

St. Patrick's R.C. Church

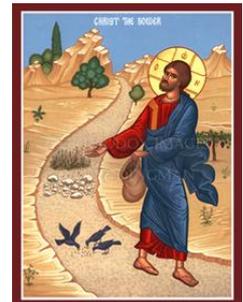
Glenfield Road, Fairfield,
Stockton-on-Tees, TS19 7PJ

Parish Priest : Fr. John Cooper
Tel. 01642 674321

Sunday 19th July 2020

The theme of today's readings is the **Kingdom of God**. Everything starts small, the mustard seed was a tiny seed that grew into a flowering bush; it was not mustard as we know it, but only a bush to give beauty and shelter. It can remind us of the beauty of creation, and of the caring shelter we can give to others. It is also a reminder that each of us began as a seed in our mother's body, and grew with the plan of God. The love of God grows like that – it begins small with birth and with baptism, and then grows wide so that we share our love of God. It is the same with marriage, love begins and then grows so that children and grandchildren and others may shelter in love. Love grows when love is given, in our immediate circle and in our care for the wider world. Good friendship and love spreads out to many. The parables about the Kingdom challenge us to remain faithful to the Church's teaching and guidance, reminding us that the Church is the seed and the beginning of the Kingdom here on earth.

Pope Francis said during a Sunday Angelus (21/7/14), "We all know that the devil plants evil where there is good, trying to divide people, families and nations." We are tempted to act impatiently, to try to pull out the weeds, even though it might also damage the good wheat in doing so. "But God knows how to wait. He looks into the 'field' of each person with patience and mercy. God sees the dirt and the evil much better than we do. But God also sees the seeds of good and patiently awaits their germination."



We pray for our Church that it be ever aware of its mission of promoting the love, generosity and truth of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Lord hear our prayer

We pray that we ourselves be protected from all evil in our daily lives and that we be ever aware that we can have recourse to the Holy Spirit for inspiration and strength in our moments of need.

Lord hear our prayer

We pray for those who are sick, both at home and in hospital, that our loving and caring Father look down on them with compassion and give them relief in their illness.

Lord hear our prayer

Father, grant that we never be sowers of evil among your children and that we may be your fruitful servants in this earthly harvest. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen

Masses with no Congregation			
16th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR			
19	Sunday		People of our Parish
20	Monday		David Hall
21	Tuesday		
22	Wednesday St Mary Magdalene		
23	Thursday St Bridget of Sweden		
24	Friday The Martyrs of the Diocese		
25	Saturday St James		Matthew & Mary Wilson
17th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR			
26	Sunday		People of our Parish
Anniversaries:		Margaret Horan, Eileen Cooper, Edward Wrigley, Bernard McNeil,	
		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	



Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art though amongst women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now, and at the hour of our death. Amen.

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS . . .

- **First Reading ~ Wisdom 12:13, 16-19**
- **Responsorial Psalm ~ Psalm 85:5-5, 9-10, 15-16**
- **Second Reading ~ Romans 8:26-27**
- **Gospel ~ Matthew 13:24-43**



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.

ST MARY MAGDALENE has always been the example of great love and great forgiveness, one of those close to Jesus who grasped the truth of God's love for human beings and spent her life bearing witness to that love. On the day of our Lord's crucifixion she stood with the Mother of Jesus at the foot of the cross and she was the first recorded witness to the resurrection of Jesus. Pope Francis raised the July 22 memorial of St. Mary Magdalene to a feast on the Church's Liturgical Calendar.



Mary Magdalene was the first to greet your risen Son and carried the news of his triumph over death to the disciples. Strengthen us to be faithful witnesses to the gospel in the world and grant your grace to all who preach and teach the faith. Amen

THE MARTYRS OF THE DIOCESE . . . Of the three hundred and fifteen of our Catholic ancestors who sacrificed their lives for the Catholic faith in England and Wales during the religious persecution of the 16th and 17th centuries, twenty-eight can be considered as 'Martyrs of the North' as they were born, laboured or suffered within the confines of Northumberland and Durham. To return to England as a priest was high treason punishable by hanging, drawing and quartering; to shelter a priest was a felony punishable by imprisonment, fines, confiscation of property and in many cases, death. It was only heroes and heroines who could face such ordeals, these are our martyrs.

NEW DAWN IN THE CHURCH ~ Virtual Conference dedicated to the Eternal Father. New Dawn is a spirit-filled Conference where 'the beauty of the Church can be seen in all her splendour with all Her lights on and aspects celebrated' (Myles Dempsey).

Holy Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, Liturgy of the Hours, Baptism in the Holy Spirit, Teaching, Healing, Praise and Worship, Rosary, Divine Mercy.



31st July to 2nd August. Streamed live from Walsingham in collaboration with the Shrine. www.newdawn.org.uk. (Sorry, but no time given on the poster or website).

BBC Radio 4 Sunday Worship - A Word for All Seasons . . . Deacon Henry Longbottom, Scripture Champion for Leeds Diocese will be co-leading BBC Radio 4's **Sunday Worship Programme on Sunday 19th July from 8.10am**. The theme is based on our 'God Who Speaks' campaign. Visit the Hexham & Newcastle Diocesan Website and you can listen to the live broadcast or the recording.

For those who are still unable to attend church, the Diocese continues to offer a range of online services: support in individual prayer or Mass online. For those who do not have access to the internet, a free postal "Ring a Prayer Resource" has been created, contact 07375934713 for more information. Alternatively, a Mass by Phone service, provided by the Diocese of Middlesbrough, is available at 01642 130120. For more information about digital and telephone services visit www.rcdhn.org.uk



CAFOD has joined with the UK Disasters Emergencies Committee to help millions of people whose lives are at risk as coronavirus spreads across refugee camps and countries suffering conflict. You can donate at cafod.org.uk/coronavirus to help CAFOD scale up its coronavirus response through our global Church family. Or use CAFOD'S Summer of Hope fundraising ideas with your family and friends to transform lockdown and raise money for the appeal: cafod.org.uk/summerofhope

The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle has the following vacancies:

- **Property Surveyor** based in Newcastle with extensive travel throughout the Diocese. Full-time. Two year fixed term contract.
- **Justice and Peace Refugee Project Co-ordinator** based in Newcastle. 18 hours per week. 12 month fixed term contract.
- **Department for Education, Administrator (maternity cover) – full-time**

For further information and details of how to apply please visit our website www.rcdhn.org.uk or contact us on 0191 243 3301

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.