

Mass Readings for the 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time – A

First reading

Thus says the Lord:

'Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters;
and he who has no money, come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.
Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,
and your labour for that which does not satisfy?
Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.
Incline your ear, and come to me;
hear, that your soul may live;
and I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.

Responsorial Psalm

Response: *You open your hand and fulfil us, O LORD.*

Isaiah 55:1-3

1. The LORD is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in mercy.
How good is the LORD to all,
compassionate to all his creatures.
2. The eyes of all look to you,
and you give them their food in due season.
You open your hand and satisfy
the desire of every living thing.
3. The LORD is just in all his ways,
and holy in all his deeds.
The LORD is close to all who call him,
who call on him in truth.

Second reading

Brothers and Sisters: Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia. One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God. Alleluia.

Gospel

At that time: When Jesus heard of the death of John the Baptist, he withdrew in a boat to a desolate place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them and healed their sick. Now when it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, 'This is a desolate place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves.' But Jesus said, 'They need not go away; you give them something to eat.' They said to him, 'We have only five loaves here and two fish.' And he said, 'Bring them here to me.' Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass, and taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and said a blessing. Then he broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

Matthew 14:13-21

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>
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 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	

1 st / 2 nd August 2026 – 18 th Sunday in Ordinary Time – A			
Masses, Devotions and Services			
	St Cuthbert's	St Joseph's	Our Lady & St Oswin's
Saturday 1st August		5:30pm: Vigil Mass: Philip & John Howells	
Sunday 2nd August 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time	11.00am: Mass: People of the Parish		9:30am: Mass: Cynthia Chicken
Monday 3rd August			
Tuesday 4th August			10:00am: Mass: Priest's Intention
Wednesday 5th August	9.30am: Word & Communion		
Thursday 6th August Transfiguration of the Lord		9.30am: Word & Communion	
Friday 7th August	7.00pm: Mass: Word & Communion		12:00pm: Funeral Service David Anderson
Saturday 8th August		5:30pm: Vigil Mass: People of the Parish	
Sunday 9th August 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time	11.00am: Mass: Alf Hazelgrove		9:30am: Mass: People of the Parish

<u>The Parish of St Cuthbert's and St Joseph's, North Shields</u> Facebook: search - - The Parish of Saint Cuthbert and Saint Joseph, North Shields. Website: www.northtynesidecatholic.org.uk Parish office: 0191 257 3408	
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Parish Contacts

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Email: Clare.Harvey@diocesehn.org.uk
Tel. 07507 297779

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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, Fr Leo Pyle and all those who have died recently.

18th Sunday of the Year

The Gospel is the feeding of the five thousand. We are told that Jesus had recently been told John the Baptist had been killed and he is looking for an isolated place, but he is followed by the crowds. Whatever his needs in grieving for his cousin, we are told he has compassion on people and begin to teach and heal. The disciples then tell Jesus send them away so that they can buy food, but Jesus tells them to feed themselves and hey reply they only have five loaves and two fish. We all know that having blessed this small amount the crowd is fed and 12 baskets of scrap collected.

I know from my own life my response to many situations is 'have I enough' and so often in giving what I have, though it does not seem a great deal, it is sufficient. I know I need to trust more. Faced with many challenges we can think we are not able to meet the demand of the present time but often I am reminded to give what I can even if it is not a great deal. Jesus is motivated by compassion and a willingness to share even if it is not a great deal. May we

have a similar compassion and wiliness to share what we have no matter how small our contribution seems.

Baptism

Today, 2nd August at St Joseph's at 1pm, we have the baptism of Rebecca Dryden. We pray for Rebecca and her family as she is united in Christ and is welcomed in our Community of Disciples.

Lectio Divina

There is an opportunity to pray with the Gospel reading for the following Sunday and engage in spiritual conversation on Wednesday August 5th at St Cuthbert's at 7pm. All are welcome.

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.

Retreat

I am on Retreat at the Briery in Ilkley from 4th to 13th August. I will keep you in prayers as I discern God's voice for me at this time. I am grateful for your support and inspiration you offer as a Community of love and faith. Father Jim O'Keefe will be here next week.

Tyne and Wear Citizens

There was a very fruitful meeting on Tuesday at St Cuthbert's of the North Shields Hub. 14 people were present. There was clearly an appetite to reach out to communal spaces to discover people concerns and to explore ways we can develop community cohesion in the town. We agree on the following:

We would map as a group the communal meeting places in North Shields, formal and informal. A member of the group will create a google doc for these places to be collated. Aim is build up relationships in these spaces as the first step in reaching out.

We would try to have 1-2-1s among this group and beyond. I encourage parishioners to reach out to fellow parishioners they see in church but do not know that well to meet up to get to know each other, hopefully

discovering shared concerns and building up relationships with each other.

Encourage people to take part in the training that will take place 9.30-4pm on September 18th and 25th in North Tyneside. Venue to be confirmed but St Cuthbert's is a possibility. Training is free. You can sign up at: <https://actionnetwork.org/events/introduction-to-community-organising-training-north-tyneside-september-2026/>

Next meeting is Wednesday 2nd September at St Cuthbert's at 7pm.

Thank You

Kath Kenny would like to express her sincere thanks for the numerous cards, gifts and best wishes she received for her 80th birthday. They were very much appreciated. God bless you all.

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.. The latest figure raised for the Sudanese appeal is £987. Well done to all who contributed

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.

Churches Together

During August, some of the non-Catholic Churches in North Shields do not have their own services but have joint services. These are taking place on Sunday evening. I am sure anyone from our parish would be very welcome:

- Holy Saviour's on Sunday 2nd Aug at 6pm
- St Hilda's on Sunday 9th Aug at 6pm (Led by Preston Grange Community Church)
- Christ Church on Sunday 16th Aug at 6pm

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:

He calls for the creation of safe and legal routes for migrants, dignified conditions for receiving them and genuine pathways to integration. But he also reminds us that we should address the root causes that lead to forced migration in the first place, by promoting peace and addressing economic injustice and the climate crisis.

Like his predecessors, Pope Leo is clear that true progress is not just about material wellbeing, but about the wellbeing of the whole person. This includes a spiritual and moral dimension as well as ensuring that basic practical needs are met. This progress is measured by the dignity of each person and the good of all peoples. (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