

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD, YEAR A, 24TH & 25TH DECEMBER 2022

The Cycle of Prayer

Advent and Christmas

During Advent and Christmastide, we pray for these intentions: **Migrants and Refugees; Expectant Mothers.**

CHRISTMAS THANKS AND PRAYERS

Thank you all very much for your many lovely Christmas cards and gifts, and messages of gratitude and support. We also say thanks to those who so generously decorated our churches, and prepared the Christmas Masses, as well as remembering in our prayers our visitors, families and friends. May Our Lord fill you with His love this Christmas, and shower you with His blessings for the New Year. Monsignor Andrew.

ST EDWARD'S CHURCH - MASS LIVE-STREAMING

We are delighted that live-streaming has been installed in St Edward's Church. To access the live-stream, go to the YouTube website and search for 'St Edward's Whitley Bay'. The live-stream starts five minutes before Mass on Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

FUNERALS

- Please pray for the repose of the soul of Herbert Meldrum of Seaview Care Home, Whitley Bay, who died on 12 December, aged 84 years. Requiem Mass will be celebrated at 1.00pm on 9 January at St Edward's Church, Whitley Bay, followed by burial at Whitley Bay Cemetery. May he rest in peace. Amen.

NO SUNDAY REFRESHMENTS

There won't be any refreshments in the Parish Rooms at St Edward's following the 10.00am Masses on Sunday, 25 December and 1 January.

NEW PARISH BOUNDARIES

The Diocese has carried out a revision of its parish boundaries, and a copy of the Bishop's decree of authorisation and a map showing our Parish's boundaries are displayed in St Edward's Narthex, as requested by the Bishop.

FOOD BANK

Thank you all so much for your incredible generosity over the last few weeks. The food bank has been astonished at the amount that people have donated at a time when money is scarce. If you are able to continue to donate there is still a huge need for the basic foodstuffs. Monday 19 December was the last collection day for the Food Bank. Collections re-commence on Monday 9 January when we would be grateful for long life milk, meatballs, coffee and toothpaste/toothbrush. Thank you once again.

JOURNEY OF FAITH

The next Journey of Faith meeting is on Tuesday 10 January at the usual time of 7pm.

WALKING GROUP

The next walk will be on Monday 16 January. This will be a short local walk finishing in a pub for lunch. If you want to go, please give your names to Peter Weighill on 0191 2512917 or e-mail peterweighill@aol.co.uk. Closing date to book the meal is 5 January. More details to follow in the New Year.

JUDGE FAMILY THANKS

Norman's family would like to acknowledge Fr Andrew, the community of St Edwards and all his friends for giving him such a loving send-off on his final journey. We now know he will be resting in peace.

NORTHERN CATHOLIC CALENDARS

The 2023 edition of the Northern Catholic Calendar is now available at the back of each Church. Ringbound copies are £3.50.

OTHER NOTICES

A WARM WELCOME IN WHITLEY BAY

Some of the churches in the Whitley Bay area have opened their doors to the public. They offer a warm, safe place, something to drink and a friendly welcome, and all completely free. Monday, St Paul's Anglican Church, Whitley Bay: 9.00am – 1.00pm. Tuesday, Whitley Bay Baptist Church, Park Avenue: 9.00am – 5.00pm. Wednesday, Hillheads Community Church, Kingsley Avenue: 10.00am – 4.00pm. Thursday, The Bay Church, Whitley Road: 9.30am – 3.00pm. Friday, St John's Methodist Church, Ilfracombe Gardens: 9.00am – 1.00pm.

SEVERE WEATHER EMERGENCY PROTOCOL (SWEP) NIGHT SHELTER

November to March, when the 'feels-like' temperature drops to zero degrees and below, a SWEP Night Shelter will operate for rough sleepers in Whitley Bay at Oxford Street Methodist Church. Volunteers are needed to help run the shelter. Can you, or someone in your church, help? Contact SWEP Coordinator: whitleybay@streetpastors.org.uk or phone 07549 015896.

**THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD, READINGS AT THE VIGIL
MASSES, 24TH DECEMBER**

First Reading — 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 bar 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. The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 95(96):1-3,11-13

O sing a new song to the Lord, sing to the Lord all the earth.
O sing to the Lord, bless his name.

Proclaim his help day by day, tell among the nations his glory and his wonders among all the peoples.
Let the heavens rejoice and earth be glad, let the sea and all within it thunder praise, let the land and all it bears rejoice, all the trees of the wood shout for joy at the presence of the Lord for he comes, he comes to rule the earth.

With justice he will rule the world, he will judge the peoples with his truth.

Second Reading — Titus 2:11-14

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

Gospel Acclamation Lk2:10-11

Alleluia, alleluia!

I bring you news of great joy: today a saviour has been born to us, Christ the Lord.

Alleluia!

Gospel — Luke 2:1-14

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 to have her child, and she gave 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 gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

Please remember in your prayers: Ann Stroud, Win Foley, Eileen Scott, Don Williams, John Steele & Ron Lowes who are sick. Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time and those who have died recently, especially Margaret Joicey, Agnes Speedie, Sarah Walton, Francis Kelman, Norman Judge and Herbert Meldrum. May they rest in peace. Amen.

Contact email addresses, numbers and website:

Monsignor Andrew Faley	stedwardsne26@btconnect.com	0191 2528021
Star of the Sea Primary School	starofthesea.primary@ntl.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 24th December CHRISTMAS EVE	ST EDWARD'S CHURCH 9.30am Matthieu Flesselles (former St Edward's Choir) ST EDWARD'S CHURCH 5.00pm Carols & Mass Mary Annan (TA) IMMACULATE HEART CHURCH 7.00pm Carols & Mass People of the Parish
Sunday 25th December THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD	ST EDWARD'S CHURCH 10.00am Gerry Rafferty (M&JC)
Monday 26th December ST STEPHEN	ST EDWARD'S CHURCH 10.00am Tom, Margaret & Paul Thomson (MS)
Tuesday 27th December ST JOHN	ST EDWARD'S CHURCH 9.30am Gerry Rafferty (RR)
Wednesday 28th December THE HOLY INNOCENTS	IMMACULATE HEART CHURCH 9.30am Peggy Lazzari/Mary Graham (MME)
Thursday 29th December ST THOMAS BECKET	ST EDWARD'S CHURCH 9.30am Alex Caraczun (AL)
Friday 30th December THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH	IMMACULATE HEART CHURCH 9.30am Michael O'Neill (MA)
Saturday 31st December SEVENTH DAY IN THE OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS	ST EDWARD'S CHURCH 9.30am Catherine Kimmitt (JK) IMMACULATE HEART CHURCH 6.00pm People of the Parish
Sunday 1st January MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD	ST EDWARD'S CHURCH 10.00am Marian Dynes (JC)
BAPTISM	ST EDWARD'S CHURCH
Sunday 8th January 11.30am	Laura Jay Murphy

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 kneel or 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 The Chaplaincy on 0191 2934268 or Father Sebastian on 01670 712476

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.

CHRISTMAS MORNING READINGS — SUNDAY, 25 DECEMBER, 10.00AM MASS

First Reading

Isaiah 52:7-10

How beautiful on the mountains, are the feet of one who brings good news, who heralds peace, brings happiness, proclaims salvation, and tells Zion, 'Your God is king!' Listen! Your watchmen raise their voices, they shout for joy together, for they see the Lord face to face, as he returns to Zion. Break into shouts of joy together, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord is consoling his people, redeeming Jerusalem. The Lord bares his holy arm in the sight of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

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

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 97(98):1-6

We say the Psalm together

1. Sing a new song to the Lord
for he has worked wonders.
His right hand and his holy arm
have brought salvation.
2. The Lord has made known his salvation;
has shown his justice to the nations.
He has remembered his truth and love
for the house of Israel.
3. All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.
Shout to the Lord, all the earth,
ring out your joy.
4. Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp
with the sound of music.
With trumpets and the sound of the horn
acclaim the King, the Lord.

Second Reading

Hebrews 1:1-6

At various times in the past and in various different ways, God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; but in our own time, the last days, he has spoken to us through his Son, the Son that he has appointed to inherit everything and through whom he made everything there is. He is the radiant light of God's glory and the perfect copy of his nature, sustaining the universe by his powerful command; and now that he has destroyed the defilement of sin, he has gone to take his place in heaven at the right hand of divine Majesty. So he is now as far above the angels as the title which he has inherited is higher than their own name. God has never said to any angel: *You are my Son, today I have become your father; or: I will be a father to him and he a son to me.* Again, when he brings the First-Born into the world, he says: *Let all the angels of God worship him.*

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

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! A hallowed day has dawned upon us. Come, you nations, worship the Lord, for today a great light has shone down upon the earth. Alleluia!

Gospel

John 1:1-18

In the beginning was the Word: and the Word was with God and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things came to be, not one thing had its being but through him. All that came to be had life in him and that life was the light of men, a light that shines in the dark, a light that darkness could not overpower. A man came, sent by God. His name was John. He came as a witness, as a witness to speak for the light, so that everyone might believe through him. He was not the light, only a witness to speak for the light. The Word was the true light that enlightens all men; and he was coming into the world. He was in the world that had its being through him, and the world did not know him. He came to his own domain and his own people did not accept him. But to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God, to all who believe in the name of him who was born not out of human stock or urge of the flesh or will of man but of God himself. The Word was made flesh, he lived among us, and we saw his glory, the glory that is his as the only Son of the Father, full of grace and truth. John appears as his witness. He proclaims: 'This is the one of whom I said: He who comes after me ranks before me because he existed before me.' Indeed, from his fullness we have, all of us, received – yes, grace in return for grace, since, though the Law was given through Moses, grace and truth have come through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God; it is the only Son, who is nearest to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

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