

Mass Readings
Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross – C

First reading Numbers 21:4b-9
‘If anyone were bitten by a serpent, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.’

In those days: The people became impatient on the way. And the people spoke against God and against Moses, ‘Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food.’ Then the Lord sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. And the people came to Moses and said, ‘We have sinned, for we have spoken against the Lord and against you. Pray to the Lord, that he take away the serpents from us.’ So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, ‘Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live.’ So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 78(77)
Response: *Never forget the deeds of the LORD!*

1. Give ear, my people, to my teaching;
incline your ear to the words of my mouth.
I will open my mouth in a parable
and utter hidden lessons of the past.

2. When he slew them, then they sought him,
repented and earnestly sought God.
They would remember that God was their rock,
God the Most High their redeemer.
3. Yet they deceived him with their mouths;
they lied to him with their tongues.
For their hearts were not steadfast towards him;
they were not faithful to his covenant.

4. Yet he who is full of compassion
forgave them their sin and spared them.
So often he held back his anger,
and did not stir up all his rage.

Second reading Philippians 2:6-11
‘He humbled himself, therefore God has highly exalted him.’

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Gospel Acclamation
Alleluia, alleluia.
We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,
because by your Cross you have redeemed the world. Alleluia.

Gospel John 3:13-17
‘The Son of Man must be lifted up.’

At that time: Jesus said to Nicodemus, ‘No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.’


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

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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

13 th /14 th September 2025 – Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross – C			
Masses, Devotions and Services			
	St Cuthbert’s	St Joseph’s	Our Lady & St Oswin’s
Saturday 13 th September		5:30pm: Vigil Mass Tom and Terry Witheridge	
Sunday 14 th September Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross – C	11.00am: Mass: People of the Parish Live stream		9:30am: Mass: People of the Parish
Monday 15 th September			
Tuesday 16 th September			10:00am: Mass: Deceased Members of the Knight Family (KK)
Wednesday 17 th September	9:30am: Mass		
Thursday 18 th September		9:30am: Mass	
Friday 19 th September	7.00pm: Mass: Monica Sutherland		
Saturday 20 th September		5:30pm: Vigil Mass	
Sunday 21 st September 25 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	11.00am: Mass: Live stream		9:30am: Mass: Alec Turner (MT)

Facebook:

Website:

Parish office:

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

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

www.northtynesidecatholic.org.uk

0191 257 3408

Parish Contacts

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St Joseph's: Allan Badenhope

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Health and Safety

St Cuthbert's: Charlie Tynan

St Joseph's: Jim McLearie

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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, Patricia Thompson, 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, Don Heron and for all those who have died recently.

Exaltation of the Holy Cross

We take a break from the Ordinary Sundays of the Year since the Feast of Exaltation (or Triumph) of the Holy Cross.

Although the focus of the feast for today is an object, the Cross, what lies behind today feast and what is central to it is an action. It is the action of self-giving of God to us in Christ. This is what grace is. As the second reading informs that although 'Jesus was in the form of God he did not count equality of God a thing to be grasped but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of God. He humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death-death on a cross'. So the Cross is a code word for sacrificial, self-giving love. A God is revealed, that gives, that pours out himself, that gives himself to humanity for our liberation and transformation. We are all called to know this self-giving, so that this divine reality can flow within us and radiate through us.

It is this self-giving love that seeks us to unite in solidarity and compassion with humanity and creation. We celebrate this solidarity and compassion in our Mission this week. Parishioners will be sharing their experiences and their dreams as seek a fairer and more just and peaceful world. Please come if you can to at least one of our events to celebrate the rich gifts of the People of our parish.

In the One We Are One United We Stand

Parish Mission 13th to 20th 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.

From the 15th to the 20th the following events will take place:

Monday 15th September St Cuthbert's at 7pm:

Who is my neighbour – A reflection on the Story of the Good Samaritan

Tuesday 16th September St Joseph's at 7pm:

This will be led by our Filipino Community

Wednesday 17th September St Cuthbert's at 7pm:

This will be led by our Indian Community

Thursday 18th September St Joseph's at 7pm:

This will be led by our African Community

Friday 19th September St Cuthbert's 7pm:

Mass with reflections from members of the parish celebrating the past and looking to the future

Saturday 20th September St Joseph's at 10am:

A time of prayer during the week of Prayer of Peace in Palestine and Israel including a video presentation from Listening with the Heart from the People's Family Forum

Trinity Shop

Last week I received the share of profits from the Trinity Shop, it was a cheque for £4,000. A big thank-you to all who have contributed to this total with special thanks to our parishioners who volunteer ach Thursday. Your hard work is much appreciated.

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.

Evening with Sister Imelda Poole

Sister Imelda was delighted by the level of interest and engagement with the audience. Donations on the night

came to £256 which is very generous. Many people took away the forms for standing orders. Thanks for your generosity. We pray for the work she and her order are doing in Albania.

Education Sunday

This weekend is Education Sunday and the Diocesan Department for Education are asking parishes to pray for our Diocesan Catholic schools, their pupils and staff. In addition, they are using the opportunity to make an appeal for governors at the end of Mass. They are inviting headteachers, school or Catholic Education Trust staff and governors to make the short appeal. The narrative has been provided. Please contact Rebecca Daglish rebecca.daglish@diocesehn.org.uk if you are able to support. Thank you. There will be a retiring collection for the Catholic Educations Service.

Evangelii Gaudium Sunday

Next Sunday is Home Mission Sunday Evangelii Gaudium Sunday, formerly known as Home Mission Sunday. There will be a retiring collection for the work of promoting the Gospel in this country.

Diocesan Vacancies

Parish Secretary, Parish of St Bede & Ss Peter and Paul South Shields

12 hours per week; Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 9.00am to 13:00.

Parish Secretary, St Mary's Cathedral, St Dominic's and St Michael's, Newcastle

17 hours per week to be agreed.

Cleaner, St Matthew's Presbytery, Jarrow

6 hours per week with a degree of flexibility which can be discussed during the interview process.

Applicant Packs can be obtained by contacting nell.dewhirst@diocesehn.org.uk

or human.resources@diocesehn.org.uk

Closing date: 12 noon Tuesday 16th September 2025.

Alive in HOPE: A Church for MISSION

Bishop Stephen invites all across our diocesan family to celebrate Jubilee Day, a wonderful opportunity to connect with old friends and new, celebrate our community and reawaken and empower us for mission! Saturday 27th September, 10am – 3pm at Cardinal Hume Catholic School, Gateshead. Guest speakers, a choice of inspiring seminars, meet and speak with our Catholic partners. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, prayer space in the chapel plus praise and worship led by local musical group Set A Fire. To book a place go to:

https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=rbNF1OvKcEahMOeyP9EtH_YHKwRxno9Cu67SQLFhVsIUNFBYQTQ4WE9GQIRCT0VOVkhWWkFHVzVDSiQIQCN0PWcu&route=short

Little Sisters of the Poor – Pie & Pea Supper

St Joseph's Home in Newcastle are having a Pie & Pea Supper on Wednesday 24th September at 7pm.

Bingo, Raffle and Entertainment. Tickets at £8 each, are available by ringing the Little Sisters on 0191 2731279.

Newman Society

Newman Tyneside Circle invites you to come and hear Nicholas Sagovsky speak about 'Heart speaks to heart'; what has Newman to do with synodality? in the hall of Holy Name Church, Jesmond, Newcastle, NE2 3JX, on Tuesday 30 September, at 7.30pm.

The Baby Bank at St John's Church Percy Main

is facing an increased demand for nappies. We are particularly in need of size 7 and size 8 nappies and pullups. Any donations would be greatly appreciated. If you can help please contact Rev Helen Young at: revhyoung@gmail.com or on 0191 447 1025

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: Please pray for our Mission and come to a session if you can. We pray for solidarity and compassion in our area, our nation and our world.

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

October 4/5 Harvest and Creation Sunday

Please bring contributions for local foodbank.

November 29th Christmas Coffee Morning & Launch of Crib Festival

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