

**Times of Mass, Intentions and Services**  
**7<sup>th</sup> Sunday Easter Year B – 16<sup>th</sup> May 2021**

	<u>English Martyrs and Ss Peter &amp; Paul's</u>	<u>St Joseph's</u>	<u>St Bede's</u>	<u>Feast Days this week</u>
<b>Sat 15th</b>	<b>6:00pm Live-streamed</b> Dennis Jenkins RIP	—	—	Sunday Vigil Mass
<b>Sun 16th</b>	—	<b>10:30am</b> Reg Watson RIP	<b>9:00am</b> Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Easter
<b>Mon 17th</b>	—	—	—	—
<b>Tue 18th</b>	—	—	<b>9:30am</b> Michael Lamb RIP	St John I, <i>Pope, Martyr</i>
<b>Wed 19th</b>	<b>9:30am Live-streamed</b> Chrissie Harrington RIP	—	—	St Dunstan, <i>Bishop</i>
<b>Thur 20th</b>	—	<b>9:30am</b> Don & Betty Wallace RIP	—	St Bernadine of Siena, <i>Priest</i>
<b>Fri 21st</b>	<b>6:30pm Live-streamed</b> Lional & Marry Theresa Ayupal RIP	—	—	St Godric of Finchale, <i>Religious</i> St Christopher Magallenes and Companions, <i>Martyrs</i>
<b>Sat 22nd</b>	<b>6:00pm Live-streamed</b> Betty Sparks RIP	—	—	Pentecost Sunday Vigil Mass
<b>Sun 23rd</b>	—	<b>10:30am</b> Thanksgiving (for 48 years of Marriage)	<b>9:00am</b> Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	Pentecost Sunday

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> May**  
**St. Joseph's**  
**After 9:30am Mass**

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> May**  
**EMSSPP Sanctuary**  
**6:00pm – 6:30pm**

**Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> May**  
**EMSSPP Sanctuary**  
**5:30pm – 6:00pm**

**Or by Appointment – call 01642 806469**

**If you would like to reserve a place at the Saturday Vigil Mass or the Sunday Morning Masses, 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**

**7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**  
**Year B – 16<sup>th</sup> May 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](#)  
**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 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter Year B**

We've just had a number of elections for various official posts both locally and across our region. If you have ever been through any sort of selection process- perhaps for a job or maybe a place at a particular educational establishment- and been rejected, you will know how upsetting it feels to have lost out to others who you may not even have encountered as part of the process. I speak from personal experience. It is not just a case of feeling you have been treated unfairly, it is more a case of feeling that the world has collapsed around you, and that the other candidates- who in reality are most likely to be complete strangers to you- are the enemy. Imagine then how Joseph, known as Barsabbas, who we encounter in our First Reading today must have felt. He was on the verge of becoming the twelfth Apostle, on a short list of two to take up what Peter describes as the office left vacant by Judas Iscariot. It was a tough short list to make, but he gets there. However, when the voting takes place among people who must have been known to Barsabbas, people who must have been close to him, he loses out to Matthias. On the face of it that must have been devastating, but I reckon that even if Barsabbas did feel that way at first, it would have been for a matter of moments only. After all, to get to the short list in the first place you had to have been with Jesus the whole time, from His Baptism right through to His Resurrection- Peter tells us as much. And what a consolation that must have been for Barsabbas. And there's more- Barsabbas must have acknowledged Jesus as the Son of God and that being so, John tells us in our Second Reading today that God lives in him, and he in God. The same applies to us of course, so even when things get tough for us, when we feel downhearted and frustrated with life all we have to do is to remember that even in those times God is with us, He loves us and will never reject us.

Deacon Paul

**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.



**MARSHALLS:** We are still legally required to have Marshalls to supervise and guide our parishioners and to clean the church after Mass. Without more Marshalls, we will not be able to sustain this move to getting our parishes back to the new normal. May I ask that you to give some serious thought as to whether you would be able to volunteer as a Marshall, to enable these increased weekly Masses. Please let me know as soon as possible if you can. *Fr. Jeff*

**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 Saturday or Sunday, please remember to book your place (07716 944610)**, 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:**

- ✓ You will be asked by the Marshall at the door for your name and contact telephone number to assist with the Test & Trace system. Your details will only be held for this purpose and for the time required by current Government guidance.
- ✓ Please 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.
- ✓ Please leave church as soon as you have received Holy Communion and remember to adhere to Government guidelines when gathering outside church – currently a maximum of 6 persons or 2 households.

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



**Holy Communion:** Parishioners are reminded that they must leave church as soon as they have received Holy Communion. If anyone wishes to light a candle, please do this before Mass begins. It is important that all our parishioners can feel safe when leaving church. Thank you for your co-operation in keeping our churches safe.

**Offertory envelopes:** All weekly offertory envelopes should have been delivered to you by now. If you have not received yours, or would like to receive a supply (either gift aid or non-gift aid), or you would like to make a donation direct into your parish bank account, then please contact the parish office on 01642 806469. Thank you.

**S.V.P.** We hope you are all managing at this difficult time. We cannot make our usual visits now but if anyone who is housebound would like someone to talk to, please give one of our members a phone call or alternatively please contact the parish office on 01642 806469.

**Advanced Notice** There will be a second collection next weekend for **The Lay Training Fund** on the weekend of 23rd May 2021. Thank you.

**Pro-Life Holy hour:** A pro-life Holy Hour will be lead by Father Nick on Sunday the 30th May at 4pm. Please join in and pray for the unborn and sanctity of life. Listen via Crook Parish web site, which can be accessed via the diocese website, live stream Crook face book or YouTube.

Partnership News – taking in Hartlepool, Billingham and Stockton

**John Paul II Award:** The bad news is that ceremony for the JohnPaul II Award cannot take its usual form, of all the young people and their families gathering to take part in person. The good news is that it will be online, so everyone is invited to join! It will be broadcast on Sunday 16th May at 3pm, on YMT YouTube channel. 71 young people from our diocese completed the award, including Mia from this parish, which is an outstanding achievement from this difficult year. Please keep Angelo in your prayers, as he is currently working towards this award.

**A Celebration of Marriage and Family Life Mass** is being held in **St Mary's Cathedral on Saturday 22 May 2021 at 12:00.** It will focus on couples celebrating significant anniversaries in 2021 but the open invitation is extended to engaged couples, those married in the months prior to lockdown and since our last Mass in 2019 and all married couples. Also included are those widowed and bereaved who were unable to visit partners prior to their deaths. In these unprecedented times we remember couples in crisis and individual adults and children experiencing difficulties and abuse in their family relationships. We wish all to know that none is forgotten and that the Sacramental life, despite Covid, is very much alive and prayed for. Numbers will be limited so anyone wishing to attend **MUST BOOK** in advance by contacting the Cathedral office on **0191 2326953** or emailing **office@stmaryscathedral.org.uk** Anyone celebrating a significant anniversary should provide details when booking and a certificate of celebration will be offered. For those unable to attend, the Mass will also be live streamed on the cathedral website.

**Pope Francis' Monthly Intentions for May: The World of Finance**

Let us pray that those in charge of finance will work with governments to regulate the financial sphere and protect citizens

Prayer and Liturgy News

**First Reading**

**Acts 1:15-17,20-26**

One day Peter stood up to speak to the brothers – there were about a hundred and twenty persons in the congregation: 'Brothers, the passage of scripture had to be fulfilled in which the Holy Spirit, speaking through David, foretells the fate of Judas, who offered himself as a guide to the men who arrested Jesus – after having been one of our number and actually sharing this ministry of ours. Now in the Book of Psalms it says:

Let someone else take his office.

'We must therefore choose someone who has been with us the whole time that the Lord Jesus was travelling round with us, someone who was with us right from the time when John was baptising until the day when he was taken up from us – and he can act with us as a witness to his resurrection.'

Having nominated two candidates, Joseph known as Barsabbas, whose surname was Justus, and Matthias, they prayed, 'Lord, you can read everyone's heart; show us therefore which of these two you have chosen to take over this ministry and apostolate, which Judas abandoned to go to his proper place.' They then drew lots for them, and as the lot fell to Matthias, he was listed as one of the twelve apostles.

**Psalm:**

**102(103):1-2,11-12,19-20**

**Response - The Lord has set his sway in heaven.**

My soul, give thanks to the Lord  
all my being, bless his holy name.  
My soul, give thanks to the Lord  
and never forget all his blessings.

For as the heavens are high above the earth  
so strong is his love for those who fear him.  
As far as the east is from the west  
so far does he remove our sins.

The Lord has set his sway in heaven  
and his kingdom is ruling over all.  
Give thanks to the Lord, all his angels,  
mighty in power, fulfilling his word.

**Second Reading**

**1 John 4:11-16**

My dear people, since God has loved us so much, we too should love one another. No one has ever seen God; but as long as we love one another God will live in us and his love will be complete in us. We can know that we are living in him and he is living in us because he lets us share his Spirit. We ourselves saw and we testify that the Father sent his Son as saviour of the world. If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in him, and he in God. We ourselves have known and put our faith in God's love towards ourselves. God is love and anyone who lives in love lives in God, and God lives in him.

**Gospel Acclamation**

**John14:18**

Alleluia, alleluia! I will not leave you orphans, says the Lord; I will come back to you, and your hearts will be full of joy. Alleluia!

**Gospel**

**John 17:11-19**

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said: 'Holy Father, keep those you have given me true to your name, so that they may be one like us. While I was with them, I kept those you had given me true to your name. I have watched over them and not one is lost except the one who chose to be lost, and this was to fulfil the scriptures. But now I am coming to you and while still in the world I say these things to share my joy with them to the full. I passed your word on to them, and the world hated them, because they belong to the world no more than I belong to the world. I am not asking you to remove them from the world, but to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world any more than I belong to the world. Consecrate them in the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world, and for their sake I consecrate myself so that they too may be consecrated in truth.'

**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:** Nine tenths of all wisdom is being wise in time. *Theodore Roosevelt*