



## Carols for Parishioners

**St. Patrick's RC Primary School Christmas Carol Service in the School Hall**

**FRIDAY 13th DECEMBER**

**2pm** Followed by refreshments (mince pies, mulled wine, hot chocolate etc.). All welcome

**PLEASE NOTE:** We are aware that a small group of children are making a nuisance of themselves around the Church Premises. This has been reported to the Police and we are monitoring the position.

If you encounter any problems with them, when you are around the Church, please inform Martin Driffield on 01642 653649. The Premises are covered by CCTV and incidents are recorded and kept for ten days, so they can be viewed as necessary.



8th Dec. 2019

**St. Patrick's R.C. Church**  
Glenfield Road, Fairfield,  
Stockton-on-Tees, TS19 7PJ

**Parish Priest : Fr. John Cooper**  
**Tel. 01642 674321**

E-mail : [stpatricks.fairfield@btinternet.com](mailto:stpatricks.fairfield@btinternet.com)



## ST. PATRICK'S CHRISTMAS DANCE

Featuring 'MO\$AIC'

**SATURDAY 14th DECEMBER**

With Teesside's best party band. In the Parish Centre. 8.00pm. Please bring your own food and drink. Tickets £6, tel. Ken Marr on 01642 602336

**SPUC CLUB DRAW . .** The next draw will take place on Sunday, 15th December. Please let Christine, Eileen or Maurice have any outstanding monies as soon as possible. Many thanks for all your support.

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**St. Patrick's S.V.P will be donating all collections** between now and year end to the Crisis Appeal for babies in the Sudan. Thank you for your generosity.

### Eucharistic Ministers 15th December

Christine Pope, Rosanne Delplanque  
Michael Toole, John Bowron

### Ministers of the Word 15th December

Nathan Cornfield, Paul Delplanque

### Home Communion 14th / 15th Dec.

Val Railton, Edna Early  
Christine Pope, Maurice Ward

**Church Cleaning ~ Week Beg.**  
9th December - Team 3

**Bidding Prayer Rota ~ December**  
Terry & Patricia Egerton

**PARISH SHOP . .** Please make a visit after Mass, we now have on sale **Christmas Cards, Advent Calendars and Christmas Gifts**

### GENERAL ENQUIRIES, CHURCH & PARISH CENTRE BOOKINGS

Please contact Kathryn Wood in the Parish Office Tel. (01642) 580171

**J**ohn's ministry focused on preaching conversion and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sin. Repentance is a change of heart, or attitude, which results in leaving sin behind and embracing God's freely shared life and love. Such change is only possible with the gift of God's grace. If we rejoice that the Father loves us and has sent his Son among us, then it also make demands on us. Being disciples means we have to be doers. We cannot be indifferent to sufferings and needs of others. God loves us, we must love others; God has forgiven us, we must forgive others; God provides for us in our need, we must provide for others.




*Give grace to us our families and friends that we may serve Christ in one another and love as he loves us. Help us to make our homes patterns of your love, places of mutual trust and forgiveness, places of true sharing and caring, places of deep joy and peace, and unite us all, one to another in the circle of your love. In this season of Advent, we celebrate the first coming of your Son to us in Bethlehem, may we joyfully anticipate the day when Christ will come again. May our Advent season be a preparation for the day when we are taken into the joy of heaven, where waiting will be no more, and all our hopes will be fulfilled. Amen.*

**You're invited**

**THIS SUNDAY Bishop Robert will be coming to celebrate the 6.00pm Mass at St. Mary's.** During the Mass he will present Edwin Booth with a '**Bene Merenti Medal**' from Pope Francis in recognition of his many years as an Altar Server and contribution to the Church. After Mass you are invited to **Cheese and Wine** in the house to celebrate this special occasion for Edwin and St. Mary's.



**ST. PATRICK'S LADIES GROUP** are holding a '**Christmas Raffle**' this Sunday and Sunday 15th December. **If you have any item that you could donate for a raffle prize** please leave in the porch marked 'Ladies Group'. The raffle will be drawn on 15th December in the Parish Centre after Mass. Please come in and have a tea/coffee and collect your prize. Many thanks for your support.

2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT . . . Pg. 85			
8	Sunday	9.00am	Tilly & Charlie Stephens
9	Monday <i>The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	9.15am	Sheila Walker
10	Tuesday <i>St Francis Xavier</i>		No Mass or Eucharistic Service
11	Wednesday		No Mass or Eucharistic Service
12	Thursday	6.30pm	SVP Rosary ~ All Welcome
13	Friday <i>St Lucy</i>		No Mass or Eucharistic Service
14	Saturday <i>St John of the Cross</i>	9.15am 9.45 - 10.15am	Audrey Gooding Sacrament of Confession
3rd Sunday of Advent . . . Pg. 88			
15	Sunday	9.00am 7.15pm	People of our Parish Divine Mercy ~ Crèche
		Riska Okninski, Monica McShane, Billy McGuinness, Pat Jackson, Margaret Devlin, Pauline Morton, Mike Rutland, Margaret Kenning (nee Mockler), Christopher Brown, Fr. Pat McKenna, Rosie Owens, Andrew Brydon, Mary Talbot, Veronica Connors, Betty Griffiths, Sadie Todd	
<b>ANNIVERSARIES:</b>		Alan Riley, Sheila Walker, Helen Genery, Kathleen Ferguson, Thelma Brown	
<b>MASS ATTENDANCE:</b>		1st December . . . 180	
<b>OFFERTORY COLLECTION:</b>		1st December... .£382.29 plus ave stos. plus weekly standing orders which currently average £291.48 per week.	



**Gwen Gallagher is collecting used Postage Stamps for Assistance Dogs u.k.**, an organisation that trains dogs to help disabled people in their own homes. She would be grateful if parishioners would leave their used postage stamps in the porch. Many thanks.

## UNDERSTANDING THE SCRIPTURES

Please note that the Scripture Group will start again in 2020. Best wishes for the Christmas season.

**DIVINE MERCY . . . Sunday, 15th December** at 7.15pm in the Crèche at St Patrick's Church. Homily 'Behold your Mother' followed by The sung Chaplet of Divine Mercy in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament.



## VALUE YOUR VOTE - GENERAL ELECTION STATEMENT

The Catholic Bishops' of England and Wales have issued a statement on the forthcoming General Election. The Bishops highlight the duty of all citizens – not just Catholics – to help shape politics that are "rooted in the service of human rights and peace". The statement concentrates on the key issues.

In making judgments about how to vote, the Bishops ask that the following are carefully considered and, indeed candidates can be asked how they will uphold:

- The innate dignity of every human being; defending both the child in the womb, the good of the mother and an understanding of the immeasurable good of a child not yet born?
- The dignified care for those who are terminally ill and dying while resisting the false compassion of assisted suicide or euthanasia?
- The right of parents to educate their children in accordance with their faith and support the work of Catholic schools in their contribution to society and their promotion of the common good?

Please see the attached statement for more information.



**TODAY IS BIBLE SUNDAY . . .** Lord, you speak to us from Scripture in a way that helps us to grow in our understanding of you. Help us as we read from the Bible today to be refreshed, to appreciate in a new way just how richly blessed we are, and to sense what you would say to us as we seek your guidance for our lives in your service. Amen