds are mentioned in the same story. Shepherds symbolise all those who are deemed to be at the bottom of society. Luke is telling us that the saviour of all humanity is for ALL humanity. No -one is beyond the love and mercy of God.

After another challenging year, we come together that God is still 'Emmanuel, God-with-us, sharing in our sorrows but calling us to share in his life. As we share our gifts with loved ones may we open to the God who gives, who gives himself, so despite the challenges and the setbacks we know that it is 'God' self-giving' that makes us as the poet Gerard Manley Hopkins says' immortal diamonds' Through the gift of God received in stable at Bethlehem, may we know we truly are God's immortal diamond

Wishing you and all those you love a blessed and joy-filled Christ,  
Grace, peace and prayers for you all, Fr Chri

### Requiem Mass

The Requiem Mass for Margaret Reay will be on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January at St Joseph's at 9.30am.  
May she rest in peace.

### Trinity Charity Shop

I have this week received the latest dividend from the Trinity Charity Shop, on Wallsend Road, near St Joseph's, which was a cheque of £4,600. A great total! I am grateful to all who contribute in any way, especially our great and faithful team of volunteers on a Thursday. Well done! Your hard work is much appreciated!.

### Mercy Associates Parcel Appeal

Thank you to everyone who donated items for our Christmas Parcel appeal. The parcels will be made up and taken into St Joseph's School for distribution on Friday December 16<sup>th</sup>..

The Mercy Associates and the school greatly appreciate your support and generosity. We wish you all a very happy and grace filled Christmas.

### The Universe Catholic Weekly

is true to its mission of being "a light to guide the world, and a mirror to reflect it" Keeping Catholics informed about their faith, and bringing them ever closer to God. In order to keep our high standard going and maintain a strong weekly Catholic voice at a time when it is much needed in the world, please consider taking out a subscription. We have an excellent website full of trustworthy articles and an online shop with all subscribers receiving a 10% discount.

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We invite you to submit articles/news and celebrations about your local parish activities

### Live Simply Tip

Living Simply is based on the following three strands:

- living simply
- living in solidarity with people in poverty
- living sustainably with creation.

This week's tip: Make sure all your Christmas wrapping paper removed from presents and any empty bottles go in the recycling

### 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.

### Parish Finance – Standing Orders

If you would like to set up a Standing Order the details of the parish account are:  
Name: DHN North Shields St Cuthbert & St Joseph  
Bank: HSBC, Sort code: 40-34-45,  
Account number 91146513

### Cost of Living Crisis

If you, family, friends or members of your community are struggling to make ends meet please go to the following website for I hope useful advice  
<https://helpforhouseholds.campaign.gov.uk/>

### Looking Back on 2022.

In this last week-end of 2022, it is an opportunity to look back and give thanks. It is easy to forget that last year we will still limited by Covid restrictions. Slowly but surely parish life has resumed to some sort of normality we know before the pandemic. It has been heartening to see how the parish social group has regrouped and were able to organise a lovely ( and profitable) coffee morning last month. It has been heartening to know that the parish is concerned to help the local community with the cost of living crisis. I am delighted that the parish has applied to CAFOD to receive the 'Live Simply Award' and we hope to hear some good news soon from CAFOD about this.

It has been very heartening to see the way the parish has worked to ensure that with Tyneside Welcomes, we have been able to welcome the Al Hamoudi family into St Cuthbert's presbytery. It is a wonderful sign of the generosity and welcome of our community. I have also been inspired by our young people in their campaign to ensure 16-17 year old do not have to pay adult bus fares. As part of our concern for the environment I am very grateful to the efforts of Paul Ladler on the side garden which now has some of Fr Michael Hickey's sculptures. I would like this part of the garden to be called this the 'Fr Michael Hickey Memorial Garden'.

I will cherish the memory of reading out St John's Passion narrative in the open air. I am always open to creative way the good news can be announced to others.

I am also aware that this year as a parish we lost many much loved parishioners who made massive contributions to our parish over many years. They are sorely missed but their impact and the memory of that they contributed will live on.

I am also conscious that we have also welcomed new parishioners, not just those who have been baptised, but those who come into the parish. We hope that feel welcomed and that they belong to the community able to feel free to contribute as much as they can.

I appreciate that with the resignation of Bishop Robert, we are at a time of uncertainty as a diocese. The diocesan submission to the national synod process acknowledged that trust has broken down between clergy and laity. I sincerely hope that this trust can be developed even at a time of transition.

The synod process has encouraged us to be a listening community. Tyne and Wear Citizens which the parish is one of the 33 members, has also started a listening campaign n to discover what is now putting pressure on people, your families and your communities during this cost of living crisis. You will as a parish have the opportunity to reflect on these questions in the new year. I am convinced that by sharing and being open to each other the Spirit can work through us.

At the end of the year I am also aware that of the massive contribution so many of you make to the parish. Some of that is financial and some of it is your generous gift of time, energy and gifts. So much of your contributions are carried out 'behind the scenes' and I am sure that I am not aware of al that people do but your generosity, faith and commitment to the parish is much appreciated. On a personal note I am very grateful for your support and encouragement. I have been able to keep all my bones in one piece this year -hurrah!- and my ankle is always gradually improving I am also grateful for your generosity at Christmas, your kindness and generosity is much appreciated.

Who knows what 2023 will offer, but we continue to be a parish of faith, hope and love, focused on the life, death and risen life of Christ, who continued presence among us is our source of love, peace, joy and hope. My phrase of 2023 has been 'sacraments of consolation'. Christ is the ultimate sacrament of consolation, may we know the depth of this consolation so that we can share this precious gift with others.

### A Prayer for Ukraine

Holy and Gracious God. We pray for the people of the Ukraine and the people of Russia; for their countries and their leaders.

We pray for all those who are afraid; that your everlasting arms hold them in this time of great fear.

We pray for all those who have the power over life and death; that they will choose for all people life, and life in all its fullness.

We pray for those who choose war; that they will remember that you direct your people to turn our swords into ploughshares and seek for peace.

We pray for leaders on the world stage; that they are inspired by the wisdom and courage of Christ. Above all, Lord, today we pray for peace for Ukraine. And we ask this in the name of your blessed Son. Lord have mercy. Amen.