



St. Patrick's R.C. Church

Glenfield Road, Fairfield,
Stockton-on-Tees, TS19 7PJ

Parish Priest : Fr. John Cooper
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Sunday 12th July 2020

Jesus toured the countryside sharing truths about God's Kingdom. By teaching with parables, Jesus was able to explain abstract ideas in a way that people could relate to. It helped them make a connection between their everyday lives and spiritual truth. By using this parable Jesus is inviting us to be sure to prepare the soil and to care for what God has planted within us. We have the feasts of saints and the great events of Jesus' life to inspire and invigorate us to become better disciples of Jesus. We can do this through prayer, discernment, and works of care and compassion that take us outside of ourselves and our own places of comfort. When we work at love or faith, the deeper things of life, something good happens. We try to hand on faith and love in the family and school situations. Sometimes we feel we see little for our work but love always bears fruit. Love given is never lost, we never know where it will end up. Part of life is trial and effort. Jesus was the same. He threw out love like the sower throws out the seed. He knows it may fall bad but he gives it anyway. He gave love on Calvary to everyone.

Lord Jesus Christ, we remember with gratitude those people who generously sowed the seeds of faith in our lives. Above all we recognize how you have blessed our lives with the gift of the Holy Spirit so that our faith has miraculously and mysteriously grown. Lord Jesus Christ, we know that when we become disconnected from you, our lives become parched and unfruitful and our faith becomes stunted and dry. Bless and renew our lives, we pray, so that we remain connected to you at all times and in all places, strengthening our faith to expand and, growing strongly and vigorously, to bear the fruit of your mercy, your love, your undying life. Amen.



We pray for all who promote the word and love of the Lord in our Church. We pray that seeds be sown in our community which will bear fruit and bring new shepherds into the church to tend to God's flock.

Lord hear our Prayer

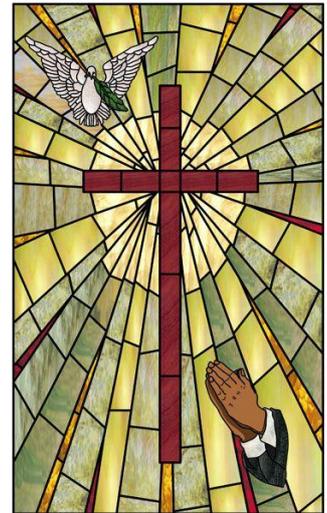
We pray for the unemployed and all those worried about the security of their jobs, that in their difficulties they may receive a generous share of the bounties of the earth gifted us by our all-giving Creator and Father.

Lord hear our Prayer

We pray for all farmers, particularly those in famine stricken areas of the world, that the seed they sow be fruitful and that there be an abundance of food for all.

Lord hear our Prayer

Masses with no Congregation			
15th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR			
12	Sunday		People of our Parish
13	Monday		Cath Rossinelli
14	Tuesday		
15	Wednesday St Bonaventure		
16	Thursday		
17	Friday		
18	Saturday		Mary Douglas
16th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR			
19	Sunday		People of our Parish
Anniversaries:		Mary Douglas	
		Riska Okninski SBilly McGuinness, Pat Jackson, Margaret Devlin, Pauline Morton, Mike Rutland, Margaret Kenning, Christopher Brown, Fr. Pat McKenna, Rosie Owens, Andrew Brydon, Mary Talbot, Veronica Connors, Betty Griffiths, Sadie Todd. Audrey Bentley	



Prayer is a plant, the seed of which is sown in the heart of every Christian. If it is well cultivated and nourished it will produce fruit, but if it is neglected, it will wither and die.

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS . . .

- **First Reading ~ Isaiah 55:10-11**
- **Responsorial Psalm ~ Psalm 64 10-14**
- **Second Reading ~ Romans 8:18-23**
- **Gospel ~ Matthew 13: 1-23**



Prayer for Our Community from the Diocese

O Great Love, thank you for living and loving in us and through us. May all that we do flow from our deep connection with you and all beings. Help us become a community that vulnerably shares each other's burdens and the weight of glory. Listen to our hearts' longings for the healing of our world. [Please add your own intentions.] . . . Knowing you are hearing us better than we are speaking, we offer these prayers in all the holy names of God, amen.

Life after the Pandemic - Pope Francis . . . The Vatican Publishing House has released a free eBook, "Life After the Pandemic", a collection of interventions by Pope Francis, with a preface by Cardinal Michael Czerny, to reflect on the vision of the world that is emerging after the pandemic and to which we are called to accompany. It is now available to read or download from the Diocesan website www.rcdhn.org.uk

Sea Sunday 2020 Postponed . . . In the light of the continued uncertainty around coronavirus, the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales have decided to **postpone Sea Sunday 2020 from this Sunday to December**. The date has not yet been finalised, but it is likely to be either Sunday 13th or Sunday 20th December. The income generated from Sea Sunday is crucial in maintaining support for seafarers but it is also an excellent opportunity to spread awareness of their work to others.



Lord God, we depend on you for life itself. We depend on seafarers for many of our daily needs. Watch over them, keep them from danger, befriend them in loneliness and bring them safely home to those they love. Amen

Pope Francis invites us to pray with him during the month of July that families may be accompanied with love, respect and guidance. When the Holy Father decided on the intentions that would be presented to us each month this year, in consultation with leaders of his worldwide prayer group, none of us had heard of COVID. Now, halfway through the calendar year, it is the backdrop to everything we pray, say and do. There are signs of hope in some places that it might be ending, thanks to the great love and efforts of healthcare professionals in particular and essential workers everywhere. At every time of prayer in these days, we must pray for them and in thanks for their service of others.

As we pray with the Pope this month, we are not only praying for our own families but also for those who have no family, for shattered refugee families and for families devastated by the effects of the contagion. The Trinity is shared love made present in each family member and in the world.



Hymns at Home: One Diocese, Many Voices – This Sunday, 12th July at 3pm. . . . We can't sing hymns in church at present – but we can sing Hymns at Home! The 'Songs of Praise Big Sing' style video will be premiered simultaneously across all the Diocese of Leeds You Tube music channels.

You can tune in to **www.leedscathedrallive.org.uk** and join in with recordings from their Diocesan Choirs and the young people in their Schools Singing Programme, leading us in well-known Catholic hymns subtitled on screen for everyone to sing along at home. The broadcast, which has been created as a labour of love by Diocese of Leeds Music's Charlotte Kitson, will include some choral pieces specially-recorded online during lock-down, and will be interspersed with prayers and short reflections from members of their clergy. It can also be accessed using www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk. You can also access site by typing into the search engine 'hymns at home Leeds Diocese'.

RE-OPENING OF ST PATRICK'S CHURCH . . . You will be very pleased to hear as part of the Diocese phased re-opening of churches, St Patrick's Church has been granted permission to re-open. No date as yet, this is pending on the Property Department completing a Health & Safety site-Specific Risk Assessment. Following the assessment preparing the church will begin. Thank you to the parish volunteers who are ready to facilitate the re-opening. (Deacon Mick)

PARISH EVENT ~ ROSARY RALLY



At the start of lockdown on 29th March 2020 over 530,000 people throughout England and across the world tuned in to pray 'The Rededication of England as the Dowry of Mary' during Mass at Walsingham.

On the occasion Bishop Robert Byrne CO wrote:

"The Rededication of England as the Dowry of Mary is a great opportunity for the Catholic community in England to reflect on our rich Catholic heritage. Mary has long been honoured and loved in our land. It was St John Henry Newman who said that our depth of devotion to the Mother of God is a sign of the love we have for her Son. I pray that this Act of Dedication will be an opportunity for a new evangelisation of our nation and especially for a deepening of devotion to Our Lady.

Although we are unable to celebrate as we would wish due to the Covid-19 pandemic this should give us a greater confidence in her prayers. The faithful have always turned to her in time of need as we do today. Although we are physically separated we can come together in faith to give ourselves to Jesus and Mary and to ask for the graces we need at this time."

To mark this special year of rededication we are holding our next Parish Event: **'Rosary Rally'**. **The Rosary Rally will take place at St Patrick's Car Park on Saturday 18th July 2020 between 10.00 am – 12.00 noon.**

The Parish Statue of Our Lady of Lourdes will be placed outside the main church door under the canopy. **You are invited to arrive in your car any time of your choice to recite the rosary between 10am – 12noon.** Prayerfully recite the rosary in your car with windows remaining closed. When you have recited your Rosary you may leave the carpark. I'm sure you will want to give parishioners you haven't seen for months a smile and wave as you go. This will be a unique way for parishioners to be a family praying together in faith giving ourselves to Jesus and Mary, to ask for the graces we and our nation need at this time.



If you are unable to join us praying on the Church car park in your car, please pray with us from your home and know we hold you in our hearts as we pray. **To keep this event as safe as possible it is important you remain in your cars at all times with your windows closed.**



St. Patrick's School breaks for summer next Friday and we wish all the Staff, children and their families a happy and safe holiday.

Prayer for School Leavers . . . *As you leave St. Patrick's & Our Lady & St. Bede's*



R.C. Schools may you take with you every blessing you have received, blessings of knowledge, friendship and memories. May you all be refreshed this summer, teachers, pupils, support staff and parents, so that when term begins again you may all meet new challenges, new places, new people with a bright and cheerful heart. So we pray that all may grow and learn to live with love. Amen

THANK YOU to all St. Patrick's parishioners who are delivering bulletins, providing treats and for all other acts of kindness during these difficult times.

Please forward any prayers, thoughts, poems, news, anniversaries or any item that you would like to share and I will include them on the bulletin. Thank you.

Please could you pass this newsletter round the parish by forwarding to your parish contacts. If you do not wish to receive future newsletters please email stockton.stpatrick@rcdhn.org.uk or stpatricks.fairfield@btinternet.com to be removed from the mailing list. If you know of any parishioner who would like to start receiving the bulletin please ask them to e-mail the above. This bulletin can also be accessed through the Parish Family Stockton website: www.parishfamilystockton.org.uk.