



St. Patrick's R.C. Church

Glenfield Road, Fairfield,
Stockton-on-Tees, TS19 7PJ

Parish Priest : Canon John Cooper
Tel. 01642 674321

Sunday 16th May 2021

As the season of Easter comes to a close, this Sunday's readings bring our focus onto Christ's loving relationship with us. We see how the very early Church decided that the person who was to replace Judas needed to be someone who had known Jesus personally from the very start of his ministry, and had witnessed his suffering, death and resurrection. We can pray with great joy the Psalm of thanks for all the blessings of God's love, a love that is calling all of us into a deeper personal relationship.

John's letter is like a summary of the Good News and the mystery of the Resurrection. We are encouraged to love one another. It is through our loving relationships that we will come to know God more fully. God is love, and He shares the Spirit of love with us when we die to self and give ourselves fully to love.

In John's Gospel we hear Jesus praying to the Father for his followers. Jesus wants us to share fully in his joy. It is in this spirit of Easter joy that we are sent out into the world to draw all people into that relationship of love of which each and every one is invited to be a part.

Heavenly Father we thank you for your love which freely forgives and welcomes us into the family of your Church, for your love which abounds in the joy of creation so evident all around us during this month of May. For your love which brings peace into our lives working through pain hate and conflict, for your love which challenges us and purifies our hearts. Amen.



We pray for the Church throughout the world, for Pope Francis, Church leaders and Christians everywhere that they and we may communicate the Good News of Jesus Christ with courage and conviction.

Lord, hear our prayer

Compassionate God, we remember before you those who have died and ask that they may know the joy of salvation and eternity in your presence.

Lord, hear our prayer



A Pro-Life Holy Hour will be led by Father Nick Jennings 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 Diocesan website, live stream Crook Face Book or You Tube.

| 7th SUNDAY OF EASTER | | | |
|---|---------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| 16 | Sunday | 9.00am | People of our Parish |
| 17 | Monday | 9.15am | Special Intention (EB) |
| 18 | Tuesday | | |
| 19 | Wednesday | | |
| 20 | Thursday | | |
| 21 | Friday | | No Mass |
| 22 | Saturday Vigil Mass | 4.00pm | Robert Love Confessions after Mass |
| PENTECOST SUNDAY | | | |
| 23 | Sunday | 9.00am | For Families |
| Recently Deceased: | | Anne Pilbin ~ May she rest in peace. Amen | |
| Anniversaries: | | Henry Healy | |
|  | | Riska Okninski Billy McGuinness, Pat Jackson, Margaret Devlin, Pauline Morton, Mike Rutland, Margaret Kenning, Christopher Brown, Fr. Pat McKenna, Rosie Owens, Andrew Brydon, Mary Talbot, Veronica Connors, Betty Griffiths, Rose Marie Bruno, Teresa Carrick | |



St. Joseph, husband of Mary and foster father of Jesus, you have been charged with the protection of the universal Church so that you might care for all the children of the Kingdom in the same way you lovingly cared for the members of the Holy Family. Bring together from the four corners of the world all your children so that they may live in one Spirit. Obtain for us all the graces of enlightenment and strength so that all may live in the teaching of Jesus Christ. Amen.

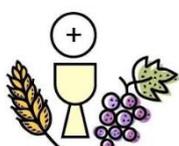
THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS . . .

- **First Reading ~ Acts 1:15-17, 20-26**
- **Responsorial Psalm ~ Psalm 102: 1-2, 11-12, 19-20**
- **Second Reading ~ John 4:11-16**
- **Gospel ~ John 17:11-19**

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Dear parishioners,

Please remember us and our families in your prayers at this very special time as we prepare for our First Holy Communion day. Pray we will prepare our hearts to truly know it is Jesus we are about to receive in the Holy Eucharist. Thank you for your prayers – St Patrick's Y4 children.



O God, Help me to make a good Holy Communion. Mary, my dearest mother, pray to Jesus for me. My dear Guardian Angel, lead me to the Altar of God. Amen

World Communications Day 2021

World Communications Day was established by Pope Paul VI in 1967 as an annual celebration that encourages us to reflect on the opportunities and challenges that the modern means of social communication (the press, motions pictures, radio, television and the internet) afford the Church to communicate the gospel message



Come and see: Communicating, encountering people as and where they are” is the theme for this Sunday’s celebration of World Communications Day. In a time that obliges us to social distance due to the pandemic, communication can make possible the closeness that is necessary to recognise what is essential and to understand truly the meaning of things, “We do not know the truth if we do not experience it, if we do not meet people, if we do not participate in their joys and sorrows. The saying “God meets you where you are” can be a guide for those engaged in media or communications work in the Church. In the call of the first disciples, with Jesus who went to encounter them and to invite them to follow Him, we also see the invitation to use all media, in all their forms, to reach people as they are and where they live.”

God, whose word is truth and in whose light we see light, guide those who tell the story of our times through word and image. Make them seekers after truth and advocates of human dignity. Grant discernment to all who rely on their labours, and, as we confront the pain and promise of this world, awaken in us a sense of wonder at your presence and of longing for your peace. Amen.

“By means of the internet, the Christian message can reach to the ends of the earth. Keeping the doors of our churches open also means keeping them open in the digital environment so that people, whatever their situation in life, can enter and so that the Gospel can go out to reach everyone . . . today the social networks are one way to experience this call to discover the beauty of faith, the beauty of encountering Christ.”
(Pope Francis)



Mass in Celebration of Marriage and Family Life. Bishop Robert has kindly agreed to presiding at a live streamed Mass from St. Mary’s Cathedral in celebration of Marriage and Family Life **next Saturday, 22nd May at 12.00 noon.** To access the Mass please visit the Diocesan website. www.rcdhn.org.uk

Laudato Si’ Week 2021 will take place from May 16th – 25th with global events and hundreds of local and regional events organized by partners around the world. It will also be the culmination of the Special Laudato Si’ Anniversary Year (proposed by Pope Francis from May 2020 to May 2021) and the celebration of the great progress the entire Church has made on its journey towards ecological conversion. Laudato Si’ Week 2021 will also be a time to reflect on what the COVID-19 pandemic has taught us and to prepare for the future with hope.

For a more detailed explanation visit the Diocesan website www.rcdhn.org.uk



The month of May is dedicated to a prayer marathon, the theme is *'from the entire Church an increasing prayer rises to God.'* The Holy Father blessed special Rosaries to be sent to the 30 shrines directly involved. On May 31st he will conclude this prayer marathon from a significant place in the Vatican Gardens. The official channels of the Holy See will broadcast the prayer said each day in each of these 30 shrines at 6pm, Rome time.

To take part in the Rosary Marathon visit www.vatican.news and there is a link to shrines around the world. You can see the list of shrines and a link to take part or watch afterwards.

| SHRINE LIST AND DAILY PRAYER INTENTIONS | | | |
|--|--|----------------|--|
| Date | Shrine | Country | Prayer Intention |
| 16 | Saint Mary's Cathedral (Sydney) | Australia | For all victims of violence and human trafficking |
| 17 | Immaculate Conception (Washington, D.C.) | USA | For all world leaders and for all heads of international organizations |
| 18 | Our Lady of Lourdes | France | For all doctors and nurses |
| 19 | Mother Mary's House | Turkey | For all people at war and for world peace |
| 20 | Nuestra Senora de la Caridad del Cobre | Cuba | For all pharmacists and health care personnel |
| 21 | Our Lady of Nagasaki | Japan | For all social workers |
| 22 | Nuestra Senora de Montserrat | Spain | For all volunteers |

RC Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle: Faith Witness to oppose the planned Hassockfield Detention Centre – Sunday 23rd May 2021 at 3pm.

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 eighty 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.

Minsteracres Retreat Centre re-opens on Monday 17th May and is ready to welcome back its visitors.

- **Walking Retreat – Saturday 22nd May, 10am to 5pm.** Enjoy a walk of 7 to 10 miles through the beautiful countryside around Minsteracres, with time for prayer, reflection and sharing of the beauty of creation. You will need suitable walking boots and warm, weatherproof clothing. Please bring a packed lunch. Suggested donation £15.
- **Quiet Day – 9th June, 10am to 4pm.** An opportunity to step aside, listen to God in Scripture and enjoy the peace and tranquillity at Minsteracres. Coffee and tea are provided. Please bring a packed lunch. Suggested donation £20.

Please telephone Minsteracres on 01434 673248 to book for the above.

Thank You to all St. Patrick's parishioners who have delivered bulletins, providing treats and for all other acts of kindness during these difficult times.

Please forward any prayers, thoughts, poems, news, anniversaries or any item that you would like to share and they will be included on the bulletin. Thank you.

Please could you pass this newsletter round the parish by forwarding to your parish contacts. If you do not wish to receive future newsletters please email stockton.stpatrick@rcdhn.org.uk or stpatricks.fairfield@btinternet.com to be removed from the mailing list. If you know of any parishioner who would like to start receiving the bulletin please ask them to e-mail the above. This bulletin, and also English Martyr's & St Peter & Paul's, can be accessed through the Parish Family Stockton website: www.parityfamilystockton.org.uk.