

Mass Readings for the 5th Sunday of Easter – A

First reading

Acts 6:1-7

In those days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. And the Twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, 'It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brothers and sisters, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.' And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the Apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.

And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 33(32)

Response: *May your merciful love be upon us, as we hope in you, O LORD.*

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| <p>1. Ring out your joy to the LORD, O you just; for praise is fitting from the upright.
Give thanks to the LORD upon the harp; with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs.</p> | <p>2. The word of the LORD is upright, and all his works to be trusted.
The LORD loves justice and right, and his merciful love fills the earth.</p> |
| <p>3. Yes, the LORD's eyes are on those who fear him, who hope in his merciful love, to rescue their soul from death, to keep them alive in famine.</p> | |

Second reading

1 Peter 2:4-9

Beloved: Come to the Lord, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious. You yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in Scripture: 'Behold, I am laying in Sion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.' So the honour is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone', and 'A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence.' They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia. I am the way, and the truth, and the life, says the Lord.

No one comes to the Father except through me. Alleluia.

Gospel

John 14:1-12

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, 'Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going.' Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?' Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.'

Philip said to him, 'Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.' Jesus said to him, 'Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, "Show us the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

'Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father.'

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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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

2nd /3rd May 2026 – Fifth Sunday of Easter – A

Masses, Devotions and Services

	St Cuthbert's	St Joseph's	Our Lady & St Oswin's
Saturday 2nd May		5:30pm: Vigil Mass: People of the Parish	
Sunday 3rd May Fifth Sunday of Easter – A	11.00am: Mass: Jokubas Gurskis		9:30am: Mass: People of the Parish
Monday 4th May			
Tuesday 5th May			10:00am: Mass: Tony Murphy (MM)
Wednesday 6th May	9.30am: Mass: Ernista Java		
Thursday 7th May		9.30am: Mass:	
Friday 8th May	7.00pm: Mass: Eleanor and Bob Robson		
Saturday 9th May		5:30pm: Vigil Mass:	
Sunday 10th May Sixth Sunday of Easter – A	11.00am: Mass: People of the Parish		9:30am: Mass: Isabella Mason (MC)

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

Facebook:

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Website:

www.northtynesidecatholic.org.uk

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Parish Contacts

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Health and Safety:

St Cuthbert's: Email: Charlie.Tynan@diocesehn.org.uk
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Gift Aid: Linda Shotton

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Prayer Intentions for Easter: New Members of the Church, Vocations, Survivors of Sexual Abuse, The Right Use of Media, the Church, Human Work; The upholding of International Law and those who seek to defend it. We pray for all who are sick, including Ros McGann, Jean Slater, Irene Keenaghan, Mary Quinn, Patricia Thompson, Paul Atkinson, Francis McSherry, Mary Kidd, Mary Rowley, Antoni Kulik, Peter Chester, Rebecca Cummings, Dorothy Falla, Bridget Geddes, Sr Zita, Stephen Davies & Fr Leo Pyle. Please pray for Robert McKinley, Bob White and all those who have died recently.

Fifth Sunday of Easter

I always sense that this time in Easter we are already beginning to prepare ourselves for Ascension and Pentecost. We are going through what is called the 'Farewell Discourse' of Christ spoken to his disciples on the night before he died. I am not sure if the focus of his leaving is his death or the time when he is re-united with his Father at the Ascension. But whatever his focus, Christ is clearly preparing his followers for the time he is no longer physically with him. In his absence he is calling them to trust – 'Do not let your hearts be troubled'. Christ is also clear that it is through him that they can come to know the love of the Father. Indeed, Christ is saying that it is only through him that they can come to know the Father. That may seem to be very exclusive, but Christ can be manifested in many ways – he is our 'way, truth and life'. This Christ is revealed through sacraments, scripture, creation, each other, the poor and marginalised. In the prologue of John's Gospel, we are told that 'through him all things were made'. So all our universe including those who do not know Christ can reveal something of

that Christ. So may we be open to the many ways this one Christ, our way, truth and life, is revealed to us as the gateway to the Father.

Diocesan Pastoral Plan

Message from Bishop Stephen

Thank you to all parishes who have completed and returned their reflections as part of our diocesan pastoral strategy. I, together with others, look forward to reading and praying through your discernments in the Spirit. It is not too late for returns to be made if you are yet to submit. We next move to a second phase as we invite local parishes to discern together in their partnerships, or with others in their neighbouring area. Information and updates will be shared on our website. Please keep this discernment in your prayers as we seek to respond to the Lord's call to worship Him and serve our communities in a flourishing and sustainable manner. There is a meeting on Thursday May 7th at St John Vianney's, Hillhead Parkway, West Denton, NE5 1DP at 7-8pm to help partnerships complete the next form for June 5th. This is open to all.

Lectio Divina

On the first Wednesday of the month there will be an opportunity to pray through the Gospel of the following Sunday. Wednesday 6th May at 7pm at St Cuthbert's.

Pentecost Sunday

As in the last two years there will be a shared lunch after the 11am Mass. We hope the shared table will reflect the rich international diversity of the community as it has in previous years.

National Day of Prayer for Survivors of Abuse 2026

This takes place on Tuesday 5th May 2026. The theme for this year's Day of Prayer for Survivors of Abuse looks at the scourge of domestic abuse which causes pain and fear that prevent its victims from living the life Jesus came to bring. We pray for all victims of domestic abuse.

CAFOD Sponsored Walk for Sudanese Appeal

The Proclaimers group are proposing to organise a sponsored walk from St Cuthbert's to St Mary's Island as a fund raiser for the CAFOD Sudan Appeal. We propose to do this on Sunday 5th July after the 11am Mass. We hope to have a brief prayer service and picnic once we arrive at St Mary's. There is a sign up sheet at the back of Church if you would like to take part.

Thank-You Note

This is thank you to the lovely lady who makes marmalade to sell at the church. She takes no profit from sales and £36 has been raised for church funds. (Waiting for next batch).

Trained First Aiders

There is a need to have a register of first aiders who have a current training certificate. Please let Fr Chris know if you are a trained first aider.

Lecture at Holy Name, Jesmond

'From Francis to Leo: the Catholic Church in a Change of Era' – When Pope Francis died a year ago, the Cardinals elected a Pope who would continue and deepen his reform, which they said was key to evangelizing today's world. This is what Francis and now Leo call "the change of era" – a new apostolic age. In his lecture at the Holy Name Church, Jesmond, Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 3JX on Saturday 16 May at 11am, Pope Francis biographer and noted Catholic journalist and commentator, Dr Austen Ivereigh explains the nature of the Francis-Leo transition, how the Church is being called to change its way of operating, and why it matters for the future of faith in these islands. All are welcome, there is no charge and no booking is necessary.

Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle Justice and Peace Co-Ordinating Council AGM

Saturday May 9th 10am-3pm
Conference Room, St Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle
Theme: Responding to the Climate and Nature Emergency (10.30am-12.30pm). Prof Hayley Fowler (Professor of Climate Change Impacts, Newcastle University) will introduce the National Emergency Briefing about the Climate and Nature Emergency followed by a discussion on how we should respond as a Society. Minnie Fraser (Diocesan Environment Lead) will update us on progress in our Diocese.

From North Tyneside Bereavement Service

"Our Bereavement Service is holding a special memorial service on Wednesday 13 May at 2pm, at Tynemouth Crematorium — open to anyone who has lost a loved one, whatever your faith or belief. The service lasts around 30 minutes, with light refreshments afterwards. Guests will also receive a hand-made paper butterfly seeded with wildflowers — to take home and plant, or leave in the Garden of Remembrance. To reserve your place (by Thursday 7 May): 0191 643 6070 bereavement@northtyneside.gov.uk"

St Mary's Cathedral — Closure

St Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle, will be closed for internal renovation work from 13th April until 29th May. The Pauline Bookshop and Café will be open as usual. Cathedral Masses will be celebrated as follows:

- Sunday, 9.30am and 11.30am at St Michael's Church, Westmoreland Road.

- Sunday, 6.30pm at St Dominic's Church, Red Barnes. Monday to Friday, 12.05pm and Saturday, 10.00am at St Andrew's Church, Worswick Street.

SVP Camp – Holy Island

Calling all young adults 18+. Do you have a week to spare to spend on Lindisfarne this Summer helping out at the Holy Island SVP Camp? Volunteers are needed to work alongside the children who stay in the SVP purpose-built centre on the island. Weeks, 3, 5 and 6 of the Summer have 60 children ready to have a great time rock pooling, walking, arts and crafting and enjoying outdoor activities but we need more helpers to ensure they have the best time!

- Week 3 Sat 1st August - 8th August
- Week 5 Sat 15th August - 22nd August
- Week 6 Sat 22nd - 29th August

If you are interested have a look at the website <https://svp.org.uk/microsite/ozanam-camp> or email Barbara Taws barbarat@svp.org.uk
All helpers receive training and will need to be DBS checked.

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

Tip: Come to the Justice and Peace AGM where we will be discussing the climate and nature emergency. It will give motivation to renew our ecological conversion.

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 No.: 91146513

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