

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 and Stephen Davies. Please pray for Fr Leo Pyle, Michelle Collings, Olive Dargaval, Maria Scott, Fr Joe Kendal, Frankie Hunter and all those who have died recently.

23rd Sunday of the Year

The Gospel of St Matthew is often seen as the Gospel for the Church. It is the longest of the Gospels and a lot of its teaching is for an early Christian community, most from the Jewish tradition, coming to terms with the grace of the Gospel. With the parables of the wheat and the weeds and the dragnet, there was an understanding that judgement would take place but that would be God's business. There is also the statement that we are to forgive 'seventy times seven'. But what if someone was causing trouble in the community. The gospel lays out a careful process of giving an opportunity for agreement to be made and for the person to acknowledge their fault but to be treated as an outsider, like a tax collector or sinner. There does seem to be a paradox. Theory and harsh realities clashing. We want to be inclusive and not rejecting people but in not doing that may be harming the common good of a community. Paradox of the Gospel is brought out that being told treat people like 'tax collectors and sinners' we know that Jesus' approach was to accept

and welcome them. In discerning what is good for an individual and for the common good can be in opposition to each other. Great wisdom is needed, knowing that grace can work in us all so we must enable people to have the opportunity to be open to that grace. Can any rejection be permanent?

Funeral

The Funeral Service of Frankie Hunter will take place on Thursday 10th September at 2.30 at the Cemetery Chapel at Preston Cemetery followed by burial. May he rest in peace.

Parish Council

There will be a meeting of the Parish Council on Thursday 10th September at 7pm. Please let any of the parish councillors or Fr Chris know if you have any items to be discussed.

Pastoral Care and Funeral Ministry Group

This group will meet at St Joseph's on Tuesday 8th September at 7pm.

Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish

We pray for our partnership parish, Our Lady Star of the Sea, at this time of transition. Mgr Faley will leave the parish after 13 years of faithful service. We pray he enjoys his retirement and is happy at residing with the Little Sisters of the Poor at St Joseph's. We also pray for Fr Binoy who took up his new appointment on September 1st.

Journey in Faith (Re-)discovering the Catholic Church

The Coast Partnership Journey in Faith sessions for 2026–2027 will begin on Tuesday October 6th in St Edward's meeting rooms, from 7:00 pm until about 8:30, and continue fortnightly.

The meetings are open to all who are enquiring about the Catholic Faith, or already know that they wish to become a Catholic, or are already Catholic but wish to renew and deepen their understanding of the Church. Catholics who have been away from the Church for a while are especially welcomed also.

Please share this message with anyone who may be interested. Further information is available via the parish office or Joe James at jjames9241@aol.com.

Tyne and Wear Citizens

There was a meeting of the hub on Wednesday 2nd September. There was 17 people present.

It was agreed that a list of communal groups in the area would be drafted and added to. Once we have a full list, we will invite them to an event at St Cuthbert's Church on November 22nd at c 12 noon. This will be called 'Shared Food, Shared Concerns'. People will be invited to share in a 'weaving trust', where people share their concerns. It is hoped it will build community within and beyond the parish.

Some funding from a research fund for this event could be used. The Mayor of North Tyneside will be invited. Next meeting is October 8th at 7pm at St Cuthbert's. There is training available that will take place 9.30-4pm on September 18th and 25th in at St Cuthbert's. Training is free for all parishioners. You can sign up at: <https://actionnetwork.org/events/introduction-to-community-organising-training-north-tyneside-september-2026/>

Parish Meditation Group

A Four Week Introductory Course will be starting on 22st September till 13th October 7.00-8.00 pm at St Cuthbert's, Come to me all you who are weary and burdened and I will give you rest. (Mt 11:28). For more information contact Ali Hain: alistairhain@gmail.com

The Leadbeater Bill on Assisted Dying

This bill having failed to pass through the House of Lords is being reintroduced to the House of Commons on September 11th. The Bishop's Conference are asking people to write to their MPs. It is interesting to note that the Prime Minister think that our priority should be first of all given to ensure proper and adequate palliative and social care.

Ave Maria Brunch

Women of all ages and from all across the Diocese are warmly invited to our Ave Maria brunch on Saturday 12 September, 10.00-12.00pm at English Martyrs Church, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE5 3JR. Inspired by Mary's Magnificat, the morning will include prayer, reflection, music and fellowship as we rejoice in God's goodness. For the bring and share brunch, we ask that you bring an item e.g. pastries, croissants, fruit; drinks will be provided. For more information, please contact Mary Madziva at mmadziva@ymt.org

Newman Tyneside Circle

Invites you to come and hear Pat Devlin speak on World Week for Peace in Palestine & Israel, in the hall of Holy Name Church, Jesmond, Newcastle, NE2 3JX, on Monday 21 September 2026, at 7.30pm.

The theme for this year's WWPPi highlights in particular the trauma experienced by children in Palestine & Israel. The talk will move from examining the tragedy unfolding in the current situation to the hope found in the joint Palestinian/Israeli groups committed to working together for a Just Peace for all, and will conclude with practical suggestions for how we in the UK can contribute to that work

Season of Creation

Tuesday 1st September marked the beginning of the Season of Creation, where the Church calls us to acknowledge that the earth is our common home and that in not respecting our planet we are making it inhabitable and increase the likelihood of mass migration. The theme

for 2026 is 'Living Water'. Aspects of the Living Water theme are:
Ecological restoration: Water as a symbol of healing for degraded ecosystems.
Spiritual renewal: Connection between faith, baptism, and transformation.
Human responsibility: Stewardship of natural resources, especially water.
Climate justice: Focus on communities most affected by water scarcity and pollution.
For more information go to: <https://laudatosimovement.org/news/season-of-creation-2026-living-water-theme-dates-and-how-to-participate/>

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

In his Message for the Season of Creation Pope Leo has said:

“Our Lord Jesus Christ came so that we might have life and have it in abundance (cf. Jn 10:10). This gift of life lies at the very heart of our mission as disciples and of our shared calling to build a civilization of love. As we observe this World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, we are once again invited to contemplate the gift of life and to cherish the earth that sustains it, for they are tangible ways of offering praise to our Creator. Today, we are witnessing many crises and much human suffering. At the same time, it seems that the disruption to the harmonious balance of creation is accelerating. These phenomena are not unrelated; they are a single plea for healing and peace arising from a wounded 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 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