

**Times of Mass, Intentions and Services**  
**Christ the King Year A – 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2020**

<u>English Martyrs and Ss Peter &amp; Paul's</u>	<u>St Joseph's</u>	<u>St Bede's</u>
<b><u>Mass without Congregation</u></b>		<b><u>Feast Days this week</u></b>
Sat 21st	<b><u>10:00am – Live-streamed</u></b> Fr Sarves RIP	Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Sun 22nd	<b><u>10:30am - Live-streamed</u></b> Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	<b>Our Lord Jesus Christ the King</b>
Mon 23rd	—————	St Clement I, <i>Pope, Martyr</i> St Columban, <i>Abbot</i>
Tue 24th	<b><u>9:30am - Live-streamed</u></b> Joe Ritchie RIP	St Andrew Dung-Lac & Companions, <i>Martyrs</i>
Wed 25th	<b><u>9:30am - Live-streamed</u></b> Deceased Reed & Dollard Families RIP <b>St Bede's Church open for Private Prayer</b> 11:00am – 12:00 Noon	St Catherine of Alexandria, <i>Virgin, Martyr</i>
Thur 26th	<b><u>9:30am - Live-streamed</u></b> The Deceased Members of the Legion of Mary RIP	St Leonard of Porto Maurizio, <i>Religious</i>
Fri 27th	<b><u>9:00am – Live-streamed</u></b> Charles & Gladys Armstrong RIP <b>St Bede's Church open for Private Prayer</b> 11:00am – 12:00 Noon	—————
Sat 28th	<b><u>10:00am – Live-streamed</u></b> Peter Shaw RIP	—————
Sun 29th	<b><u>10:30am - Live-streamed</u></b> Pro Populo (People of the Parish) <b><u>4:00pm – Live-streamed</u></b> <b>Parish Remembrance Service</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent Year B</b>

**Sacrament of Reconciliation – available by appointment only**



**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.

**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.

**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.

**ST. HILDA PARTNERSHIP**



English Martyrs and Ss. Peter and Paul's



St. Bede's



St. Joseph's

**PARISH NEWSLETTER**  
**Christ the King Year A – 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2020**

**Clergy**

**Parish Priest:** Fr. Jeffrey Dodds  
**Assistant Priest:** Fr. Oliver Keyes  
**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](mailto:parishfamilystockton@gmail.com)

**Internet**

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

**Reflection for Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe 2020**

The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, which we celebrate this weekend marks the end of the Church's Year.

For me, this Solemnity always feels like something of a milestone - a place from which to look back and take stock of the year that has just passed.

Usually this is a very pleasant experience. In previous years I've found myself smiling when bringing to mind our Easter celebrations, or else laughing out loud when remembering something funny that happened.

This last year though has been rather different, dominated as it has been by COVID 19 since March or thereabouts. Every single one of us, young and old alike, has had to adapt to what has become known as 'the new normal' - and that itself seems to change quite frequently. Just as we get used to 'socially distanced Masses' wearing masks and so on, we have to stop...

Am I being too gloomy? I think I probably am.

Whilst it's true that we can't do a lot of the things we used to take for granted, we have found alternative ways of doing those things - for example live streaming of the Mass. And I doubt if there is one among us who has not found something new to do - gardening for me!

Yet in all of this there are many things that are constant and upon which we can rely, come what may.

God is looking after us - the Prophet Ezekiel reminds us of this in our first reading - 'The Lord says this: I am going to look after my flock myself and keep all of it in view'.

God loves us - He sent us His only Son Jesus Christ to conquer death and to show us the way to Him.

God is ever present - even when we think He has abandoned us.

There is much then to celebrate today, and to look forward to - including a new Church Year that begins next weekend. Even though this last year has not been quite what anyone expected let's still take the opportunity to thank God for it - and for the gift of His Son Jesus Christ, our shepherd and our King.

## Parish News

**Private Prayer:** St Bede's will be open for Private Prayer on Wednesday 25th and Friday 27th November between 11:00am and 12:00 Noon. There is no need to book for these periods.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION: Marshalls are required to be in attendance when our churches are open. Without them we would not be able to open. The Marshalls are there to help and advise you:**

- ✓ To assist with the mandatory Test & Trace system, please give your name and contact telephone number to the Marshall at the door.
- ✓ Remember to sanitise your hands before you enter church.
- ✓ A Marshall will advise you where you are to sit.
- ✓ If you wish to light a candle, please do so before you sit down.
- ✓ Please do not block access to benches.
- ✓ Please remember to sanitise your hands before you leave church.

Let's keep everyone safe. *Fr. Jeff*

**Thank you!** John Flynn has decided to step down and we would like to thank him for counting the collection each week and being Parish Safeguarding Representative at St Joseph's. We wish him well.

**Youth Sunday:** The Feast of Christ the King takes place the weekend of 22/23 November. This is Youth Sunday and our opportunity to donate to the Youth Ministry Trust to support their continuous work amongst our young people. Like all of us, they have faced challenges in reaching out due to restrictions; however, they have been communicating with our young people through social media and by creating resources for our schools and parishes. [www.ymt.org](http://www.ymt.org)  
<https://www.youtube.com/user/life2dfull> To donate, please send cheques to Youth Ministry Trust, Emmaus Youth Village, Pemberton Road, Consett DH8 9BA or make a BACS payment: HSBC Account Name Youth Ministry Trust Account 21172654 Sort Code 40-34-45

**Walk With Me Advent:** These small booklets are now available through the Parish Office. They contain prayer and scripture readings for each day of Advent to help you prepare to celebrate the birth of our Saviour. The cost is £1 each – please contact the Parish Office by email: [parishfamilystockton@gmail.com](mailto:parishfamilystockton@gmail.com) or tel 01642 806469 to secure your copy. Don't delay!

**News from Uganda:** The rains have started in Uganda. Fr. Vincent bought 340 kilograms of bean seed and also some maize seeds which have been distributed to poor families. When Father visited the villages he urged the people to plant because lack of food is the major cause of family quarrels. The beans have germinated and will be harvested in 3 months. Sincere thanks to those who have contributed to the Uganda Mission Fund and made this possible. Please pray for Fr. Vincent and his people.



**Mary's Meals - Double the Love Campaign:** Give until 31st January 2021 and your donation will be doubled by the UK government, up to £2 million! To find out more about this amazing charity please visit: [www.marysmeals.org.uk/doublethelove](http://www.marysmeals.org.uk/doublethelove)

**Operation Christmas Elf 2020:** PACT (Prison Advice and Care Trust) are unable to run their usual collection of toys or Family Days this year, for obvious reasons, so instead they are asking people to donate a book token to the value of £10 which they can send in a Christmas card to a prisoner's child. Book tokens can be bought online from [www.nationalbooktokens.com](http://www.nationalbooktokens.com) or from all local bookshops (if bought online they can be sent straight to PACT – Operation Elf, 29, Peckham Road, London SE5 8UA). If you wish to support Operation Elf you can find out more information, and let PACT know, via their website [www.prisonadvice.org.uk](http://www.prisonadvice.org.uk) – you can also leave a Christmas message for a prisoner's child. Please note that book tokens need to arrive **before 23<sup>rd</sup> November** to give time for them to be distributed. Thank you.

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

**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](mailto:vocations@rcdhn.org.uk). See poster in church.

**Bishops' Conference Statement on the Publication of the IICSA Report:** The Catholic Church in England and Wales welcomes the Report from the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse relating to the institutional response of the Church in its duty of care to protect children from sexual abuse and exploitation. We thank the IICSA Panel for their work. The Report will now inform the ongoing reform and improvement of safeguarding in all aspects of the Church's life. The full statement is available on the Parish website.

## Worldwide Church News

**Pope Francis' Monthly Intentions for November:**

**Artificial Intelligence:** We pray that the progress of robotics and artificial intelligence may always serve humankind.

## Prayer and Liturgy News

**Ezekiel 34:11-12,15-17**

### First Reading

The Lord says this: I am going to look after my flock myself and keep all of it in view. As a shepherd keeps all his flock in view when he stands up in the middle of his scattered sheep, so shall I keep my sheep in view. I shall rescue them from wherever they have been scattered during the mist and darkness. I myself will pasture my sheep, I myself will show them where to rest – it is the Lord who speaks. I shall look for the lost one, bring back the stray, bandage the wounded and make the weak strong. I shall watch over the fat and healthy. I shall be a true shepherd to them. As for you, my sheep, the Lord says this: I will judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and he-goats.

### Psalm:

**22(23):1-3a,5-6**

1 The Lord is my shepherd;  
there is nothing I shall want.  
Fresh and green are the pastures  
where he gives me repose.

3 You have prepared a banquet for me  
in the sight of my foes.  
My head you have anointed with oil;  
my cup is overflowing.

2 Near restful waters he leads me,  
to revive my drooping spirit.  
He guides me along the right path;  
he is true to his name.

4 Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me  
all the days of my life.  
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell  
for ever and ever.

### Second Reading

**1 Corinthians 15:20-26,28**

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep. Death came through one man and in the same way the resurrection of the dead has come through one man. Just as all men die in Adam, so all men will be brought to life in Christ; but all of them in their proper order: Christ as the first-fruits and then, after the coming of Christ, those who belong to him. After that will come the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, having done away with every sovereignty, authority and power. For he must be king until he has put all his enemies under his feet and the last of the enemies to be destroyed is death, for everything is to be put under his feet. And when everything is subjected to him, then the Son himself will be subject in his turn to the One who subjected all things to him, so that God may be all in all.

### Gospel

**Matthew 25:31-46**

Jesus said to his disciples: 'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, escorted by all the angels, then he will take his seat on his throne of glory. All the nations will be assembled before him and he will separate men one from another as the shepherd separates sheep from goats. He will place the sheep on his right hand and the goats on his left.

'Then the King will say to those on his right hand, "Come, you whom my Father has blessed, take for your heritage the kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome; naked and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see me." Then the virtuous will say to him in reply, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you; or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and make you welcome; naked and clothe you; sick or in prison and go to see you?" And the King will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me."

'Next he will say to those on his left hand, "Go away from me, with your curse upon you, to the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you never gave me food; I was thirsty and you never gave me anything to drink; I was a stranger and you never made me welcome, naked and you never clothed me, sick and in prison and you never visited me." Then it will be their turn to ask, "Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty, a stranger or naked, sick or in prison, and did not come to your help?" Then he will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you neglected to do this to one of the least of these, you neglected to do it to me."

'And they will go away to eternal punishment, and the virtuous to eternal life.'

### Next week's Readings

*First Reading*  
*Second Reading*

### 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent Year B

Isaiah 63:16-17; 64:1. 3-8  
St Paul's first Letter to the Corinthians 1:3-9

*Psalm*  
*Gospel*

79:2-3, 15-16. 18-19  
Mark 13:33-37

**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.**

**EWTN Advent Booklet Resource:** Click on this link for EWTN Advent Booklet:

[https://f.hubspotusercontent30.net/hubfs/4395239/AdventBook.pdf?utm\\_campaign=9%20Ways%20to%20Prepare%20Your%20Heart%20for%20Christmas&utm\\_medium=email&hsmi=99059871&hsenc=p2ANqtz-9RxLW1OAWXt7L\\_MLNIBY\\_XB7PDkPJ8b7Cnoik8c-8QSk0JBs8fZ6ci0r9Qb6StCzu7yKlWjQ1e8ODuBdGwUDFb7K7q5R5JzRHU9pSfOiNkMfG3ti0&utm\\_content=99059871&utm\\_source=hs\\_automation](https://f.hubspotusercontent30.net/hubfs/4395239/AdventBook.pdf?utm_campaign=9%20Ways%20to%20Prepare%20Your%20Heart%20for%20Christmas&utm_medium=email&hsmi=99059871&hsenc=p2ANqtz-9RxLW1OAWXt7L_MLNIBY_XB7PDkPJ8b7Cnoik8c-8QSk0JBs8fZ6ci0r9Qb6StCzu7yKlWjQ1e8ODuBdGwUDFb7K7q5R5JzRHU9pSfOiNkMfG3ti0&utm_content=99059871&utm_source=hs_automation)

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



**Jamie's 'Paws' for Thought:** Problems are opportunities in work clothes.

*Henry Kaiser*