

**Times of Mass, Intentions and Services**  
**24<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time Year A – 13<sup>th</sup> September 2020**

	<b>English Martyrs and Ss Peter &amp; Paul's</b>	<b>Feast Days this week</b>
Sat 12th	<b>6:00pm - Public Mass in Church</b> Pat Chapman RIP	Vigil Sunday Mass
Sun 13th	<b>10:30am - Public Mass in Church and live-streamed</b> Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	24 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time
Mon 14th	—	<b>The Exaltation of the Holy Cross</b>
Tue 15th	<b>9:30am - 10:30am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</b>	Our Lady of Sorrows
Wed 16th	<b>9:30am - Public Mass in Church</b> Gordon Todd RIP	Ss Cornelius, <i>Pope</i> and Cyprian, <i>Bishop – Martyrs</i>
Thur 17th	<b>9:30am –10:30am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</b>	St Robert Bellarmine, <i>Bishop &amp; Doctor</i>
Fri 18th	<b>6:00pm –6:30pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</b>  <b>6:30pm – Public Mass in Church</b> Diamond Wedding Anniversary of Albert & Eileen Fisher	—
Sat 19th	<b>6:00pm - Public Mass in Church</b> The Armstrong Family RIP	Vigil Sunday Mass
Sun 20th	<b>10:30am - Public Mass in Church</b> Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	25 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time

**Sacrament of Reconciliation – located at the Lady Altar**

<b>Friday 18<sup>th</sup>September</b> <b>6:00pm – 6:30pm</b>	<b>Saturday 19<sup>th</sup>September</b> <b>5:30pm – 6:00pm</b>
------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------

 **Parish Family Stockton Mass by Phone Service** You can now listen to Father Jeff celebrating Sunday Mass. This is available after 12:00 Noon by telephone on 01642 130032. Calls are charged at local rate. There may be a short delay so please be patient; the recording will then start to play.

**If you would like to reserve a place at the Saturday Vigil Mass or the Sunday Morning Mass, please ring or text 07716 944610 by 7:30 pm on the Thursday. Please leave your name, contact number and the number of places requested; you will be informed if there is a place available for youby Friday evening.**

**Bulletin Items:** If you would like a notice included in the next bulletin, please email [parishnewsletterstockton@gmail.com](mailto:parishnewsletterstockton@gmail.com) by **Tuesday evening** at the latest. Alternatively, post through the letterbox at English Martyrs and Ss Peter & Paul's Presbytery, Redhill Road, Roseworth, Stockton-on-Tees TS19 9BY. Please remember to add your contact details in case we have a query.

## ST. HILDA PARTNERSHIP



English Martyrs and Ss. Peter and Paul's



St. Bede's



St. Joseph's

## PARISH NEWSLETTER

### 24th Sunday Ordinary Time Year A – 13th September 2020

<b>Clergy</b>	<b>Parish Priest:</b> Fr. Jeffrey Dodds <b>Deacons:</b> Jeffrey Parkes, Paul Hargreaves <b>Retired Priest:</b> Fr. Pat McKenna
<b>Parish Office</b>	<b>Hours:</b> Tuesday to Friday 10.00am till 2:00pm <b>Contact:</b> Gill Hall Tel. 01642 806469 <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:parishfamilystockton@gmail.com">parishfamilystockton@gmail.com</a>
<b>Internet</b>	<b>Parish YouTube:</b> <a href="#">Stockton Parish Family</a> <b>Facebook page:</b> <a href="#">@ParishFamilyStocktonRC</a> <b>Parish website:</b> <a href="http://www.parishfamilystockton.org.uk">www.parishfamilystockton.org.uk</a> <b>Diocesan website:</b> <a href="http://www.rcdhn.org.uk">www.rcdhn.org.uk</a>

#### **Bulletin Reflection Matthew 18: 21-35**

Our Gospel reading for this Sunday is about forgiveness. It is a difficult word to hear, because we can find forgiveness difficult—both to receive and to give. However, it is also an urgent word, to be practiced without delay because receiving and giving forgiveness is central to our Catholic Faith.

Although I'm not a big user of social media I am surprised by the amount of unforgiveness that I see. I see good people slowly caught up in the narrative of criticising and 'outing' others, when really our efforts should be about understanding others. The Old Native American proverb says, "You should never judge a man until you have walked a mile in his moccasins." What makes us think we are right and the other is wrong?

We cannot hold others to account, we must not be their judge. The only thing we are called to do, is be the forgivers. The lovers of the other. The ones who consistently try and understand the other's point of view.

All of us have experienced God's love and forgiveness. We can only pass on that which we have received. Having experienced forgiveness at the hands of God and through His Holy Church, we are then called to make it possible for others to experience it. Thus the circle of Christ's love expands ever wider to encircle one more lost sheep - and another - and another.

This is not cheap grace. Jesus isn't suggesting that we regard offences as unimportant. Nor is he suggesting that we just smile at sin. He is calling us to take sin and forgiveness seriously. All of us make mistakes and we all need forgiveness. Forgiveness from God, and forgiveness from each other.

Also remember to be gentle and forgive yourself. God Bless.

*Deacon Jeff*

## **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 English Martyrs and Ss Peter & Paul and St. Joseph's are open at the times stated on the back of the bulletin. St Bede's is expected to open very soon once Bishop Robert has announced the next group of churches to reopen. The Saturday Vigil and 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. 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. 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*.

**Jonathon Bowes' Ordination** to the Priesthood is to take place on Saturday 3rd October in St. Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle, and will be celebrated by Bishop Robert. The Mass will be broadcast on the Cathedral's YouTube channel: visit <http://www.stmaryscathedral.org.uk/> and click on the 'See live Streams' link. If you would like to help Jonathon remember this special occasion by making a donation, please put your offering in an envelope marked 'Jonathon Bowes' and put it through the Presbytery letterbox or bring it to Mass. If you would like to write a cheque, please make it payable to 'DHN Parish Family Stockton'. Many thanks.

**Fr Vincent donations** are as follows: 2 x £100, 1 x £60, 1 x £50, 4 x £40, 1 x £30, 1 x £25, 3 x £10. Thank you to all the generous donors.

## **Partnership News – taking in Hartlepool, Billingham and Stockton**

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

**Holy Rosary Church in Billingham** is open for Mass: Monday, Friday and Sunday 10:00am and Wednesday at 7pm.

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

## **Worldwide Church News**

### **Pope Francis' Monthly Intentions for September:**

Respect for the planet's resources:

We pray that the planet's resources will not be plundered, but shared in a just, respectful manner.

## **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**

Resentment and anger, these are foul things, and both are found with the sinner. He who exacts vengeance will experience the vengeance of the Lord, who keeps strict account of sin. Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you, and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven. If a man nurses anger against another, can he then demand compassion from the Lord? Showing no pity for a man like himself, can he then plead for his own sins? Mere creature of flesh, he cherishes resentment; who will forgive him his sins? Remember the last things, and stop hating, remember dissolution and death, and live by the commandments. Remember the commandments, and do not bear your neighbour ill-will; remember the covenant of the Most High, and overlook the offence.

### **Psalm:**

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord

all my being, bless his holy name.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord

and never forget all his blessings.

2. It is he who forgives all your guilt,

who heals every one of your ills,

who redeems your life from the grave,

who crowns you with love and compassion.

### **Second Reading**

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life: it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

### **Gospel**

Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times.'

'And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master's feet. "Give me time" he said "and I will pay the whole sum." And the servant's master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me" he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, "Give me time and I will pay you." But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. "You wicked servant," he said "I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?" And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.'

### **Next Sunday's Readings:**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading Prophet Isaiah 55:6-9

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading St Paul's Letter to the Philippians 1:20-24

Psalm 144:2-3.8-9.17-18

Gospel Matthew 20:1-16

### **Ecclesiasticus 27:33-28:9**

### **102(103):1-4,9-12**

3.His wrath will come to an end;

he will not be angry for ever.

He does not treat us according to our sins

nor repay us according to our faults.

4.For as the heavens are high above the earth

so strong is his love for those who fear him.

As far as the east is from the west

so far does he remove our sins.

### **Romans 14:7-9**

### **Matthew 18:21-35**

**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:** St John Bosco once asked his secretary, Don Berto, "What is the hardest thing in the world to do?" Don Berto gave several answers, none of which satisfied Don Bosco. Don Bosco then said "To be good natured at all times."