

Mass Readings
20th Sunday in Ordinary Time – C

First reading **Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10**
In those days: The officials said to the king, ‘Let this man, Jeremiah, be put to death, for he is weakening the hands of the soldiers who are left in this city, and the hands of all the people, by speaking such words to them. For this man is not seeking the welfare of this people, but their harm.’ King Zedekiah said, ‘Behold, he is in your hands, for the king can do nothing against you.’ So they took Jeremiah and cast him into the cistern of Malchiah, the king’s son, which was in the court of the guard, letting Jeremiah down by ropes. And there was no water in the cistern, but only mud, and Jeremiah sank in the mud.
Ebed-melech went from the king’s house and said to the king, ‘My lord the king, these men have done evil in all that they did to Jeremiah the prophet by casting him into the cistern, and he will die there of hunger, for there is no bread left in the city.’ Then the king commanded Ebed-melech the Ethiopian, ‘Take thirty men with you from here, and lift Jeremiah the prophet out of the cistern before he dies.’

Responsorial Psalm **Psalm 40(39)**
Response: *LORD, make haste to help me!*

1. I waited, I waited for the LORD,
and he stooped down to me.
He heard my cry.

3. He put a new song into my mouth,
praise of our God.
Many shall see and fear
and shall trust in the LORD.

2. He drew me from the deadly pit,
from the miry clay.
He set my feet upon a rock,
made my footsteps firm.

4. Wretched and poor though I am,
the LORD is mindful of me.
You are my rescuer, my help;
O my God, do not delay.

Second reading **Hebrews 12:1-4**
Brothers and Sisters: Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.
Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or faint-hearted. In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood.

Gospel Acclamation
Alleluia, alleluia.
My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord, and I know them, and they follow me. Alleluia.

Gospel **Luke 12:49-53**
At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, ‘I came to cast fire on the earth, and would that it were already kindled! I have a baptism to be baptised with, and how great is my distress until it is accomplished! Do you think that I have come to give peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. For from now on in one house there will be five divided: three against two and two against three. They will be divided, father against son and son against father; mother against daughter and daughter against mother; mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law, and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.’


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: Katherine.Main@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

16 th /17 th August 2025 – 20 th Sunday in Ordinary Time – C			
Masses, Devotions and Services			
	St Cuthbert’s	St Joseph’s	Our Lady & St Oswin’s
Saturday 16 th August		5:30pm: Vigil Mass: Charlie Wood	
Sunday 17 th August 20 th Sunday in Ordinary Time – C	11.00am: Mass: People of the Parish Live stream		9:30am: Mass: People of the Parish
Monday 18 th August			
Tuesday 19 th August			10:00am: Mass: Jenny Cawood (TC) Feast of Church Patron – St Oswin
Wednesday 20 th August	9:30am: Mass:		
Thursday 21 st August		9:30am: Mass: People of the Parish	
Friday 22 nd August	7.00pm: Mass:		
Saturday 23 rd August		5:30pm: Vigil Mass: People of the Parish	
Sunday 24 th August 21 st Sunday in Ordinary Time – C	11.00am: Mass: Live stream		9:30am: Mass: People of the Parish

The Parish of St Cuthbert’s and St Joseph’s, North Shields

Facebook:

Website:

Parish office:

search - - The Parish of Saint Cuthbert and Saint Joseph, North Shields.

www.northtynesidecatholic.org.uk

0191 257 3408

Parish Contacts

Parish Safeguarding Rep: Clare Harvey:

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Holy Communion for Sick and Housebound: Doreen Hull

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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 McLearie

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

Prayer Intentions for Summer: A Deeper Understanding between Christian and Jews; those who suffer Persecution; the Oppressed and those denied human rights; Europe; the Dignity of all Human Life; Seafarers.

We pray for all who are sick, including Ros McGann, Sarah Harrison, Scott Oakley, Jean Slater, Richard Sutherland, Irene Keenaghan, Mary Quinn, Paul Atkinson, Francis McSherry, Mary Kidd, Mary Rowley, Antoni Kulik, Peter Chester, Rebecca Cummings, Thomas Smith, Dorothy Falla, Bridget Geddes.

Please pray for Christiana Aguyekuwa, Kathleen Hanson and for all those who have died recently.

20th Sunday of the Year

The Gospel reminds me of the saying of one my spiritual heroines, Flannery O'Connor. She said you cannot reduce faith to an electric blanket; it is the cross that we are asked to take up. The protestant theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer said that there is no such thing as 'cheap' grace. The Gospel is always a challenge to the given status quo for any culture. It will upset people! To follow Jesus is a challenge, but it is way of transformation and growth for society and souls!

To follow Christ is to engage with reality, and reality can be tough. The readings call us to face our challenges. The first reading has the image of Jeremiah being lowed into a well and sinking in the mud! Perhaps it is an image you can relate to! But in the story, an Ethiopian outsider pleads to the King on Jeremiah's behalf and 30 men are dispatched to rescue him. Jeremiah was sinking in the mud since he sought God's will and challenged the status quo, but consolation came. His cry was heard and through others he was rescued.

The Gospel is a challenge but we are given grace and we are part of a community supporting each other, so that the sufferings of the now are gateways to God's consolation and his risen life.

70th Jubilee of St Joseph's Church

On Saturday 30th August we are celebrating the 70th Jubilee of St Joseph's Church. The events of the day are as follows, please feel free to join us for the whole day or dip in and out of events.

12pm children's activities, Cake Stall, BBQ, Tea & Coffee.

2.30pm, performance from the Linskill Choir followed by light refreshments.

5.30pm evening mass with Bishop Stephen, followed by wine, soft drinks and nibbles.

We would be grateful for any children's toys or crafts for a children's tombola and cakes on the day for cake stall. Also if you have old photos of church events we would love to display them, pop your name on the back so they can be returned.

Feast of St Oswin

Just so happens that the Mass celebrated at Tynemouth next Tuesday, 19th August at 10am is for its Patron, St Oswin. So, the Mass will be a Solemnity in celebration of St Oswin. Refreshments will be served in the parish room and in the garden, if weather is suitable afterwards. All are welcome.

Trip to Holy Island

On Saturday 13th September there will be the pilgrimage to Holy Island. Please sign up at list at back of both Churches. Coach fee is £20.

Mission 13th to 19th September

As part of our Jubilee Celebrations, we will have a mission in the parish. It will start on 13th September with our pilgrimage to Holy Island. The mission will not have any outside speakers but will be led by the parish for the parish. The theme of the week is 'Peace, Justice and Community'. The first Mission evening is on September 15th at 7pm. It will be led by members of the Proclaimers group and Tyne and Wear Citizens. We will be reflecting on the Parable of the Good Samaritan, through different 'lenses', with the evening called 'Who is my neighbour?'

The last evening we want to be 'intergenerational' with parishioners who have been in the parish for a number of years helping us to look back and our younger parishioners helping us to look forward.

The other sessions will be led by our ethnic groups, the Filipino, African and Indian communities. If you are interested in taking part please contact Fr Chris or Veronica Whitty at: veronicawhitty@hotmail.com

MARY'S PLACE – St Mary's Cathedral – opposite Central Station.

Every Monday morning between 10am-1pm Mary's Place Community cafe opens its doors and offers a warm, welcoming smile that extends dignity, companionship and hope to anyone who is in need – they maybe homeless, poor or feeling alone. It's a place where everyone is known by name, where they can share their stories or simply sit in silence as they share a hot meal together. It is more than a

refuge, it is a community – a reminder that no one walks alone.

We have a team of volunteers who do various roles from preparing food, serving our guests as well as washing dishes and, of course, making our guests welcome. We work on a rota basis usually once a month. To find out more and how to join our team please see Detta Wright (St Joseph's) for more details or contact: marys.place@outlook.com

Open Evening for Catholicism

I am working with parishioners in the local parishes on having an 'Open Evening for Catholicism'. The evening would give people an opportunity to inquire about the Catholic tradition. This will happen on September 24th at St Mary's, Cullercoats at 7pm. I would like those present to hear about the following areas:

Belonging to a Eucharistic Community, Praying as a Catholic, Loving Service to others as a Catholic.

If anyone would be interested helping me with this evening, please contact me at: Chris.Hughes@diocesehn.org.uk or on 0191 2575801. Those who are thinking about taking part in this year's Journey of Faith Programme would be particularly welcome. For your information, the Partnership Journey of Faith Programme for those interested in the Catholic Church starts on Tuesday 7th October at St Edward's, Whitley Bay at 7pm.

Meetings with Mayor and MP

Just a reminder that you were given 'homework' for the summer. To listen to each other and make a note of local concerns we can share when we next meet the Mayor and MP during the autumn. Please see a letter on notice board we have written to the Mayor recording what took place and what was agreed when we met on July 17th.

Let's Connect

Are you a "young adult" in Church terms — somewhere in your mid-20s to 50s? We'd love to hear from you. We want to listen to your experiences of living as a Catholic today — your joys, your challenges, and everything in between. Your voice matters, your insights will help us understand how we can further support and walk alongside you. Let's get together. Please get in touch via formation.mission@diocesehn.org.uk Or, even better, please join us in person on 28th August at 6:30pm on the top floor of the Tyneside Irish Centre Newcastle Gallowgate NE1 4SG (Nr St James' metro).

Diocesan Job Vacancies

The Education Department at St Cuthbert's House are looking for an Education Operations Manager to support the Director and Deputy Director of Education in current and future educational needs through the development, engagement, and preserving of our Catholic education. The successful candidate will be the interface to ensure our

Education Department is proficient and productive and that resources are allocated effectively to enable us to support the delivery of a high-quality Catholic education.

Head of Safeguarding – Salary Scale from £46,000 to £52,000. The closing date for applications: 31 August 2025.

HR Administrator – Salary Scale from £25,000 to £26,345.

The closing date for applications: 09:00 Wednesday 20 August 2025. See notice board for Job Advert.

Surveyor – The Property Team are looking for a Surveyor to join their busy team at St Cuthberts House.

You will assist in the care and maintenance of all Diocesan land and property, so as to ensure a high-level of professional support is offered to our parish communities and Diocesan schools. This is a 6 month fixed term contract reporting to the Head of Property.

For a copy of the Job Description please contact annie.leaver@diocesehn.org.uk

If you are interested in finding out more, please email annie.leaver@diocesehn.org.uk for an Applicant Pack

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 quote from Pope Francis' Prayer for Creation:

Bring healing to our lives,

that we may protect the world and not prey on it, that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.

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

70th Anniversary of St Joseph's Church – 30th August, starting at 12 noon. Mass said by Bishop Stephen
Pilgrimage to Holy Island – 13th September

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