



St. Patrick's R.C. Church

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

Parish Priest : Fr. John Cooper
Tel. 01642 674321

Sunday 26th July 2020

How we choose to live in this world has a bearing on the next life. We cannot be with God for ever in heaven unless we are with him during this earthly life. We prepare for the next life, a life enjoying the eternal happiness of heaven, by living this life as fully as possible in the presence of God. We are challenged to be faithful to Christ's teaching and example, keeping his commandments. As people we look for what's most important in life: the love of God, deep and enduring friendships, success after hard work in school, commitment to the poor, what cannot be lost and what is worth sacrificing other good things for. We need always to find the hidden treasures in people. The kingdom of God is close, near and is within us.

Lord, we thank you for prayer time in our families, the family Rosary, the Prayer of the Church, our own family prayers. Our lives together are like a great dragnet, bringing in a haul of all kinds: good and bad experiences, problems that need to be sorted out and others that seem important at the time but eventually we realize that they are of no importance at all. Our prayer time is when we put things into perspective and become closer to You. Amen.



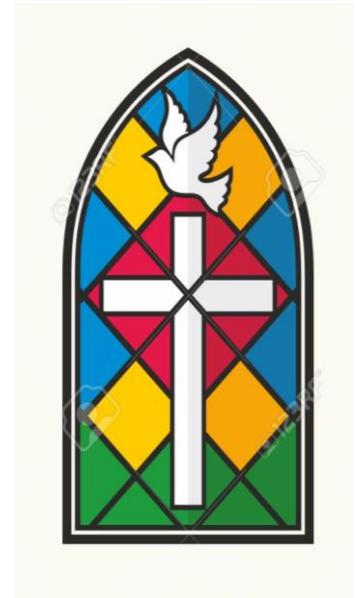
We are very happy to announce that from this week our Church can be open for public Masses, Funerals, Baptisms etc. Because of social distancing rules up to 90 people will be able to attend each Mass and 30 people for funerals and baptisms. At the moment it will be very difficult to have Sunday Masses but there will be Mass each day during the week. Come early if you want to be sure of a seat!

During these extraordinary times we are still dispensed from attending Mass on Sunday but we should keep Sunday Holy through Private Prayer, Spiritual Reading etc. at home. We have opted for one metre+ social distancing **so please wear a face covering when you come to Mass.** Very many thanks to Deacon Mick and the other volunteers who have offered their time and service for our benefit.

(Fr John Cooper)

In today's gospel, Jesus reveals to us the path to salvation and the kingdom of Heaven. We pray that we listen to His words and have the wisdom to commit our energies, our hearts and our lives to win that great treasure of being forever in His eternal presence. Amen.

17th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR			
26	Sunday		People of our Parish (Mass with no congregation)
27	Monday	9.15am	Ana Husband
28	Tuesday	7.00pm	Staff & Pupils Past and Present of St. Patrick's RC School
29	Wednesday <i>St Martha</i>	9.15am	Thomas & Mary Rita Cooper
30	Thursday	7.00pm	Joan Southgate
31	Friday <i>St Ignatius of Loyola</i>	9.15am	Tilly & Charlie Stephens
1	Saturday <i>St Alphonsus Liguori</i>	9.15am	Family & Friends throughout the Generations
18th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR			
2	Sunday		People of our Parish (Mass with no congregation)
Anniversaries:		Ellen Dolan, Ann Healey	
		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	



Pope Francis' Monthly Intention for July

We pray that today's families may be accompanied with love, respect and guidance.

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS . . .

- **First Reading ~ 1 Kings 3:5, 7-12**
- **Responsorial Psalm ~ Psalm 118:57, 72, 76-77, 127-130**
- **Second Reading ~ Romans 8:28-30**
- **Gospel ~ Matthew 13:44-52**



Lourdes is a place of universal meeting and sharing, prayer and celebration of life. Many intentions are placed before Our Lady of Lourdes each day of the year. Sadly this year's Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes has had to be cancelled.

Daily Prayer to the Immaculate Conception



Our Lady of Lourdes, you who revealed your presence to Bernadette by simply saying 'I am the Immaculate Conception' grant us the grace to be present with you at the Grotto. We cannot be there today, but we are present in spirit with Bernadette and all the pilgrims from Lourdes who have gone before us. You gave birth to the Saviour of the world, look tenderly on our world in her distress and open in us a path of hope. Guide us to Him who is the living source, Jesus, your son. Amen.

Father Nick Jennings is going to have a Prolife Holy Hour on Sunday 2nd August at 4:30pm from Crook. Please join in to pray for the unborn and respect for life. To see visit Diocesan Website, Life streaming Crook, on Facebook or youtube.



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).



PARISH EVENT ~ ROSARY RALLY . . . The Rosary Rally held last Saturday was prayerful and peaceful. Thank you to all who joined together to make this a special morning of prayer to Jesus and Mary for the graces we and our brother and sisters need at this time. Thank you to all who came to pray at the Church grounds and to those who prayed from home. On the day of Rededication of England as the Dowry of Mary, Our Lady was gifted a Golden Rose. We also had a golden rose gifted along with our floral display, a beautiful gesture of love. Our Lady of Walsingham – Pray for Us

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
Just one world

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



YOUTH MINISTRY TEAM

YMT UPDATE JULY 2020 . . . May I begin by thanking you all for the fantastic support that has been shown to the Youth Ministry Team (YMT) over the last 25 years and also for the support given to the Emmaus Village for the past ten years while we have been running our residential retreat programmes. We have had the pleasure of ministering to tens of thousands of young people from our Diocese and we look to the future with great hope and excitement. Due to COVID-19, we, like most of the rest of the country, were forced into lockdown and we were unable to continue our retreat programmes, our festival fortnight and deliver face to face youth ministry in our normal ways. We have, however, made every effort to keep our ministry alive through our social media outlets.

Looking to the next academic year, after lengthy discussions with our Board of Trustees and the Diocese, we have made the difficult decision to suspend our school retreat programme and other residential bookings at the Emmaus Village for the academic year 2020-21. The safety of students, staff and other guests is of utmost importance to us, and for health and safety reasons we feel that this is a necessary approach to the current situation we are all facing. We will still be running our Gap Year Team training and formation programme and exploring alternative ways to provide youth ministry until such time as face to face ministry can be safely delivered.

Plans for the YMT Relaunch and reopening of the Emmaus Village are already underway. The closure period will enable us to introduce new and exciting ways of reaching out to the young people of our diocesan schools and parishes, encouraging them into a personal relationship with Christ and fully into the life of the Church. It will also enable us to focus on fundraising for YMT and the Emmaus Village so that our ministry to young people and the diocese can be sustained for the future. Please pray for us at this challenging and exciting time. Be assured of our prayers and gratitude for all your support. The young people of our Diocese are truly blessed to have the opportunities we all provide.

Best wishes, Tony Lawless (Director of Youth Ministry)

Update from Northern Cross . . . Like many businesses and charities, Northern Cross is fighting hard to survive during the Covid-19 crisis. We need your help to win this battle. Due to our churches being closed and to safeguard our gallant delivery volunteers, the reluctant decision was made to suspend the printed edition, the only time since our foundation in 1956. Whilst this crisis continues, future editions will **only be available online by subscription**. Your support for this, along with many others, will be essential for the survival of Northern Cross. Please also continue to send your news items and letters to editor.norcross@btconnect.com in the weeks to come. More details are available on the Diocesan website:

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.



Mrs. Jones got a little too used to watching online worship from home.