

**MASS READINGS – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter - C**

**First reading**

**Acts 5:12-16**

**‘More than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women.’**

Many signs and wonders were regularly done among the people by the hands of the Apostles. And they were all together in the Solomon’s Portico. None of the rest dared join them, but the people held them in high esteem. And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, so that they even carried out the sick into the streets and laid them on cots and mats, that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. The people also gathered from the towns round Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed.

**Responsorial Psalm**

**Psalm 118**

**Response: Give praise to the LORD for he is good, his mercy endures for ever.**

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| <p>1. Let the house of Israel say,<br/>‘His mercy endures for ever.’<br/>Let the house of Aaron say,<br/>‘His mercy endures for ever.’<br/>Let those who fear the LORD say,<br/>‘His mercy endures for ever.’</p>                              | <p>2. The stone that the builders rejected<br/>has become the cornerstone.<br/>By the LORD has this been done,<br/>a marvel in our eyes.<br/>This is the day the LORD has made;<br/>let us rejoice in it and be glad.</p> |
| <p>3. We beseech you, O LORD, grant salvation;<br/>we beseech you, O LORD, grant success.<br/>Blest is he who comes<br/>in the name of the LORD.<br/>We bless you from the house of the LORD;<br/>the LORD is God, and has given us light.</p> |   |

**Second reading**

**Revelation 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19**

**‘I died, and behold I am alive for evermore.’**

I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. I was in the Spirit on the Lord’s day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet saying, ‘Write what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches.’ Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash round his chest. When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, ‘Fear not, I am the first and the last, and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive for evermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades. Write therefore the things that you have seen, those that are and those that are to take place after this.’

**Gospel Acclamation**

**John 20:29**

Alleluia, alleluia. You believed, Thomas, because you have seen me, says the Lord.  
Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed. Alleluia.

**Gospel**


**John 20:19-31**

**‘Eight days later, Jesus came.’**

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, ‘Peace be with you.’ When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, ‘Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.’ And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld.’ Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So, the other disciples told him, ‘We have seen the Lord’. But he said to them, ‘Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.’ Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, ‘Peace be with you.’ Then he said to Thomas, ‘Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve but believe.’ Thomas answered him, ‘My Lord and my God!’ Jesus said to him, ‘Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.’

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

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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>
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Parish website information at: <a href="http://www.northtynesidecatholic.org.uk">http://www.northtynesidecatholic.org.uk</a>		
<b>Parish Schools</b> St Thomas More High School: <a href="https://stmacademy.org.uk/">https://stmacademy.org.uk/</a> St Cuthbert’s Primary School: <a href="https://www.stcuthbertsrcprimary.co.uk/">https://www.stcuthbertsrcprimary.co.uk/</a> St Joseph’s Primary School: <a href="https://www.stjosephsrc-primary.co.uk/">https://www.stjosephsrc-primary.co.uk/</a>		
<b>Partnership Telephone Numbers</b> Monsignor Andrew Faley ☎ 0191 252 8021 St Mary’s Cullercoats ☎ 0191 251 3770 St Cuthbert’s Church ☎ 0191 257 3408	<b>Partnership Telephone Numbers</b> Father David Smith ☎ 0191 262 3882 Hospital Chaplaincy: ☎ 01670 712476 Deacon: Rev Stephen Boulter: ☎ 07768 387393	

26 <sup>th</sup> /27 <sup>th</sup> April 2025 – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter – C			
Masses, Devotions and Services			
	St Cuthbert’s	St Joseph’s	Our Lady & St Oswin’s
Saturday 26 <sup>th</sup> April		5:30pm: Mass Pope Francis	
Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup> April 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter - C	11:00am: Mass: People of the Parish Live stream		9:30am: Mass: People of the Parish
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> April			
Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> April			11:00am: Requiem Mass for Cormac Gray
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> April	9.30am: Mass: Deceased Members of the O’Kane Family		
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> May		9:30am: Mass: Feast of St Joseph the Worker	
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	7:00pm: Mass		
Saturday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May		5:30pm: Mass People of the Parish	
Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> May 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter - C	11:00am: Mass: Audrey Watson Live stream		9:30am: Mass: Isabella Mason

The Parish of St Cuthbert’s and St Joseph’s, North Shields	
<b>WhatsApp group:</b>	text your name & number to 07752009361 to be added to <i>StCuthStJosNshields</i> Group
<b>Facebook:</b>	search - - The Parish of Saint Cuthbert and Saint Joseph, North Shields.
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.northtynesidecatholic.org.uk">www.northtynesidecatholic.org.uk</a>
<b>Parish office:</b>	0191 257 3408

## Parish Contacts

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*Holy Communion for Sick and Housebound:* Doreen Hull

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Prayer Intentions for Lent: 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; Elderly in Poverty.

We pray for all who are sick, including Ros McGann, Sarah Harrison, Scott Oakley, Jean Slater, Barbara & Tony Hicks, Richard Sutherland, Irene Keenaghan, Eileen Stevens, Paula More, Mary Quinn, Paul Atkinson, Francis McSherry, Mary Kidd, Tom Wright, Mary Rowley, Antoni Kulik, Peter Chester. Please pray for Luke McAndrew, Tommy Campion Cormac Gray, Pope Francis and for all those who have died recently.

## Pope Francis

I burst into tears when I heard of the death of Pope Francis. It was a mixture of gratitude for his papacy and a sense of uncertainty for the future. I am so grateful for the papacy of Francis. He was such an inspiration, a challenging one at times but also a source of hope. As we remember Pope Francis, we pray for the 135 Cardinals (3 of whom are British) that will elect his successor, that they are open to the Spirit

## 2nd Sunday of Easter

The Gospel for the final day of the Easter Octave is always the same. It is the Gospel that focuses on Thomas, who refuses to believe that Jesus is risen from the dead.

This Gospel has three important aspects in our understanding and following of the risen Lord.

3 times in the Gospel we hear the phrase 'Peace be with you'. Peace is an important aspect of the resurrection.

Peace is not simply an absence of violence or a sense of tranquillity. It is 'shalom', a Jewish word, that means unity with God. God seeks that deep integration and union, that sense of shalom, with us all.

In this Gospel we also from the doubts of Thomas an unequivocal expression from him of the divinity of Christ. He does not simply say 'yes you are risen', but 'My Lord and My God'. This shows the deep connection between incarnation and resurrection. The risen Lord is an expression of Christ, human and divine. This humanity of Christ is also revealed in another important aspect of the story. The wounds to which Thomas is invited to place his

hands are integral to the risen Lord. His glory is manifested but also his vulnerability and pain. I note they are not scars but wounds, wounds that are a channel of risen Lord. I am reminded of the Lenoard Cohen phrase, where he praises the 'cracks, since that where the light comes in'. The wounds are apertures for his life to pour out and for us to enter in. May we know the power of the risen yet wounded Lord and share his glory with others. Peace be with you

## Thank-you

The feedback for the Triduum and Easter Liturgies has been very positive. So many people have contributed in the three Churches I now preside at, to ensure that the Holy Week Triduum celebration are a fitting celebration of the Paschal Mystery. I am very grateful to all those who in some ways have contributed in making Holy Week a time of inspiration and devotion. The level of co-operation between the 3 communities has been wonderful to see. Your efforts are much appreciated. Thank-you.

## Congratulations

Last weekend we will had the joy of welcoming four people into the Church and celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation. They are: Adam Morley, Joanna Tarelli-Senior, Susanne Varga and William Jarrett. It has been a joy to get to know them over recent months. Please make them feel welcome as they fully join our family of faith. My thanks to all those who have helped prepare them for their reception and celebration of the Sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Communion.

## From the family of Luke McAndrew.

"We send our deepest thanks for all the Masses, prayers, cards and expressions of sympathy we have received following Luke's sudden death at the age of eighteen. We have felt the warmth and love of the wider community uplift us in the sad days following his passing. A special word of thanks to Fr. Chris for his gentle guidance and wisdom."

## Divine Mercy Sunday

There will be a celebration for Divine Mercy Sunday, this Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2.30pm at St Mary's Cullercoats, lead by Fr Noel Coalahan.

## Larger and Lectio

This initiative of combining a time of prayer and some social time has come from two young adults in our community, two sisters, Toni and Imi Ward. They have been formed and influenced by Benedictine spirituality. One aspect of this spirituality is a slow reading of the scriptures in silence with an opportunity to share with others in 'spiritual conversation'. They seek to lead this the third Thursday of the month, with the first session on Thursday May 15<sup>th</sup> at St Cuthbert's. The 'lectio' is compulsory but not the lager!

If other people have creative ideas for any aspect discipleship and ministry, like this one, please feel free to share with me.

## CAFOD Myanmar Earthquake Appeal

Following the devastating earthquake in Myanmar, CAFOD is responding through the Catholic Church there to support families affected by the disaster. Your donations will provide essentials like water, food, solar lights, and mosquito nets. Please give to CAFOD's Myanmar Earthquake Appeal in church or you can donate online at [cafod.org.uk/myanmar](http://cafod.org.uk/myanmar) or by calling 0303 303 3030. You can also text EARTHQUAKE to 70450 to donate £10.

## Confirmations July 16<sup>th</sup>

Bishop Stephen will be Confirming our candidates for Confirmation on July 16<sup>th</sup>. There are letters for possible candidates at the back of Church. You need to be a Year 9 pupil or older to be on the programme. The programme starts on April 30<sup>th</sup>. If you or your child is not at St Thomas More School please contact Fr Chris. Pupils at St Thomas More will receive information from the school about the programme.

## Tyne and Wear Citizens Training

On Saturdays 10<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> May the parish is hosting training on Community Organising. If you think that we can be powerless, this training shows how working together with other institutions in civic society can make a difference. Just in North Shields alone, the North Shields Hub, to which the parish is a member, we have improved a local park, had traffic calming measure introduced, got dog muck bins installed, improved the interior design of the local Children and Adolescent Mental Health Service clinic, got cheaper bus fares for 22,000 young people and begun a campaign to improve the town centre, housed a refugee family in the presbytery. If you would like to do the training, please sign up at: <https://actionnetwork.org/events/introduction-to-community-organising-training-may-2025/> Please visit [www.diocesehn.org.uk/job-vacancies](http://www.diocesehn.org.uk/job-vacancies) for full details or contact us on 0191 243 3301.

## Day of Consolation

Led by Chris Smith. Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> May from 10am to 4pm and Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November from 10am to 4pm. An opportunity to join us on this poignant retreat day for people who have experienced bereavement, grief, loss or significant change. This day will offer them an opportunity to share a safe space, to be heard, to share with others who have had similar experiences and hopefully to find courage, hope and consolation. Lunch and refreshments are included. Suggested Donation £40 For information and bookings visit [www.minsteracres.org](http://www.minsteracres.org), telephone 01434 673248 or email [info@minsteracres.org](mailto:info@minsteracres.org) Minsteracres Retreat Centre, near Consett, Co. Durham, DH8 9RT

## 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: Pope Francis' most radical teaching was his encyclical was Laudato Si, on our common home. You can read a summary at: <https://laudatosimovement.org/news/whats-the-best-2-page-summary-youve-seen-of-laudato-si/> and ask how you can respond to it

## 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

## Dates for Diary

**VE (Peace in Europe) Afternoon Tea at St Joseph's at 1.30 on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> May. Tickets only, because of limited space - 60 places. £3 for Adults and £1 for children.** Tickets on sale after Mass today and until the day <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sport>

**Opening of the 'Rising Up' picture exhibition of the parish at St Cuthberts at 7.30pm, on Friday June 6<sup>th</sup>**

**Pentecost International Shared Table. After 11:00am Mass at St Cuthberts on Sunday 8th June.** If any groups would like to contribute would they please let a social group member know, with a contact name and telephone number - and what they will be kindly bringing.

## 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 Ruth Corless at: [ruthcorless@btinternet.com](mailto:ruthcorless@btinternet.com)

## Prayer for Peace

As the fever of day calms towards twilight. May all that is strained in us come to ease. We pray for all who suffered violence today. May an unexpected serenity surprise them.. For those who risk their lives each day for peace. May their hearts glimpse providence at the heart of history.. That those who make riches from violence and war. Might hear in their dreams the cries of the lost.. That we might see through our fear of each other. A new vision to heal our fatal attraction to aggression.. That those who enjoy the privilege of peace. Might not forget their tormented brothers and sisters That the wolf might lie down with the lamb. That our swords be beaten into ploughshares. And no hurt or harm be done anywhere along the holy mountain.

John O'Donohue Benedictus A Book of Blessings