

MASS READINGS

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – YEAR A
FIRST READING

They elected seven men full of the Holy Spirit.

About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: in the daily distribution their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, ‘It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you, brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to the service of the word.’ The whole assembly approved of this proposal and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. The word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in Jerusalem was greatly increased, and a large group of priests made their submission to the faith.

Responsorial Psalm

Response: **May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.**

1. Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just; for praise is fitting for loyal hearts. Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp, with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs.

2. For the word of the Lord is faithful and all his works to be trusted. The Lord loves justice and right and fills the earth with his love.
3. The Lord looks on those who revere him, on those who hope in his love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine.

SECOND READING

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood.

The Lord is the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him; set yourselves close to him so that you too, the holy priesthood that offers the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God, may be living stones making a spiritual house. As scripture says: See how I lay in Zion a precious cornerstone that I have chosen and the man who rests his trust on it will not be disappointed. That means that for you who are believers, it is precious; but for unbelievers, the stone rejected by the builders has proved to be the keystone, a stone to stumble over, a rock to bring men down. They stumble over it because they do not believe in the word; it was the fate in store for them. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus said: ‘I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me.’ Alleluia!

GOSPEL

I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still, and trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father’s house; if there were not, I should have told you. I am going now to prepare a place for you, and after I have gone and prepared you a place, I shall return to take you with me; so that where I am you may be too. You know the way to the place where I am going.’ Thomas said, ‘Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?’ Jesus said: ‘I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me. If you know me, you know my Father too. From this moment you know him and have seen him.’ Philip said, ‘Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied.’ ‘Have I been with you all this time, Philip,’ said Jesus to him ‘and you still do not know me? ‘To have seen me is to have seen the Father, so how can you say, “Let us see the Father”? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself: it is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work. You must believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; believe it on the evidence of this work, if for no other reason. I tell you most solemnly, whoever believes in me will perform the same works as I do myself, he will perform even greater works, because I am going to the Father.’

Acts 6:1-7

Psalm 32

Peter 2:4-9

John 14:1-12

The Parish of Saint Cuthbert and Saint Joseph, North Shields

Saint Cuthbert Catholic Church <i>Albion Road West North Shields</i>	Tynemouth Priory Partnership 	Saint Joseph Catholic Church <i>Wallsend Road North Shields</i>
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		
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	

6th/7th May 2023 – 5th Sunday of Easter– A

Masses, Devotions and Services		
	St Cuthbert’s Church	St Joseph’s Church
Saturday 6 th May		5:30pm: Mass: People of the Parish
Sunday 7th May 5th Sunday of Easter- A	11:00am: Mass: Live streamed	
Monday 8th May		
Tuesday 9 th May		9:30am: Mass:
Wednesday 10 th May	9:30am: Word and Communion	
Thursday 11 th May		9:30am: Mass:
Friday 12 th May	7:00pm:	
Saturday 13 th May		5:30pm: Mass: Denis Jones
Sunday 14th May 6th Sunday of Easter- A	11:00am: Mass: People of the Parish Live streamed	

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
Parish office: 0191 257 3408

Prayer Intentions for Eastertide: :New members of the Church; Vocations; The Right Use of the Media; the Church; Human Work

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, Francis McSherry, Bishop Robert, Mary Kidd and Margaret Burfield.

Please pray Rose Anne Patterson and for all who have died recently.

5th Sunday of Easter

I think the readings for this and the following Sunday are helping us to prepare for the feasts of Ascension and Pentecost. Although the Risen Christ is no longer physically with us he is still present, concealed but still here and active, leading us to the Father. As I will be saying in my homily, Christ is the ultimate Sacrament, that outward sign of inward grace and that there are many other ‘Sacraments of THE Sacraments. What are the outward signs of inward grace that lead you to the Crucified and Risen Christ who reveals and leads us to the Father

Sarah’s Star Death Cafe

The 8th - 14th May is dying matters week. Please join us on Tuesday 9th May 6pm - 8pm at St Cuthbert's church hall for an open discussion about death and dying. This is not a grief group it is a place to discuss your thoughts on death and listen while others discuss theirs. We use cards with questions to prompt conversation within groups of 4-6 people. In life we plan for births and wedding but many people don’t consider planning for death. How empowering would it be to prepare and let loved ones know what your wishes are for your death and funeral, at the end of the day this will be the celebration of your life. As we are a charity any donations are welcome. A sign-up sheet will be available at the parish.

Diocesan Investigations

Archbishop Malcolm has published the executive summary of the Canonical Investigation. It is on the Diocesan Website and can be found at: <https://diocesehn.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Canonical-Investigation-Executive-Summary.pdf>

The conclusion is:

“ I emphasise that it was a succession of errors of judgement by Bishop Byrne that exacerbated the key issues above. In my view, he himself was unable to see a path forward, and his failure to see his part in these situations made clear his inability to cope with the demands of his role. Bishop Byrne’s resignation was accepted by Pope Francis on 12 December 2022”.

Three errors of judgement made by Bishop Robert have been identified. The first is the purchase of a house in one of the most exclusive and expensive parts of the North East. A house could have bought in a less conspicuous part of the diocese at lower cost. “This would have been a sign of his willingness to come closer to his people.”

The second error was to appoint Canon Michael McCoy as the Dean of Cathedral when in the past there had been two occasions when Canon McCoy had been the subject of safeguarding plans regarding boundaries relevant to working with older teenagers. At the time of the Cathedral appointment there were no knowledge of police investigations.

The third area of concern was the Bishop’s association with Fr Tim Gardner OP, a convicted paedophile. He was advised that any association with him would be inappropriate but this priest stayed with the Bishop on a number of occasions and they were seen together.

The investigation did not find evidence of ‘wild sex parties’ as alleged in the papers but the offering of food and alcohol to Cathedral staff after Cathedral events were at the time in breach of Covid regulations in force at the time. Northumbria Police have twice investigated this and have decided not to take any action. Archbishop Malcolm has also made the following point

“There are other matters that have emerged leading up to and following Bishop Byrne’s resignation which are internal to the diocese of Hexham and Newcastle and are not directly of public interest. I do not propose to comment on these, save to say that there are no concerns in terms of governance or the operation of the Diocese. “

A Course in Christian Mediation

One of our parishioners, Ali Hain, has a keen interest in Christian Mediation. He has kindly offered to facilitate a course on Christian Mediation. This will be running at St Cuthbert’s, starting on the evening of 30th May 2023 at 7pm. The course builds on the teaching of the founder of the World Community for Christian Meditation (WCCM) the Rev Dom John Main OSB, giving practical guidance on Christian Meditation. The last session will be on July 4th.

There are 6 sessions:- The first on May 30th will be : What is Christian Meditation?

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: This week’s tip: The Bay foodbank has issued an appeal for donations. Demand is higher than ever, and stocks are at an all-time low. You can donate via their website, <https://www.thebayfoodbank.org.uk>, they also have bins in Morrisons and Sainsbury’s, or direct to the foodbank, address: Meadow Well Way, Waterville Road, North Shields, NE29 6BA.

Christian Aid Week

Christian Aid Week is 14-20 May Envelopes are at the back of Church to take and return. A Coffee Morning will take place on Saturday 10.00am at St Columba’s URC Church on Northumberland Square The annual Christian Aid Service hosted by Churches Together North Shields will be on Sunday 14th May at 6pm at Christ Church. All are welcome.

Proud Catholics - AGM

Do you identify as LGBT+ or are you questioning your sexual or gender identity? Would you like to attend a support group run by and for LGBT+ Catholics in the North East? We meet on the third Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm at St Andrew's RC Church, Worswick Street. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, 16th May at 7.30pm (BST). We will hold our Annual General Meeting, where we will review the year, plan for the future, and hold elections for the coming year's Committee. It will be possible to connect through Zoom (get in touch for the link). The AGM will be followed by our usual bring-and-share refreshments. All are welcome. For more information, phone Isabel on 07858 934457, email proud.catholics@yahoo.com, or visit our website <http://www.proud Catholics.co.uk>.

Partnership Retreat To Ampleforth

Our annual retreat to Ampleforth Abbey this year is from Monday 24th - Wednesday 26th July and will be led by one of the monks from the Abbey. The total price, which includes full board and transport, is likely to be about £215 but the exact amount will depend on final numbers. All rooms in The Grange are now en-suite. A deposit of £75 will be needed by Sunday 30th April, in order to confirm your booking. If you would like more information about the Abbey, the website address is www.ampleforthabbey.org.uk. Please contact Pauline Keavey (Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish) on 2521790 if you would like to come or for more details.

Lecture at Holy Name Jesmond

The renowned historian Professor Eamon Duffy, also a frequent broadcaster on radio and television, is visiting Holy Name Church, Jesmond, Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 3JX, on Saturday 20 May at 11am to give an entertaining and informative lecture about a period and subject which will be new to most audiences. He will tell the fascinating story of Father Robert Benson, the most famous Catholic Priest in Edwardian England, and his extraordinary family. Fr Benson’s father was Archbishop of Canterbury, while one brother wrote “Land of Hope and Glory” and the other wrote the Mapp and Lucia novels. Booking is not required, doors open at 10.30am and all are welcome.

St Cuthberts Missio Box (APF Red Box)

Could all box holders please bring their box for emptying or if you would like them emptied at home, telephone Pauline 2581456 or Kath 2577041 to arrange details. Thank you,

Trinity Charity Shop

The parish has recently received our quarterly cheque of £4,400 from the Trinity Charity Shop Committee. A big thank-you to all who contribute to the shop in anyway. Special thanks to our parishioners who work every Thursday to ensure that we receive 20% of all takings. Well done! Your hard work is much appreciated.

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

Parish Celebration Coronation of King Charles III Sunday – 7th May 2023

On Sunday May 7th following the 11am Mass at St Cuthberts we are planning a “Street Party”- within the Parish Centre and grounds.

There will be a shared table (a list for people wishing to contribute to the table will be available on the notice boards at both churches).

Entry is free. There will be a raffle, proceeds going to the Food Bank and Nite Bite. Contributions in kind will also be welcomed.

Start time for those not worshipping at St Cuthberts on that morning is expected to be 12.30.

Please feel free to invite your families and friends to join us.

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.