

Times of Mass, Intentions and Services
25th Sunday Ordinary Time Year A – 20th September 2020

	<u>English Martyrs and Ss Peter & Paul's</u>	<u>Feast Days this week</u>
Sat 19th	<u>6:00pm - Public Mass in Church</u> The Armstrong Family RIP	Vigil Sunday Mass
Sun 20th	<u>10:30am - Public Mass in Church</u> Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	25 th Sunday Of Ordinary Time
Mon 21st	—————	St Matthew, <i>Apostle & Evangelist</i>
Tue 22nd	9:30am - 10:30am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	—————
Wed 23rd	<u>9:30am - Public Mass in Church</u> Special Intention of BS	St Pius of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio), <i>Priest</i>
Thur 24th	—————	Our Lady of Walsingham
Fri 25th	6:00pm – 6:30pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament <u>6:30pm – Public Mass in Church and live-streamed</u> Cis Waters RIP (RM)	—————
Sat 26th	<u>6:00pm - Public Mass in Church</u> Paul Bryan RIP	Vigil Sunday Mass
Sun 27th	<u>10:30am - Public Mass in Church and live-streamed</u> Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	26 th Sunday Of Ordinary Time

Sacrament of Reconciliation – located at the Lady Altar
Friday 25th September **Saturday 26th September**
6:00pm – 6:30pm **5:30pm – 6:00pm**



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 you
by Friday evening.**

Bulletin Items: If you would like a notice included in the next bulletin, please email 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

25th Sunday Ordinary Time Year A – 20th September 2020

Clergy

Parish Priest: Fr. Jeffrey Dodds
Deacons: Jeffrey Parkes, Paul Hargreaves
Retired Priest: Fr. Pat McKenna

Parish Office

Hours: Tuesday to Friday 10.00am till 2:00pm
Contact: Gill Hall Tel. 01642 806469
Email: parishfamilystockton@gmail.com

Internet

Parish YouTube: [Stockton Parish Family](#)
Facebook page: [@ParishFamilyStocktonRC](#)
Parish website: www.parishfamilystockton.org.uk
Diocesan website: www.rcdhn.org.uk

Reflection 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

Whilst I have been working from home these last months I have discovered something called 'daytime television'.

This came about as a result of me wanting to find an excuse to leave my desk at a set time in order to have a bit of a break, otherwise I was likely to stay at my desk all day...

Salvation came in the form of Bargain Hunt, a daily programme at lunch time where two teams buy three items each from antique shops or fairs within a £300 per team budget, and then sell those items at auction. The winner is the team that makes the biggest profit, or sometimes the smallest loss.

It is addictive viewing, so please only tune in if you are prepared to devote 45 minutes each day to following Anita, Charles and numerous other auctioneers/presenters as they travel the length and breadth of the country for our entertainment.

And that is what the programme is about really, entertaining people for a short while, with a bit of education about antiques and places of interest every now and again.

A bit of a diversion you might say.

But then towards the end of a particularly disappointing episode where neither team did well and the presenters did not sparkle, I began to question why I was bothering to watch at all - the programme still diverted me from my work, but surely I thought there must be better ways of spending 45 minutes each day.

And there are - the one that came to mind for me was praying. I suspect I am not alone when I admit that I don't always devote enough time and effort to praying, since something else often gets in the way - including Bargain Hunt.

Mind, I don't think I'm quite ready to give up on the programme completely. Instead it might serve as a reminder to me that whilst resting a while from work is important, making time for prayer is even more important.

In the words of our Psalm this weekend, we need to bless the Lord our God day after day, and praise His name for ever - may this be our prayer this coming week.

Deacon Paul

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 Peter Loy, Michael Elliott and 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 waiting for a date for its risk assessment to be done in preparation for it 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.

Pro-Life Holy Hour: The next Holy Hour will take place on Wednesday, 23 September, from 6:00pm till 7:00pm prior to the 7:00pm evening Mass at St Patrick's, Stockton. Members of Stockton SPUC Branch look forward to seeing you there.

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.

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: Fr. Vincent's area is on a long lockdown with schools and churches still closed. The infection rate is going up and there have been over 50 deaths. Father says people infect each other because they have to go out looking for food. Fr. Vincent has received in full the money we sent in August from the Uganda Mission Fund. He is using it to buy food and medical help for families who are in the greatest need. Sincere thanks to everyone who has contributed to the fund. God bless you all.

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

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

St. Joseph's Church in Hartlepool is open for Mass. Please check: hartlepool.stjoseph@rcdhn.org.uk.

Prayer and Liturgy News

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.

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

First Reading

Isaiah 55:6-9

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found, call to him while he is still near. Let the wicked man abandon his way, the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him, to our God who is rich in forgiving; for my thoughts are not your thoughts, my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who speaks. Yes, the heavens are as high above earth as my ways are above your ways, my thoughts above your thoughts.

Psalm:

144(145):2-3,8-9,17-18

1. I will bless you day after day
and praise your name for ever.

The Lord is great, highly to be praised,
his greatness cannot be measured.

2. The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.

How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures.

3 The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.

He is close to all who call him,
who call on him from their hearts.

Second Reading

Philippians 1:20-24,27

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life or by my death. Life to me, of course, is Christ, but then death would bring me something more; but then again, if living in this body means doing work which is having good results – I do not know what I should choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone and be with Christ, which would be very much the better, but for me to stay alive in this body is a more urgent need for your sake.

Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

Gospel

Matthew 20:1-16

Jesus said to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out at about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, "You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage." So they went. At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, "Why have you been standing here idle all day?" "Because no one has hired us" they answered. He said to them, "You go into my vineyard too." In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, "Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first." So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. "The men who came last" they said "have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day's work in all the heat." He answered one of them and said, "My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?" Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.'

Next Sunday's Readings:

First Reading

Prophet Ezekiel 18:25-28

Psalm 24:4-9

Second Reading

St Paul to the Philippians 2:1-11

Gospel Matthew 21:28-32

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.

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.

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

Jamie's Paws for Thought:

A smart person only believes half of what they hear. A wise person knows which half.

