

**Times of Mass, Intentions and Services**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time Year B – 31<sup>st</sup> January 2021**

	<b>English Martyrs and Ss Peter &amp; Paul's</b>	<b>St Joseph's</b>	<b>St Bede's</b>	<b>Feast Days this week</b>
<b>Sat 30<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6:00pm</b> Dominic Fletcher RIP Private Intention	—	—	Sunday Vigil Mass
<b>Sun 31<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>10:30am Live-streamed</b> Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	—	—	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time
<b>Mon 1<sup>st</sup></b>	—	—	—	—
<b>Tue 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	—	—	<b>9:30am</b> Ellen McDermott RIP Michael Preston RIP	<b>The Presentation of the Lord</b>
<b>Wed 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>9:30am Live-streamed</b> Mary Igoe RIP Full Recovery for Peter	—	—	St Blaise, <i>Bishop &amp; Martyr</i> St Ansgar, <i>Bishop</i>
<b>Thur 4<sup>th</sup></b>	—	<b>9:30am</b> Bert Barnett RIP (Mary) Alice Lackenby RIP	—	—
<b>Fri 5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6:30pm Live-streamed</b> Alan Hill RIP (MD&PW)	—	—	St Agatha, <i>Virgin &amp; Martyr</i>
<b>Sat 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6:00pm</b> Deceased Carroll & Wells Families RIP Kath Foley RIP	—	—	Sunday Vigil Mass
<b>Sun 7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10:30am Live-streamed</b> Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	—	—	5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time

**Sacrament of Reconciliation – EMSSPP Sanctuary**

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> February**  
6:00pm – 6:30pm

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> February**  
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](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**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time Year B – 31<sup>st</sup> January 2021**

**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](https://www.youtube.com/StocktonParishFamily)  
**Facebook page:** [@ParishFamilyStocktonRC](https://www.facebook.com/ParishFamilyStocktonRC)  
**Parish website:** [www.parishfamilystockton.org.uk](http://www.parishfamilystockton.org.uk)  
**Diocesan website:** [www.rcdhn.org.uk](http://www.rcdhn.org.uk)

**The Big D: Distraction**

*"I say this for your own benefit, not to put any restraint upon you, but to promote good order and unhindered devotion to the Lord."* St Paul's First Letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 7:35

All well and good, Paul, but what about those of us in the midst of our journeys, family life deeply engaged?

No matter who we are or how we live, God calls each one of us to love and serve him, undistracted. So what does that mean when most of us can't be hermits - and probably would never want to be? Although, yes, at least once a day, I actually would like to be a hermit. Very much.

But I'm not. I'm here, with others. Many others. "Unhindered devotion" in that context, it seems to me, means simply to make a habit of remembering God's presence, above all, in each of those situations. To make sure I'm open to hearing his voice first - no matter how loud the rest may be.

*Loving God, keep me focused on you today.*

By Amy Welborn

Living Faith – Daily Catholic Devotion. January – March 2021

## **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 Linda Smith, Kathleen Godson, Stephen Thomas and all those who have died recently. May they rest in peace. Amen.

### **Weekday and Weekend Masses:**

I would encourage you to attend Mass during the week at the times advertised. For those of you who wish to attend on a Sunday, please remember to book your place, but be aware that we MUST adhere to social-distancing and so there may be fewer places available.

We have a duty to play our part in bringing this virus under control, whilst continuing to provide the best service to our communities. Please make sure you follow the guidance and advice from our Parish Marshalls and keep yourself and others safe. *Fr. Jeff*

**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*

**White Flower Appeal 2021 Tell the truth:** For more information on how to support SPUC's current campaign to expose the cost of DIY chemical abortion go to <https://www.spuc.org.uk/Get-Involved/Campaigns/Tell-the-Truth-DIY-Abortion>

**Called and Gifted:** A new programme starting Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> February. God is calling you to a work of love that will fill your life with purpose and joy. Discerning your charisms can help you discover that call. If you are wondering how you are to fulfil the mission God has for you, or navigate a life transition, you might find that gifts discernment helps you decide what turn to take next. For more info visit <https://siena.org/charisms-faq>  
To apply for your place please email [adminfaith.mission@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:adminfaith.mission@diocesehn.org.uk) by Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February.

**News from Uganda:** In addition to coping with the Corona virus, each day Fr. Vincent meets new challenges in his ministry. Recently he paid medical fees for 3 children suffering from malaria and also for a grandfather whose toes were amputated due to a bad wound. The man had been in pain for 3 months and was very weak because of a poor diet. After saying Mass in the village Fr Vincent took him to hospital and paid his medical bills. He bought dried fish to supplement the man's diet and will support him until he is well. Sincere thanks to everyone who supports the Uganda Mission Fund. Please pray for Fr. Vincent and his people.

**Cut back on Plastic Waste in 2021** Small changes will make big differences... cut back on pointless plastics by changing to a refill system. The Forge, Norton has lots of products that are better for our planet and that support sustainable living. A range of cleaning, beauty products & soaps etc is available via Click n Collect. Take a look online at <https://theforgenorton.square.site>

### **A Novena for the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes**

Beginning on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February, Fr Stephen Watson (Lourdes Pilgrimage Director) will lead a novena for the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes on 11th February. Fr Stephen will lead us daily in a few minutes of prayer which can be accessed via the 'Hexham and Newcastle Pilgrimage to Lourdes' Facebook page. Daily prayers will be shared at 8am and can be viewed at any time after that. You are invited to join in this time of prayer.

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

**The North East Catholic Writers` Guild:** Are running a literary competition for schoolchildren – the theme is:

***“Compose a hopeful prayer for this difficult time”*** Maximum 20 lines. The lines don't have to rhyme.

**Open to 8-10 year-olds.** Please include your age, name, address and phone number and send to:

Veronica Whitty, Secretary, Catholic Writers` Guild (NE), 51 Queen`s Crescent, Wallsend, NE28 8DW

Or e-mail: [veronicawhitty@hotmail.com](mailto:veronicawhitty@hotmail.com) Deadline: 8th April 2021. NB: Entries: excludes anyone related to any member of the Guild or related to anyone connected with the Northern Cross.

## **Worldwide Church News**

### **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**

### **Prayer to St Paul the Apostle**

O blessed Apostle, be our guide, whilst we travel through the dark and stormy night of life, till this corruptible put on incorruption, and this mortality put on immortality. Amen

### **Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year B**

#### **First Reading**

#### **Deuteronomy 18:15-20**

Moses said to the people: 'The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like myself, from among yourselves, from your own brothers; to him you must listen. This is what you yourselves asked of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the Assembly. "Do not let me hear again" you said "the voice of the Lord my God, nor look any longer on this great fire, or I shall die"; and the Lord said to me, "All they have spoken is well said. I will raise up a prophet like yourself for them from their own brothers; I will put my words into his mouth and he shall tell them all I command him. The man who does not listen to my words that he speaks in my name, shall be held answerable to me for it. But the prophet who presumes to say in my name a thing I have not commanded him to say, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die.'"

#### **Psalm:**

#### **94(95):1-2,6-9**

1) Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;  
hail the rock who saves us.  
Let us come before him, giving thanks,  
with songs let us hail the Lord.

2) Come in; let us bow and bend low;  
let us kneel before the God who made us:  
for he is our God and we  
the people who belong to his pasture,  
the flock that is led by his hand.

3) O that today you would listen to his voice!  
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,  
as on that day at Massah in the desert  
when your fathers put me to the test;  
when they tried me, though they saw my work.'

#### **Second Reading**

#### **1 Corinthians 7:32-35**

I would like to see you free from all worry. An unmarried man can devote himself to the Lord's affairs, all he need worry about is pleasing the Lord; but a married man has to bother about the world's affairs and devote himself to pleasing his wife: he is torn two ways. In the same way an unmarried woman, like a young girl, can devote herself to the Lord's affairs; all she need worry about is being holy in body and spirit. The married woman, on the other hand, has to worry about the world's affairs and devote herself to pleasing her husband. I say this only to help you, not to put a halter round your necks, but simply to make sure that everything is as it should be, and that you give your undivided attention to the Lord.

#### **Gospel**

#### **Mark 1:21-28**

Jesus and his disciples went as far as Capernaum, and as soon as the sabbath came he went to the synagogue and began to teach. And his teaching made a deep impression on them because, unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority. In their synagogue just then there was a man possessed by an unclean spirit and it shouted, 'What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are: the Holy One of God.' But Jesus said sharply, 'Be quiet! Come out of him!' And the unclean spirit threw the man into convulsions and with a loud cry went out of him. The people were so astonished that they started asking each other what it all meant. 'Here is a teaching that is new' they said 'and with authority behind it: he gives orders even to unclean spirits and they obey him.' And his reputation rapidly spread everywhere, through all the surrounding Galilean countryside.

**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:** Children are the true connoisseurs. What's precious to them has no price, only value. *Bel Kaufman*