

Times of Mass, Intentions and Services
Easter Sunday Year A – 12th April 2020

Mass without a Congregation		
	<u>English Martyrs and Ss Peter & Paul's</u>	<u>St Bede's</u>
HOLY SATURDAY		
Sat 11th	<u>6:00pm Fr Jeff will celebrate the EASTER VIGIL privately in church (not live-streamed)</u> Pro Populo (People of the Parish) Please login to the Diocesan website for the Easter Vigil Celebration at our Cathedral in Newcastle	
Sun 12th	EASTER SUNDAY <u>11:00am</u> Gordon & Helen Duncan RIP and Malcolm Craig RIP <u>4:30pm – 5:30pm HOLY HOUR with adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</u>	
Mon 13th	<u>10:00am</u> Joan Heath RIP (VMD)	
Tue 14th	<u>10:00am</u> Paul & Gary Burke RIP	
Wed 15th	<u>10:00am</u> Maureen Deery RIP	
Thur 16th	<u>10:00am</u> David Anderson RIP	
Fri 17th	<u>12.00 Noon</u> Cis Waters RIP	
Sat 18th	Mass (not live-streamed) Alice Lackenby RIP & Family	
Sun 19th	<u>10:00am</u> Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	

Week by week, each day will have a theme to help us to pray for those affected by Covid-19:

Please keep these themes in your daily prayers.

Sunday will be Pro Populo;
Monday for the Bereaved;
Tuesday for Hospital Staff
Wednesday for the Sick and Housebound of our Parishes

Thursday for Young Families
Friday for The Government and Scientists
Saturday for All Areas National and International affected by Covid-19

Sacrament of Reconciliation: The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available **by appointment**.

Bulletin Items: If you would like a notice included in the next bulletin, please email parishnewsletterstockton@gmail.com by Wednesday evening at the latest. Alternatively, post through the letterbox at English Martyrs and Ss Peter & Paul's Presbytery.

Please remember to add your contact details in case we have a query.

HILDA PARTNERSHIP



English Martyrs and Ss. Peter and Paul's



St. Bede's



St. Joseph's

PARISH NEWSLETTER

Parish Priest: Fr. Jeffrey Dodds

Deacons: Jeffrey Parkes, Paul Hargreaves

Retired Priests: Fr. Denis O'Mahony, Fr. Pat McKenna

Parish Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday 10.00am til 2.00pm

Contact: Gill Hall Tel. 01642 806469

Email: parishfamilystockton@gmail.com

Facebook page: @ParishFamilyStocktonRC

Diocesan website: www.rcdhn.org.uk

Parish website: www.parishfamilystockton.org.uk

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A Message to the Parishes:

Easter Reflection

At the beginning of Lent this year I was asked by a number of people what I was going to give up in accordance with our tradition of denying ourselves something we like, something we enjoy. In doing so, we experience a modest amount of suffering - but more importantly our self-denial reminds us of how much Jesus suffered for us as we try to walk the road to Calvary with Him.

My answer was always the same - probably wine as I have done in previous years, but we'll see....

Little did I know that in common with all of you I would in fact give up virtually every aspect of my normal daily life this Lent. Most of us have been confined to our homes for weeks now, unable to follow our usual routines, and only able to venture out for a bit of fresh air or to fetch some groceries.

We haven't even been allowed to go to Mass and receive Holy Communion which would be a real blow at any time of year, but especially so in Lent.

But good things have happened too. There have been great acts of kindness both locally and nationally that put into practice our Lord's commandment to love one another.

We have found new ways of worshipping God - who would have thought how spiritually nourishing a Mass on a computer screen could be.

And maybe we have found just a little more time to pray, to develop our relationship with God.

The time will come, hopefully very soon, when COVID-19 will be over and we can return to normality - perhaps with a few adjustments here and there. This will surely be an opportunity to celebrate as a nation, indeed an opportunity for the whole of the world to celebrate.

But we don't need to wait till then to celebrate - this weekend we rejoice in our Lord's Resurrection, and now more than ever we need to thank God for the gift of His Son who shows us the path to true everlasting life.

By His death and Resurrection, we are set free. Through Him eternal life awaits us.

Happy Easter everyone!

Deacon Paul Hargreaves

Parish News

Parish Family: Supporting Each Other:

Times are challenging and it is important that we keep in touch with each other so that we can keep cheerful, help each other and pray together. Members of our Parish family from the Eucharistic Ministry Teams have volunteered to ring people who we know are self-isolating so that we can offer them a hand of friendship and faith. If you haven't heard from us yet and you are self-isolating, or you are on your own and would like a friendly chat, or if you know of someone in our Parish family who is lonely, please let us know so that we can arrange to contact you.

Ring or text: St Bede's - Karen 07939 495837 or Bernie 07922 154863 St Joseph's - Mary 07523 861661
English Martyrs and Ss Peter & Paul - Joan 07528 523873

St Anthony, patron of the elderly, Pray for us. St Rita, patron of the lonely, Pray for us.

Newsletter Distribution:

Many people are able to look at the Newsletter through the parish website, but if you know of someone who doesn't have the internet and would like to have a copy of the Newsletter please ring or text the name and address to Colette 07849712694 and a copy will be posted out. Let's keep in touch as a Parish Family.

SUNDAY LUNCH: Parish Family Stockton are offering a **FREE** weekly Sunday Lunch home delivery service to anyone in the local area who is self-isolating at home alone during the lockdown period. If you would like them to drop one off at your house please text or call Damian Blackwell with your address details, **by Thursday evening at the latest**, on 07931 474235. Thanks.

IMPORTANT: CENSUS FORM

Would every parishioner, including those who are housebound, complete and return a CENSUS FORM. The completion of this form will help us to comply with GDPR legislation but most importantly, in light of the COVID- 19 restrictions, this information will be used to help us communicate better as a parish family. You can find the form on the Parish Website under Parish News, Extra Parish Events at the top of the Coronavirus update page www.parishfamilystockton.org.uk Please print off and post the completed form back to the Parish Office or alternatively put your information in an email to parishfamilystockton@gmail.com. Thank you.

CATALYST - Stockton based Charity: Have volunteers who can collect prescriptions, deliver food etc for all who were all socially isolating and in need of assistance. The contact telephone number is **01642 524500**.

Sick and In Need of Prayer: Please remember in your prayers the members of our parish family who are ill.

Recent Bereavements

Please pray Anthony Coyne for all those who have died recently. May they rest in peace. Amen

How to keep busy and amused in Covid-19 Times:

Minute to Win It games are great fun for children and adults alike using things from around the house you can challenge each other and laugh a lot. <https://challengestodo.com/minute-to-win-it-games/>

Future Learn offers short on-line learning courses for free, all sorts of things to choose from <https://www.futurelearn.com>

Gareth Malone's at home choir, join him to learn to sing "Bring me Sunshine" in chorus
<https://decca.com/greatbritishhomechorus/>

If anyone would like to share any other ideas, please email parishnewsletterstockton@gmail.com

NEWS FROM UGANDA

Last week Fr. Vincent reported there had been 44 cases of Coronavirus. The people are afraid so if anyone coughs in public those nearby tell the person to sit down and wait to be taken away into isolation. Anyone who has not obeyed was beaten, they are not taken to prison as there is no food there. Only food shops are open, those not able to work have no income. Father says his focus has moved from helping refugees to helping anyone who is in genuine need. With funds we have sent he has bought rice, beans and maize. He has a team of 3 parishioners who come each morning to share out the food available. There is a curfew from 7.00pm to 6.30 am each day. *Sincere thanks to everyone who has supported the Uganda Mission Fund and made it possible for us to help Fr. Vincent in his work. God bless you all!*

Foodbanks: As a result of social isolation, distancing and supermarket shelves laying empty, food banks in our borough are experiencing a significant shortage of supplies and are struggling to support those most in need. You can help by donating money which will enable the foodbanks to buy supplies. Go to [Gofundme.com](https://gofundme.com) and search for Emergency Appeal for Foodbanks in Stockton-on-Tees.

Partnership News

We continue to pray for our Partnership of St. Hilda that we will continue to support each other not only at this time but in the future as we face the aftermath of the Covid-19 virus. May our parishes here in Stockton work together to build up God's Kingdom in our own area.

Diocesan News

Please be aware of the developing situation regarding the Coronavirus.

After the evening of Friday 20th March all public liturgies will cease and the obligation for the faithful to attend Holy Mass on a Sunday or Holy Day of Obligation is removed until further notice.

Masses will be celebrated by Parish Priests but **without a congregation** on a daily basis. Thus, congregations can join in spiritual communion with priests.

The Sacrament of Baptism will be deferred until such time that congregations can gather safely.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation may be offered on request as long as hygiene and social distancing requirements are observed.

First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion are postponed until such time that congregations can gather safely.

Confirmation is deferred until such time that congregations can gather safely.

The Sacrament of Matrimony should be deferred until such time that congregations can gather safely.

Anointing of the Sick will only be done under extreme circumstances and in accordance with the strict hygiene guidance.

We are aiming for the Parish to keep in touch and your assistance in this matter will be greatly appreciated; if you know of anyone who is without support, please let us know, however we would hope that this is a time for families and communities to pull together. A Parish Census form can be found on the Parish Website under Extra Events Coronavirus update for those who wish to let the Parish have their contact details; this is asked for in accordance with GDPR guidelines. This information will help us to help you.

These are unprecedented times but if we work together, we will come through. God will help us.

St. Joseph, Protector of Holy Church - Pray for us

Worldwide Church News

Pope Francis' Monthly Intentions for April: Freedom from Addiction

We pray that those suffering from addiction may be helped and accompanied

Prayer and Liturgy News

Spiritual Communion Prayer

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Mass and Devotions: The parish website has lots of information about Masses and Devotions which are available online. You can pray the various Mysteries of the Rosary and The Angelus through the Parish Facebook page.

Prayer to be recited during the current Coronavirus situation

Pope Francis – Prayer to Mary for Protection during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick.

At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith.

You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need.

We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us:

He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen.

We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God. Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test – and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

Mass and Devotions: The parish website has lots of information about Masses and Devotions which are available online. You can pray the various Mysteries of the Rosary and The Angelus through the Parish Facebook page.

Sing Resurrection Easter Sunday: At 10.00am join Christians across the UK in singing "Thine be the Glory" and "Jesus Christ is Risen today" in your garden, out of your window, in fact, wherever you are.

Finances

GIFT AID Envelopes

It is important that donors don't use the remaining stock of March 2020 envelopes if they want to take advantage of the tax relief. Please retain your offerings until we return to church when you will be able to pick up your new supply of envelopes.

...and now for some Light Relief...



Jamie's Paws for Thought:

Let nothing worry you; he who has God has everything. St John Bosco