



## Parish News

### Sick and in Need of Prayer

Please remember in your prayers the members of our parish family who are ill.

### Recent Bereavements

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

**Update on reopening of our Churches in Stockton Following the successful reopening of English Martyrs and Ss Peter & Paul, St. Joseph's is now awaiting its risk assessment by the Diocese in preparation for reopening. The cleaning packs have arrived for an initial deep clean to be done, along with supplies for cleaning before and after each opening. St. Bede's is awaiting Bishop Robert to announce the next group of churches to reopen. It is a necessary part of reopening that enough Marshalls are available and a number of parishioners have already volunteered to be Marshalls. If you would like to volunteer to be a Marshall, please contact the Parish Office on 01642 806469 for further details. The Saturday Vigil or Sunday Morning Masses are currently being celebrated at English Martyrs and Ss Peter & Paul and you must book a place by ringing or texting 07716 944610 to secure a place at these Masses. Times of all our Masses are on the back page. There is no need to book for weekday Masses or to attend Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. We look forward to welcoming you back to church.**

**Planning for the Future:** Covid-19 has changed many things in our lives including how we practice our Religion. Many Parishioners have been able to tune in through Facebook or YouTube and many lessons have been learned along the way, but one of the most important lessons is that good quality sound and vision are vital if we are to continue live-streaming. With this in mind, we need to ensure that the internet is strong enough and that the camera and sound system are robust enough to ensure good quality broadcasting. We want to be proactive in preparing for the future and envisage broadcasting Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals. If you would like to help to purchase the necessary equipment, please put your donation into an envelope marked 'Broadcasting Development'. Many thanks. God bless, *Fr. Jeff*.

**News from Uganda:** Recently Fr. Vincent had to rush two children to hospital in his pickup truck. One had malaria, the other child a boy about seven years old, had been bitten by a snake while he was in the bush hunting for food. He has lost two of his toes. The parents could not meet the hospital bills so Father paid the bills using money sent from the Uganda Mission Fund. Sincere Thanks to everyone who has contributed to the fund and so made this possible. Please pray for Fr Vincent and his parishioners.

**Minsteracres is now open** and have put in place all necessary precautions re social distancing etc. A weekend reflection on our encounters with gratitude, prophecy and hope has been organised with a choice of three weekends: **Friday 11th until Sunday 13th September, Friday 2nd until Sunday 4th October or Friday 20th until Sunday 22nd November.** A suggested donation of £140. Further details tel. 01434 673248 or email [info@minsteraces.org](mailto:info@minsteraces.org)

## Partnership News — taking in Hartlepool, Billingham and Stockton

**St Patrick's Fairfield** is also open for Mass. Please check the St Patrick's newsletter on [www.parityfamilystockton.org.uk](http://www.parityfamilystockton.org.uk)

### Holy Rosary Church in Billingham

will now be open for Mass Monday, Friday and Sunday 10:00am and Wednesday at 7pm.

**St. Joseph's Church in Hartlepool** is also open for Mass. Please check: [hartlepool.stjoseph@rcdhn.org.uk](mailto:hartlepool.stjoseph@rcdhn.org.uk).

## Worldwide Church News

### Pope Francis' Monthly Intentions for August: The Maritime World

We pray for all those who work and live from the sea, among them sailors, fishermen and their families.

## Prayer and Liturgy News

### Prayer for Our World

Creator God, who made our beautiful world, appointed us as its guardians and gifted us with everything we need, forgive us for the times we cause it harm; for the times our way of life affects our neighbours. Inspire us to care for the environment; to help rebuild lives and communities; to share in the griefs and anxieties, joys and hopes of all your people, so that all your creation may flourish. Amen.  
Stephen Davies/CAFOD

### A prayer for those staying at home

Lord, at this time I must stay with you at home. I make of my home your house and of my heart a sanctuary in which you ever dwell. Give me patience and joy, Lord Jesus, and grant those who visit you in Church and in the Blessed Sacrament to value so great a gift and cherish so great a love that leads you to choose to be with us now and always. Amen.

### First Reading

### Jeremiah 20:7-9

You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced; you have overpowered me: you were the stronger. I am a daily laughing-stock, everybody's butt. Each time I speak the word, I have to howl and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!' The word of the Lord has meant for me insult, derision, all day long. I used to say, 'I will not think about him, I will not speak in his name any more.' Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart, imprisoned in my bones. The effort to restrain it wearied me, I could not bear it.

### Psalm:

### 62(63):2-6,8-9

1 O God, you are my God, for you I long;

for you my soul is thirsting.

My body pines for you

like a dry, weary land without water.

2 So I gaze on you in the sanctuary

to see your strength and your glory.

For your love is better than life,

my lips will speak your praise.

3 So I will bless you all my life,

in your name I will lift up my hands.

My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,

my mouth shall praise you with joy.

4 For you have been my help;

in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.

My soul clings to you;

your right hand holds me fast.

### Second Reading

### Romans 12:1-2

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

### Gospel

### Matthew 16:21-27

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord;' he said 'this must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life?

'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.'

### Next week's readings:

First Reading

Prophet Ezekiel 33:7-9

Psalm 94

Second Reading

St Paul's Letter to the Romans 13:8-10

Gospel Matthew 18:15-20

**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 already being there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.**

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



**Jamie's Paws for Thought:** Never be afraid to trust an unknown future to an all knowing God

*Corrie Ten Boom*