

Mass Readings for the 5th Sunday of Lent – A

FIRST READING

‘I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live.’

Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the Lord; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the Lord.

Ezekiel 37:12-14

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: *With the LORD there is mercy, in him is plentiful redemption.*

Psalm 130(129)

1.

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD
LORD, hear my voice!
O let your ears be attentive
to the sound of my pleadings.
2.

If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities,
LORD, who could stand?
But with you is found forgiveness,
that you may be revered.
3.

I long for you, O LORD,
my soul longs for his word.
My soul awaits the LORD
more than watchmen for daybreak.
4.

More than watchmen for daybreak,
let Israel hope for the LORD.
For with the LORD there is mercy,
in him is plentiful redemption.
It is he who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities.

SECOND READING:

‘The Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you.’

Brothers and Sisters: Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

Romans 8:8-11

Gospel Acclamation

Glory and praise to you, O Christ!

I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord; whoever believes in me will never die.

Glory and praise to you, O Christ!

Jn 11:25, 26

GOSPEL

‘I am the resurrection and the life.’

At that time: A certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. It was Mary, who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent to him, saying, ‘Lord, he whom you love is ill.’ But when Jesus heard it he said, ‘This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.’

Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. So, when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. Then after this he said to the disciples, ‘Let us go to Judea again.’ The disciples said to him, ‘Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone you, and are you going there again?’ Jesus answered, ‘Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him.’ After saying these things, he said to them, ‘Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him.’ The disciples said to him, ‘Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover.’ Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that he meant taking rest in sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, ‘Lazarus has died, and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.’ So Thomas, called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, ‘Let us also go, that we may die with him.’

Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. Martha said to Jesus, ‘Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you.’ Jesus said to her, ‘Your brother will rise again.’ Martha said to him, ‘I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.’ Jesus said to her, ‘I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?’ She said to him, ‘Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world.’

When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in private, ‘The Teacher is here and is calling for you.’ And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha had met him. When the Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there. Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet, saying to him, ‘Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.’ When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled. And he said, ‘Where have you laid him?’ They said to him, ‘Lord, come and see.’ Jesus wept. So the Jews said, ‘See how he loved him!’ But some of them said, ‘Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?’

Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. Jesus said, ‘Take away the stone.’ Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, ‘Lord, by this time there will be a smell, for he has been dead four days.’ Jesus said to her, ‘Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?’ So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, ‘Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me.’ When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, ‘Lazarus, come out.’ The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, ‘Unbind him, and let him go.’

Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what he did, believed in him.

John 11:1-45

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 / ✉ (Email) chris.hughes@diocesehn.org.uk

Parish Administrator: Mrs Katherine Main – Tuesday-Friday 8.45am-12.45pm

Tel: 0191 2573408

Email: stcuthbert.northshields@diocesehn.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Clare Harvey – 07507 297779

Parish website information at: <http://www.northtynesidecatholic.org.uk>

Parish Schools

St Thomas More High School: <https://stmacademy.org.uk/>

St Cuthbert’s Primary School: <https://www.stcuthbertsrcprimary.co.uk/>

St Joseph’s Primary School: <https://www.stjosephsrc-primary.co.uk/>

Partnership Telephone Numbers

Monsignor Andrew Faley ☎ 0191 252 8021

St Mary’s Cullercoats ☎ 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: ☎ 07768 387393

5th/6th April 2025 – 5th Sunday of Lent – C

Masses, Devotions and Services

	St Cuthbert’s	St Joseph’s	Our Lady & St Oswin’s
Saturday 5 th April		9.30am Stations 10.00am Mass 5:30pm: Mass: Parish	
Sunday 6 th April 5 th Sunday of Lent – C	11:00am: Mass: Bob Dunn Live stream		9:30am: Mass: People of the Parish
Monday 7 th April			
Tuesday 8 th April			10:00am: Mass: The Teague Family (GM)
Wednesday 9 th April	9.30am: Mass: Maria Mason		
Thursday 10 th April		9:30am: Mass: Dorothy Goodison	
Friday 11 th April	7:00pm: Mass: Maria Mason		
Saturday 12 th April		9.30am Stations Starting at St Cuthbert’s 10.00am Mass 5:30pm: Mass: Rosa Mario Cicimillo	
Sunday 13 th April Palm Sunday – C	11:00am: Mass: People of the Parish Live stream		9:30am: Mass: Patrick McCumiskey (TMcC)

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

Parish Contacts

Parish Safeguarding Rep: Clare Harvey:

Email: Psr.stcuthbertstjoseph.northshields@diocesehn.org.uk

Tel. 07507 297779

Holy Communion for Sick and Housebound: Doreen Hull

Email: pastoral.stcuthbertstjoseph.northshields@diocesehn.org.uk

Buildings & Grounds:

St Cuthbert's: Linda Shotton

St Joseph's: Allan Badenhope

Email:

Buildings.stcuthbertstjoseph.northshields@diocesehn.org.uk

Health and Safety

St Cuthbert's: Charlie Tynan

St Joseph's: Jim McLearn

Email: Hs.stcuthbertstjoseph.northshields@diocesehn.org.uk

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.

Please pray for Luke McAndrew, Tommy Campion and for all those who have died recently.

5th Sunday of Lent

In this final weekend before Holy Week, we have the Gospel of the rising of Lazarus. This well known story has a number features. First, is the depth of relationship that Jesus has with Mary, Martha and Lazarus. We have a lot of tears in this story. When Jesus arrives, we are told he wept. There is also the intriguing fact that the house is not known after the male member of the house, which was the Jewish tradition but of the women in it, Mary and Martha. We also do not hear a single word from Lazarus. Did he have a disability of some sort?

As always with John's Gospel we need to ask ourselves what it about Jesus is that John wishes to proclaim. We have the line in the Gospel that Jesus is the light we have to guide so that we do not stumble. Both sisters make the same statement, 'Lord, if you had been here my brother would not have died'. They both assert that he has the power over life and death. In the dialogue with Martha, resurrection is not simply an event in the future but is a dimension of Jesus that we can encounter now. 'I am the resurrection and the life'. In our encounter Jesus, now always crucified and risen, we are given a power now that even transcends death. One aspect of this power that comes across in the story is that this power enables us to confront the culture of death that is so prevalent in the world of Jesus or our present day whether that be through violence, poverty, injustice, disregard for the sanctity of life. The call to Lazarus in his place of death and decay to come

out of the darkness into the light and be freed, unbind him, applies to death. Jesus confronts the culture of death and calls us to do the same.

Sadly from the minute we are born like a fish born into a polluted river, we unknowingly at first, become the playing field or stage for the great competition or drama, that is between creative and destructive forces. For John, Jesus is the embodiment of God's life-giving and creative force. Lent is an opportunity to reflect on what our role is in the struggle between creative and destructive forces. This will be the great drama of Holy Week.

Masses with Schools

On Wednesday St Cuthbert's Primary School will be joining for Mass at 9.30am and on Thursday, St Joseph's will be joining us at 9.30am.

Pastoral Letter from the Bishops of England and Wales

With your newsletter there should be a pastoral letter from the Bishops of England and Wales, expressing their concerns about the Assisted Suicide Bill, which will have its third reading in Parliament later this month. Please share the concerns mentioned by the Bishop with your MP.

Easter Triduum and Easter Sunday Liturgies

The Easter Triduum will take place in the following churches:

April 17th Maundy Thursday 7.30pm at St Oswin's, Tynemouth

April 18th Good Friday 3.00pm St Cuthbert's, North Shields

April 19th Easter Vigil 5.30pm St Joseph's, North Shields

Masses on Easter Sunday:

9.30am St Oswin's, Tynemouth

11.00am St Cuthbert's, North Shields

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 or by calling 0303 303 3030. You can also text EARTHQUAKE to 70450 to donate £10.

A Note of Thanks

A huge thank-you to all my lovely friends at St Cuthbert's and St Joseph's for cards, flowers and especially prayers for me and David. They really are appreciated. Thank-you. June and Dave O'Neil

Confirmations July 16th

Bishop Stephen will be Confirming our candidates for Confirmation on July 16th. 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 30th. 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.

First Holy Communion Liturgy

This week-end we will have our First Holy Communion Liturgy with our First Holy Communion Candidates. The theme this week is 'Offering Ourselves'. We continue to pray for our candidates.

Tyne and Wear Citizens Training

On Saturdays 10th & 17th 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/>

Retiring Collection April 5th & 6th

This week-end there is a retiring collection for sick and retired priests in the diocese.

Christian Meditation Group

This group will not be meeting on 8th April.

CAFOD Lent Appeal & Campaign against Overseas Aid Cuts

Please donate to our Family Fast Day parish collection and be a pilgrim of hope with CAFOD this Jubilee Year. You'll be supporting communities experiencing the impacts of war, poverty and climate change to find solutions and hope. Use the CAFOD envelope in church, donate online at cafod.org.uk/envelope or call us on 0303 303 3030. You can also text CAFODLENT to 70085 to donate £10.

Family Fast Envelopes are available at the back of church.

Join CAFOD's Big Lent Walk in the Jubilee Year

On 25th February the Prime Minister announced that the aid budget will be cut again, meaning that it will be at its lowest level since 1999. The result will be that in some of the most vulnerable places on earth, more people will die and many more will lose their livelihoods. At a time when we are seeing other decreases of aid to support the world's most vulnerable communities, our government should be redoubling its efforts to enable people to emerge from poverty. Please contact your MP urgently and ask them to take action to ensure that the UK does not turn its back on those most in need. Please go to the following site to write to your MP:

<https://action.cafod.org.uk/page/166896/action/1>

Holy Island SVP Vinnies Camp – Volunteering is a Work of the Heart

Holy Island Children's Camp is looking for new volunteers to help in their Holiday Centre on Holy Island. They are in need of young adults to help the children have a great week's holiday on the island in Summer 2025. Full training and support will be given and would suit someone wanting to give back to the Community by helping 9-12-year-olds have fun for a week. They are also keen to attract people who would like to help by volunteering in the Kitchen/Dining room and with caretaking. Term Time Camps need lots of volunteers if they are to survive. If you could find a few days in term time to help out with serving meals, prepping salads and washing dishes they would be truly grateful. By running term time camps, Summer Vinnies Holidays for children can be sustained. Further information can be found at <https://svp.org.uk/microsite/ozanam-camp> or if you'd like to chat about the role please email BarbaraT@svp.org.uk

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: If you are buying Easter Eggs or other easter goodies for loved ones can they be 'Fair Trade'?

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

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

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