

Mass Readings for the 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time – A

First reading

Neither is there any God besides you, whose care is for all, to whom you should prove that you have not judged unjustly. For your strength is the source of righteousness, and your sovereignty over all causes you to spare all. For you show your strength when men doubt the completeness of your power, and you rebuke any insolence among those who know it. You are sovereign in strength but you judge with mildness, and with great forbearance you govern us; for you have power to act whenever you choose. Through such works you have taught your people that the one who is righteous must be kind, and you have filled your sons with good hope, because you give repentance for sins.

Responsorial Psalm

Response: *O Lord, you are good and forgiving.*

Wisdom 12:13, 16-19

1. O Lord, you are good and forgiving,
full of mercy to all who call to you.
Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer,
and attend to my voice in supplication.
2. All the nations you have made shall come;
they will bow down before you, O Lord,
and glorify your name,
for you are great and do marvellous deeds,
you who alone are God.
3. You, O God, are compassionate and gracious,
slow to anger, O Lord,
abundant in mercy and fidelity;
turn and take pity on me.

Second reading

Brothers and Sisters: The Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia. I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,
you have revealed the secrets of the kingdom to little children. Alleluia.

Gospel

At that time: Jesus put another parable before the crowd, saying, ‘The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. And the servants of the master of the house came and said to him, “Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?” He said to them, “An enemy has done this.” So the servants said to him, “Then do you want us to go and gather them?” But he said, “No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, ‘Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’ ” ’

He put another parable before them, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is like a grain of mustard seed that a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all seeds, but when it has grown it is larger than all the garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.'

He told them another parable. 'The kingdom of heaven is like leaven that a woman took and hid in three measures of flour, till it was all leavened.'

All these things Jesus said to the crowds in parables; indeed, he said nothing to them without a parable. This was to fulfil what was spoken by the prophet: 'I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter what has been hidden since the foundation of the world.'

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples came to him, saying, 'Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.' He answered, 'The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world, and the good seed is the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.'

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The Parish of Saint Cuthbert and Saint Joseph, North Shields		
Saint Cuthbert Catholic Church <i>Albion Road West North Shields</i>	Tynemouth Priory Partnership 	Saint Joseph Catholic Church <i>Wallsend Road North Shields</i>
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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		
<u>Parish Schools</u> 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/		
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18 th / 19 th July 2026 – 16 th Sunday in Ordinary Time – A			
Masses, Devotions and Services			
	St Cuthbert's	St Joseph's	Our Lady & St Oswin's
Saturday 18th July		5:30pm: Vigil Mass: Bernard O'Kane	
Sunday 19th July 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time	11.00am: Mass: People of the Parish		9:30am: Mass: Maureen & Gordon Hogg
Monday 20th July			
Tuesday 21st July			10:00am: Mass: Jenny Cawood TC)
Wednesday 22nd July	9.30am: Mass: Requiem Mass for Billy Burwood		
Thursday 23rd July		9.30am: Mass: Ann Donnelly	
Friday 24th July	7.00pm: Mass: Private Intention SS-CHS		
Saturday 25th July		5:30pm: Vigil Mass: People of Parish	
Sunday 26th July 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time	11.00am: Mass: Stan Llewellyn		9:30am: Mass: People of the Parish

Facebook: search - - The Parish of Saint Cuthbert and Saint Joseph, North Shields.
Website: www.northtynesidecatholic.org.uk
Parish office: 0191 257 3408

Parish Contacts

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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, 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.

16th Sunday of the Year

The Gospel consists of three parables. Two important points come to mind. The first is that all three parables are exploring some aspect of the Kingdom of Heaven.

It reminds us of how the idea of the Kingdom of Heaven is so central to Jesus's ministry and vision. He did not say much about himself, he did not say much about God or the importance of love, though there are some references, but most of his teaching, and the embodiment of his teaching through his actions, was about the Kingdom of Heaven (or Kingdom of God in Luke's and Mark's Gospel). This is about the irrupting reign of God, a new order, with the hall marks of acceptance, mercy, love, with social, political and religious hierarchies being turned upside down, acknowledging the dignity and worth of all. What does this vision mean for you?

The second important aspect is the importance of parables in Jesus's teaching ministry. Parables are like symbols, they are open to meaning and interpretation, but unlike a sign, which will point you in the direction of say Whitley Bay, you cannot give certainly as to its meaning.

In using parables, Jesus is not giving us clear directions but offering us the opportunity to work out its significance for us in our lives and contexts. As I will show in my sermon, they are open to more than one interpretation, or you can give another emphasis to the one that seems first of all to be apparent.

I will attempt to give my understanding in my sermon of the 3 parables, but I invite you in the context of your life to explore what the parables of the 'wheat and weeds', the 'mustard seed' and the 'yeast in the dough' mean for you?

Confirmations

Congratulations to all those confirmed on Wednesday. My thanks to all who contributed in anyway to the lovely and joyful celebration. Special thanks for all the hard work carried out by the catechist.

Baptism

This Sunday at St Joseph's at 1.00pm we will have the baptism of Rowan Andrew Livingstone. We pray for Rowan and his family as he is united in Christ and welcome into our Christian family.

Fr Leo Pyle RIP

Fr Leo Pyle was parish priest of St Cuthbert's, from 1978 to 1986. He died on July 10th aged 93. May he rest in peace. His Requiem Mass is at St Mary's, Hexham at 12 noon on Wednesday 29th July, presided by Bishop Stephen.

Requiem Masses

The following Requiem Masses will be taking place over the next two weeks:

Billy Burwood: Wednesday 22nd July 9.30am at St Cuthberts

Winnie White: Tuesday 28th July 1pm at St Joseph's

Ann Donnelly: Friday 31st July 1.30pm at St Cuthbert's.

May they rest in peace.

Partnership Appointment

At the weekend, it was announced that Bishop Stephen has appointed Fr Binoy Mandapathil as Priest in charge of the Parish of Our Lady Star of the Sea, Whitley Bay, Backworth and West Monkseaton and the Parish of St Mary Cullercoats and St Oswin, Tynemouth.

We look forward to welcoming Fr Binoy to the partnership. He is from India and is a member of Syra-Malabar community. He is also a member of the Redemptorist Order. He has been a priest of 22 years and offers a great deal of experience from ministering in different parts of the world, including the Middle East. We pray for him as he prepares to take up his new appointment. We also pray for Mgr Faley as he prepares to leave Whitley Bay after 13 years of faithful service. Fr Binoy will take up his new appointment on September 1st.

Diocesan Pastoral Plan

The Partnership Group will be meeting on Wednesday 22nd July. Please keep this process in your prayers. I hope there is something I can share with you soon.

Tyne and Wear Citizens

I would like to welcome to the 11am Mass at St Cuthbert's Toby Quibell. Toby is the co-chair of Tyne and Wear Citizens. He will be saying a few words after Mass as to how we work with the wider community to discover the needs and concerns people have at this time.

There will be a meeting of the North Shields Hub on Tuesday 21st July at St Cuthbert's. All parishioners are welcome.

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 22nd till 29th 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) or alternatively via the parish office.

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.

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.

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

Live Simply Tip:

Further Reflections from Magnifica Humanitas: Pope Leo clearly views Artificial Intelligence as one of the key challenges of our times, but the encyclical is not all about technology. Rather it is about how we respond to the challenges that this technology brings to our world and how we live our lives, in the light of our faith, the Gospel and the history of Catholic teaching. (MH – CAFOD) Magnifica Humanitas is a warning about allowing ourselves to build further inequality into our structures and systems, with economic and technological resources being concentrated in a few hands. This could lead to a widening of the gap between the included and excluded, those who can participate and those who do not have access. (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