

Mass Readings for 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – A

First reading

Thus says the Lord:  
'For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven  
and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout,  
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,  
so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;  
it shall not return to me empty,  
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,  
and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.'

Isaiah 55:10-11

Responsorial Psalm

Response: Some seed fell into good soil and yielded its fruit.

1. You visit the earth, give it water;  
you fill it with riches.  
God's ever-flowing river brims over  
to prepare the grain.

2. And thus you prepare it:  
you drench its furrows;  
you level it, soften it with showers;  
you bless its growth.

3. You crown the year with your bounty.  
Abundance flows in your pathways;  
in pastures of the desert it flows.  
The hills are girded with joy.

4. The meadows clothed with flocks.  
The valleys are decked with wheat.  
They shout for joy; yes, they sing!

Psalm 65 (64)

Second reading

Brothers and Sisters: I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption, and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.

Romans 8:18-23

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia. The seed is the word of God, Christ the sower;  
all who find him will live for ever. Alleluia.

Gospel

At that time: Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake. And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: 'A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. He who has ears, let him hear.'

Matthew 13:1-23

Then the disciples came and said to him, 'Why do you speak to them in parables?' And he answered them, 'To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given. For to the one who has, more will be given, and he will have an abundance, but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. This is why I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand. Indeed, in their case the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled that says: "You will indeed hear but never understand, and you will indeed see but never perceive." For this people's heart has grown dull, and with their ears they can barely hear, and their eyes they have closed, lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their heart and turn, and I would heal them. But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear. For truly, I say to you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it.'

'Hear then the parable of the sower: When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.'

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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

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Tel: 0191 2573408

Email: [Katherine.Main@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:Katherine.Main@diocesehn.org.uk)

Parish Safeguarding Officer: [Clare Harvey](mailto:Clare.Harvey@diocesehn.org.uk) – 07507 297779

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

For Live Stream of 11am Mass at St Cuthbert's go to: <https://www.youtube.com/@SaintCuthbertNorthShields>

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

| 11 <sup>th</sup> / 12 <sup>th</sup> July 2026 – 15 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – A |                                                                               |                                             |                                        |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Masses, Devotions and Services                                                               |                                                                               |                                             |                                        |
|                                                                                              | St Cuthbert's                                                                 | St Joseph's                                 | Our Lady & St Oswin's                  |
| Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup> July                                                               |                                                                               | 5:30pm: Vigil Mass:<br>People of the Parish |                                        |
| Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> July<br>15 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time                     | 11.00am: Mass:<br>Thanksgiving for Anne O'Flannagan 90 <sup>th</sup> Birthday |                                             | 9:30am: Mass:<br>People of the Parish  |
| Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> July                                                                 |                                                                               |                                             |                                        |
| Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> July                                                                |                                                                               |                                             | 10:00am: Mass:<br>Wedding Ceremony     |
| Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> July                                                              | 9.30am: Mass:<br>Anne O'Flannagan<br>6.30pm: Partnership Confirmation Mass    |                                             |                                        |
| Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> July                                                               |                                                                               | 9.30am: Mass:                               |                                        |
| Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July                                                                 | 7.00pm: Mass:                                                                 |                                             |                                        |
| Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup> July                                                               |                                                                               | 5:30pm: Vigil Mass:<br>Bernard O'Kane       |                                        |
| Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> July<br>16 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time                     | 11.00am: Mass:<br>People of the Parish                                        |                                             | 9:30am: Mass:<br>Maureen & Gordon Hogg |

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](http://www.northtynesidecatholic.org.uk)  
0191 257 3408

### Parish Contacts

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Buildings & Grounds:  
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Gift Aid: Linda Shotton  
Email: Linda.Shotton@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, 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, James Llewellyn, Sr Zita, Stephen Davies & Fr Leo Pyle. Please pray for Billy Burwood, Ann Donnelly, Winnie White, Irene Clarke and all those who have died recently.

### Fifteenth Sunday of the Year

The structure of the Liturgy of the Word at Mass is that the first reading is always from the Hebrew/Old Testament scriptures except Easter. Unlike the second reading which is usually systematically going through one of the New Testament writing that come after the Gospel (we are proceeding through Romans), the first reading is chosen on the merit that it resonates with the Gospel passage. Sometimes the connection can seem quite tenuous, but this is certainly not the case with our first reading from the prophet Isaiah. The prophet compares the word from God, like rain and snow, watering the earth so that crops can grow, providing seed and bread, God's word will be effective and fulfil its purpose.

These two verses from the prophet very effectively sum up the 23 verses we have in our Gospel from Matthew that morphs from parable to allegory, with a number of interpretations, but the basic idea is summed up in the idea that God's word can and does bear fruit.

The second reading from Romans acknowledges that waiting for the word to bear fruit is like a woman about to

give birth to a child. There can be groans but we have the hope that God powers will overcome. The Gospel calls us to be attentive to the voice of God. What are we longing for? What are the hopes that we long to be fulfilled as we wait for the grace to bear fruit in us?

### End of Year Masses

This Wednesday all of St Cuthbert's school will join us at the Mass and on Thursday all of St Joseph's will join us at Mass. We give thanks for all the hard work and achievements in St Cuthbert's, St Joseph's and St Thomas More School, I wish all pupils and staff a blessed and restful summer vacation.

### Confirmations

The Partnership Confirmations will take place this Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July at 6.30pm presided by Bishop Stephen. Please pray for our candidates.

### Baptism

This Sunday at St Cuthbert's at 12.30pm we will have the baptism of Rene Corke-Dalvari. We pray for Rene and her family as she is united in Christ and welcome into our Christian family.

### Stella Maris

This week-end is Sea Sunday. This is the day when the Church comes together to pray for seafarers, fishers and their families. There will be an appeal and retiring collection at the end of Mass.

### Diocesan Pastoral Plan

The Partnership Group will be meeting this Sunday at 2pm to discuss a draft of the Partnership submission. Please keep this process in your prayers. I hope there is something I can share with you next week.

### Parish Fayre 27th June 2026

Thanks to all who contributed to the Summer Fayre on Saturday. People's hard work is much appreciated. The amount raised is over £4,300. A great total and well done to all involved.

### CAFOD Emergency Appeal for Venezuela & Sponsored Walk for Sudanese Appeal

A big thank-you to all who contributed in anyway to our sponsored walk to St Mary's Lighthouse. Thanks to all who have sponsored and to all who took part in the walk. If you would like to make a donation please leave it in an envelope marked 'CAFOS Sudanese appeal. The CAFOD emergency appeal for Venezuela is still open as well.

### Diocesan Pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi

The Pilgrimage will be led by Bishop Stephen, from 22<sup>nd</sup> till 29<sup>th</sup> October 2027 – £1725 per person. Places are limited to 50 pilgrims and places are allocated on a first

come first served basis with payment of the deposit securing your place. The itinerary and booking details can be found on the diocesan website ([www.diocesehn.org.uk](http://www.diocesehn.org.uk)) or alternatively via the parish office.

### Proclaimers

The outreach group will be meeting Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> July at 11am at St Joseph's. All are welcome.

### Parish Keys

Fr Chris would like to update the register of holders of parish keys. Could you please contact the parish administrator if you have any parish keys. Katherine can be contacted at: Katherine.Main@diocesehn.org.uk or on 01912573408.

### Trained First Aiders

Since Fr Chris cannot remember who approached him about being trained first aid providers, he would be very grateful if they could contact one of the members of the Pastoral Care Group, Elaine McColl, at [elaine.mccoll@btinternet.com](mailto:elaine.mccoll@btinternet.com) Thank-you.

### Therapist Placement

I have been approached by Amanda Normand, who subject to DBS and diocesan approval, is wanting to do a placement in the parish as a trainee therapist, with Therapy North. She can offer support on low level anxiety and depression, bereavement and loss and relationship counselling for couples. If you are interested in seeking support, please contact Amanda at: [amandanormand55@gmail.com](mailto:amandanormand55@gmail.com).

The initial meeting will explore if there is enough compatibility between needs of the client and what Amanda can offer. If not she will sign post them to appropriate sources of support. The sessions are free though if it is possible a small donation to cover supervision fees would be appreciated.

### Newman Society

Newman Tyneside Circle invites you to come and hear Tom O'Loughlin speak on Luke 5:27-32 as a discipleship text: Christian hospitality and the contemporary rejection of liturgy, in the hall of Holy Name Church, Jesmond, Newcastle, NE2 3JX, on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July, at 7.30pm.

### Community Hub North Shields

The Li'l Community hub in North Shields town centre is offering activities that may be of interest and benefit to those that attend our church. This is a wonderful warm inviting place to pop in or join in an activity, make new friends and ease isolation.

Activities include creative writing, ukulele, men's walk and talk, parent and baby sensory, crafts, cuppa chat and chill and more. See the website:

<https://www.facebook.com/TheLilcommunityhub>

### 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: Over the next few months our 'Live Simply' section on the bulletin will highlight short elements of Pope Leo's first encyclical taken from the CAFOD website as a focus for reflection. Consider: How can I play my part? How can I respond? What can I do to stop this from happening?

How we can move forward together and make the world better for everyone?

Magnifica Humanitas means "Magnificent Humanity" and is apt for a document about how we preserve the wonder and glory of the human person in the age of artificial intelligence.

The Pope's message asks us to work together to address the causes of inequality and injustice both now and as we look to the future.

CAFOD seeks to build a better world, and we believe that it needs all of us to play our part.

How can I play my part?

Pope Leo reminds us all of our dignity as human persons, made in the image and likeness of God. Our diversity is a richness and all we do must seek the common good of all people, especially those who are poor, vulnerable or marginalised. (MH – CAFOD)

### 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