

Times of Mass, Intentions and Services

26th Sunday Ordinary Time Year A – 27th September 2020

	English Martyrs and Ss Peter & Paul's	St Joseph's	Feast Days this week
Sat 26th	6:00pm - Public Mass in Church Paul Bryan RIP		Vigil Sunday Mass
Sun 27th	10:30am - Public Mass in Church and live-streamed Pro Populo (People of the Parish)		26 th Sunday of Ordinary Time
Mon 28th			St Wenceslaus, <i>Martyr</i> and St Laurence Ruiz & Companions, <i>Martyrs</i>
Tue 29th	9:30am - Public Mass in Church and live-streamed Mackintosh, Whenray & Stones Families RIP		Ss Michael, Gabriel & Raphael, <i>Archangels</i>
Wed 30th	9:00am - 9:30am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9:30am - Public Mass in Church and live-streamed Ronnie Watson RIP (MH)		St Jerome, <i>Priest & Doctor</i>
Thur 1st		9:30am - Public Mass in Church Thanks to Damien & Jo Blackwell	St Thérèse of the Child Jesus, <i>Virgin & Doctor</i>
Fri 2nd	6:00pm – 6:30pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 6:30pm – Public Mass in Church and live-streamed Joan Armstrong RIP		The Holy Guardian Angels
Sat 3rd	6:00pm - Public Mass in Church Bridie & Tommy Hawney		Vigil Sunday Mass
Sun 4th	10:30am - Public Mass in Church and live-streamed Pro Populo (People of the Parish)		27 th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sacrament of Reconciliation – located at the Lady Altar

Friday 2nd October
6:00pm – 6:30pm

Saturday 3rd October
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

26th Sunday Ordinary Time Year A – 27th 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](https://www.youtube.com/StocktonParishFamily)
Facebook page: [@ParishFamilyStocktonRC](https://www.facebook.com/ParishFamilyStocktonRC)
Parish website: www.parishfamilystockton.org.uk
Diocesan website: www.rcdhn.org.uk

The 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mercy is the key

Remember your mercies, O Lord. Psalm 25, verse six.

For people like us who diligently practice the faith, it can be easy to become religiously smug. We go to church, we donate to the poor, we refrain from big sins like adultery and theft. So, we could get pretty confident about getting into the kingdom.

This was precisely the mistake the chief priests and elders made in Jesus' day. They were self-righteous. They disdained public sinners such as prostitutes and the hated tax collectors. But Jesus shocks his listeners by declaring that it is precisely these despised ones who are getting into the kingdom first.

Why? These prostitutes and tax collectors knew they were sinners, and they looked to God for mercy. Mercy is the key that opens the kingdom's door. Let us begin this day by beseeching God for his saving mercy.

Jesus, you are God's mercy incarnate. Forgive us our sins and shower your merciful love upon us.

Monsignor Stephen J Rossetti

David Pinder will be travelling to Valladolid to begin his formation for the Priesthood on 1st October. As one of our own Parishioners we wish him well as he takes his first step on this significant journey. We look forward to hearing about his progress and we will pray for David each day. Our Parishes have given David a set of Divine Office Prayer of the Church to help him and to remember us. May God bless David and his fellow students.

Whilst the Sunday Obligation is currently suspended, please make an effort to attend Holy Mass during the week if you are able. This will enable those Parishioners who work during the week to attend Mass at the weekend.

Although the Sunday Obligation is currently suspended, it will be reinstated once Covid-19 is under control.

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 risk assessment is due 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.

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*.

UPDATE on Jonathon Bowes' Ordination Jonathon's Ordination to the Priesthood is to take place on Saturday 3rd October at **Hartlepool in St. Joseph's Church**, and will be celebrated by Bishop Robert. The Mass will be broadcast and the link will be published on the Diocesan website. 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. Please pray Jonathon as this very important day approaches.

News from Uganda: Fr. Vincent has told us domestic fights among people in his Mission area are increasing due to increased stress and hunger. Father has asked two catechists, a lady and a man to join him in his counselling activities. In turn he will pay them for their work with food each week. Fr. Vincent and his people are praying for an end to the pandemic. Sincere thanks to everyone who has contributed to the Uganda Mission Fund God bless you all.

Retiring Collection: The retiring collection for Peter's Pence & Support for the Holy See, which was postponed in June, will now be held **next weekend (3rd/4th October)**. Your support is greatly appreciated.

CAFOD Family Fast Day is Friday 2nd October. Donate at www.cafod.org.uk

Prisoners' Sunday: October 11th marks Prisoners' Sunday, the national day of prayer and action for prisoners and their families. This is a day for us to reflect on how we can make a difference to the lives of those affected by the criminal justice system. There are envelopes at the back of church if you wish to donate to PACT (Prison Advice and Care Trust). Visit their website www.prisonadvice.org.uk for more information.

Vocations Discernment Course: For men thinking about becoming a Priest. A six-week course will be held online. For more details and to register, visit vocations@rcdhn.org.uk. See poster in church.

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 7pm.

SPUC CLUB DRAW RESULT: 13 September 2020

1st Prize: No.5 Sarah Callaghan, 2nd Prize: No.37 Margaret Ward, 3rd Prize: No.13 Joan Faley. Many thanks to all who support the Club Draw, your generosity is greatly appreciated.

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.

First Reading Ezekiel 18:25 - 28

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: 'You object, "What the Lord does is unjust." Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.'

Psalm: 24 R: Remember your mercy, Lord

1. Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me
for you are God my saviour.
2. Remember your mercy, Lord,
and the love you have shown from of old.
Do not remember the sins of my youth
In your love remember me,
because of your goodness, O Lord
3. The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who stray,
he guides the humble in the right path;
he teaches his way to the poor,

Second Reading Philippians 2:1-11

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people's interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus:

His state was divine, yet he did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are; and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Gospel Matthew 21:28 – 32

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people, 'What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not go," but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, "Certainly, sir," but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?' 'The first' they said. Jesus said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.'

<i>Next Sunday's Readings:</i>	<i>First Reading</i>	<i>Isaiah 5:1 – 7</i>	<i>Psalm</i>	<i>79:9. 12-16. 19-20</i>
	<i>Second reading</i>	<i>Philippians 4:6- 9</i>	<i>Gospel</i>	<i>Matthew 21:33 - 43</i>

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.

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.

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



Jamie's Paws for Thought: Friendship is a fruit that ripens slowly. *Aristotle*