

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 Albert Barnett, Patricia Thornton and Edward Hollifield and all those who have died recently. May they rest in peace. Amen.

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

Christmas Masses: As we are only able to seat a limited number of people, due to Covid restrictions, all three of our churches are full for the Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. If you have been told you have a place and are unable to attend please cancel by texting or ringing 07716 944610 so that someone on the waiting list can be given a seat. Please do not turn up on spec as, unfortunately, you will not be allowed in. You can of course celebrate the special feast of The Nativity by attending any of the Masses in the Octave of Christmas.



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

Apostleship of the Sea: 20th Dec is Sea Sunday, when the Church prays for all those who live and work at sea. Without them, we would not have most of the items we buy in the shops. Today's collection is for Stella Maris (Apostleship of the Sea), the Catholic Church's official maritime welfare agency. It supports seafarers both practically and spiritually. For an appeal talk, and a video showing some of what Stella Maris does, please visit www.stellamaris.org.uk/SeaSunday. This collection is vital to enable Stella Maris to continue its important work. To donate, please visit www.stellamaris.org.uk/donate or text 'SEA' to 70460 to donate £5. Stella Maris is dependent on voluntary donations, so please give generously. Thank you.

News from Uganda: The Ugandan government have closed all borders to refugees because of the corona virus. Some refugees from Congo or South Sudan however do manage to evade the border controls. Local people are afraid and will not mix with refugees because a high percentage of refugees have the virus. Some refugees do find their way to the Mission and Fr. Vincent gives them help from a safe distance.

Sincere thanks to everyone who supports our Uganda Mission Fund. Please pray for Fr. Vincent and his people.

SPUC Club Draw Result - 13 December 2020

1st Prize	:	No.	39	Val Railton
2nd Prize	:	No.	23	Teresa Fawcett
3rd Prize	:	No.	60	Barry Halliday

Many thanks to all who support the Club Draw, your generosity is greatly appreciated. Stockton Branch members wish you a Happy and Holy Christmas and best wishes for the New Year.

Worldwide Church News

Pope Francis' Monthly Intentions for December: For a Life of Prayer

We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.

Pope Francis' Monthly Intentions for January: For Human fraternity

May the Lord give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all.

Prayer and Liturgy News

A prayer for the Fourth Sunday of Advent: Lord, like Mary, we magnify you and rejoice in your plans for us. We ask for your strength to fulfil your work in our broken world. Amen

Check out our Parishes' YouTube channel and Facebook page for events during the fourth week of Advent.

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

Jamie's 'Paws' for Thought: Life is like old fashioned photography; we use the negatives to develop.

