

Times of Mass, Intentions and Services
Pentecost Sunday Year B – 23rd May 2021

| | <u>English Martyrs and Ss Peter & Paul's</u> | <u>St Joseph's</u> | <u>St Bede's</u> | <u>Feast Days this week</u> |
|------------------|--|---|--|---|
| Sat 22nd | 6:00pm Live-streamed Betty Sparks RIP | — | — | Sunday Vigil Mass |
| Sun 23rd | — | 10:30am Thanksgiving (for 48 years of Marriage) | 9:00am Pro Populo (People of the Parish) | Pentecost Sunday |
| Mon 24th | — | — | — | Mary, Mother of the Church |
| Tue 25th | — | — | 9:30am Successful operation (TJW) | St Bede the Venerable, Priest, Doctor |
| Wed 26th | 9:30am Live-streamed Stockton & Hartlepool Filipino community & all parishioners | — | — | St Philip Neri, Priest |
| Thur 27th | — | 9:30am Suzanne Dixon RIP | — | Our Lord Jesus Christ, Eternal High Priest |
| Fri 28th | 6:30pm Live-streamed Richard & Alice Sables RIP | — | — | — |
| Sat 29th | 6:00pm Live-streamed Pro Populo (People of the Parish) | — | — | Sunday Vigil Mass |
| Sun 30th | — | 10:30am Kath Todd RIP (WJ) | 9:00am Eileen Pratt RIP | The Most Holy Trinity |

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Thursday 27th May
St. Joseph's
 After 9:30am Mass

Friday 28th May
EMSSPP Sanctuary
 6:00pm – 6:30pm

Saturday 29th 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 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
Pentecost Sunday
Year B – 23rd 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

Internet

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

Pentecost

Today we celebrate Pentecost which comes from the word meaning fiftieth. We celebrate with joy the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles, the birth of our church and the descent of the Holy Spirit upon ourselves as baptised Christians. Pentecost at the time of Jesus was day that was celebrated as Shavuot, a week of weeks, 7x7 days after the Sabbath. A day that celebrated the receiving of the gift of the law but was known also as a day when the High Priest received the fruits of the harvest and offered bread in the temple. As Jesus brought the feast of Passover to its fulfilment with his own Sacrifice, it seems correct to expect a greater fulfilment at Pentecost. Jesus the great high priest offers us the fruit of his Sacrifice, the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Maybe today as Christians then just reflect on these simple facts. We are called Christians traditionally not just because we are followers of the teaching of Christ but that we are anointed, consecrated in imitation of Christ. The result of this, is that we have the dwelling in ourselves of the very same spirit who was in Jesus of Nazareth. "God has sent the Spirit of the Son into our hearts" (Galatians 4:6) We have received the Spirit of the Son and no other lesser spirit.

What a joy to think the same Spirit who was in Jesus during his days on earth is in me and you. He is our inseparable companion as St Basil said, the sweet guest of our soul.

Let us take time then to make our bodies fitting and welcoming temples for the third person of the trinity. O Come Holy Spirit.....

God Bless

Deacon Jeff

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.



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.

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



COMMUNION

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 the parish bank account, then please contact the parish office on 01642 806469. Thank you.

S.V.P. Update: After two terms as President of St Joseph's SVP conference, totalling some 15 years, John Morgan has now stepped down from the role. John has been the mainstay of the SVP for many, many years and is well known to all at St. Joseph's and beyond. On behalf of the conference and the people of the parish the conference wanted to take this opportunity to express our gratitude and thanks for the service John has given as President and will continue to give as an active member. With the easing of restrictions, the conference hopes to start meeting again soon and as the situation continues to further improve we hope to be able start home visiting again when the time is right. In the meantime, if anyone is alone or housebound and wants someone to talk to please call 07939912354 and we can arrange a call

Second Collection: This weekend for **The Lay Training Fund**. Thank you.

Pro-Life Holy hour: A pro-life Holy Hour will be led 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.

News from Uganda:

Fr Vincent is happy and is feeling a bit safer after receiving his first covid vaccination last week. It is raining a lot at the moment and people have planted a lot of maize. Father gave out 105 kilos of maize seed and also some bean seeds. Unfortunately, there has been a problem with green caterpillars which attack young maize shoots and can eat all the leaves in a week. This inspired Father Vincent to invent a pesticide using local ingredients which has successfully got rid of the pests. More next week. **Please pray for Fr. Vincent and his people.**

Partnership News – taking in Hartlepool, Billingham and Stockton

FAITH WITNESS AGAINST HASSOCKFIELD: In October, the UK government plans to open an Immigration Removal Centre at Hassockfield on the site of the former Medomsley Detention Centre. This will be for 80 women seeking asylum in the UK. The proposal is inhumane, unjust and incompatible with our faith which calls us to recognise the intrinsic dignity of each person. These women are not criminals to be locked up but people like ourselves who have the right to a place of safety and to be treated with respect and compassion. An interfaith prayer service will take place on **Sunday 23rd May at 3.00pm** in as many churches and places of worship as possible as part of a united faith response against Hassockfield. The Youth Ministry Team will join with the Faith Witness and will go live at the same time on YMT's Facebook@youthministryteam.

Introducing Proud Catholics: we are a support group for Catholics in the Diocese who identify as LGBT+ or who are questioning their sexual or gender identity. We were founded in November 2018, and we have recently received endorsement from Bishop Robert and his Council. We aim to provide members with a forum in which they can strengthen their faith and gain confidence as Catholics. We have a website, www.proud Catholics.co.uk where you can find more information about the group.

Mass in Celebration of Marriage and Family Life: Bishop Robert is presiding, along with Deacon Rob Wareing, at a Mass in St. Mary's Cathedral on Saturday 22 May 2021 at 12:00 noon. It will be live streamed on the cathedral website www.stmaryscathedral.org.uk

Worldwide Church News

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 of Intercession: All the faithful in our parishes are invited to join the mother Church of Jerusalem in the prayer of intercession for peace and justice in the Holy Land. Please be united in prayer at 7 pm every evening.

Prayer and Liturgy News

First Reading

Acts 2:1-11

When Pentecost day came round, they had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech.

Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language. They were amazed and astonished. 'Surely' they said 'all these men speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; people from Mesopotamia, Judaea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya round Cyrene; as well as visitors from Rome – Jews and proselytes alike – Cretans and Arabs; we hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God.'

Psalm:

103(104):1,24,29-31,34

Response: Send forth your spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.

1. Bless the Lord, my soul!
Lord God, how great you are,
How many are your works, O Lord!
The earth is full of your riches.

2. You take back your spirit, they die,
returning to the dust from which they came.
You send forth your spirit, they are created;
and you renew the face of the earth.

3. May the glory of the Lord last for ever!
May the Lord rejoice in his works!
May my thoughts be pleasing to him.
I find my joy in the Lord.

Second Reading

Galatians 5:16-25

If you are guided by the Spirit you will be in no danger of yielding to self-indulgence, since self-indulgence is the opposite of the Spirit, the Spirit is totally against such a thing, and it is precisely because the two are so opposed that you do not always carry out your good intentions. If you are led by the Spirit, no law can touch you. When self-indulgence is at work the results are obvious: fornication, gross indecency and sexual irresponsibility; idolatry and sorcery; feuds and wrangling, jealousy, bad temper and quarrels; disagreements, factions, envy; drunkenness, orgies and similar things. I warn you now, as I warned you before: those who behave like this will not inherit the kingdom of God. What the Spirit brings is very different: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, trustfulness, gentleness and self-control. There can be no law against things like that, of course. You cannot belong to Christ Jesus unless you crucify all self-indulgent passions and desires. Since the Spirit is our life, let us be directed by the Spirit.

Gospel

John 20:19-23

In the evening of the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room here the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you', and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, Peace be with you. 'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.' After saying this he breathed on them and said: 'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

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.

A Prayer to the Holy Spirit

O Holy Spirit, by the cross of Jesus we are healed! By His resurrection we live in the new life of total, unconditional love. Help me to share that healing love with all those around me. Jesus commanded, "Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation." Help me to declare with power the Good News of Jesus Christ. Send me to where You can use my gifts and talents to make a difference. Amen



Jamie's 'Paws' for Thought: Great works are performed not by strength but by perseverance. Samuel Johnson

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