



St. Patrick's R.C. Church

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

Parish Priest : Canon John Cooper
Tel. 01642 674321

Sunday 25th July 2021

Jesus' feeding of the five thousand shows the remarkable generosity of God and his great kindness towards us. The multiplication of the boy's loaves and fishes shows exactly what God always does if we trust in Him. We may think that what we have to offer is too small and insignificant, but when we put everything into the hands of Jesus Christ, there is no telling what He can do with us and through us. Whatever we offer God He returns to us with great abundance. This Sunday's gospel foreshadows the Last Supper and the institution of the Eucharist, including Jesus' actions as he takes the bread, gives thanks and distributes it among those gathered. As part of his prayer Jesus thanks God, setting an example for us to thank God, not only for food but for the many blessings and good things that come our way.

The hungry crowd is still with us today, crying out all over the world for the basic necessities of life. The sheer size of the problem may make us wonder how our own small offering could make any difference. Our loaf and fish may be any small amount we set aside for the good of others.

Lord, You satisfy the hunger and thirst of every living thing and so we look to You whenever we are in need, trusting in Your love and Your abundant goodness. As You once fed the hungry crowds with five loaves and two small fish, we ask that You would again fill those who are empty this day. Pour out Your Spirit on all who hunger and thirst. We pray that we might come to know the abundant life that comes from You.



We pray for those who have dedicated their lives to feeding the hungry in our society, to housing the homeless, caring for the abandoned and bringing comfort to the sick.


Lord hear our prayer

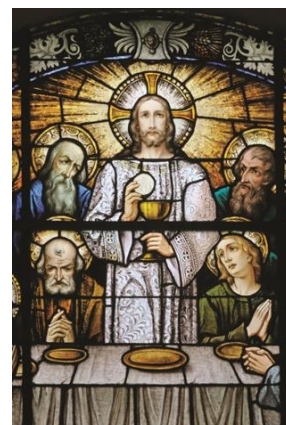
In today's Gospel, we read how Jesus fed the multitudes with loaves and fishes. At Mass He invites us to be nourished with the food of life, which is the Eucharist. We pray for the grace to be always receptive to that invitation and that we enjoy life everlasting at the table of His heavenly banquet

Lord hear our prayer

Heavenly Father, we lift up all those who are facing various illnesses and operations. Give them the hope and courage they need today and every day. Comfort their pain, calm their fears, and surround them with Your peace.

Lord hear our prayer

17th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR			
25	Sunday	9.00am	People of our Parish
26	Monday SS Joachim & Anne		No Mass
27	Tuesday		
28	Wednesday		
29	Thursday St Martha		
30	Friday	9.15am	The Cash Family
31	Saturday Vigil Mass St Ignatius of Loyola	4.00pm	Deceased of Love, Mockler and Hanley Families Confessions after Mass
18th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR			
1	Sunday	9.00am	People of our Parish
Anniversaries:		Doreen Moran	
		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	



July, the Month of the Precious Blood of Christ

Eternal Father, we offer you the Precious Blood of Jesus Christ, poured out on the cross and offered daily on the altar: For the glory of your name, for the coming of your Kingdom and for the salvation of all. Amen.

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS . . .

- **First Reading ~ 2 Kings 4:42-44**
- **Responsorial Psalm ~ Psalm 144: 10-11, 15-18**
- **Second Reading ~ Ephesians 4:1-6**
- **Gospel ~ John 6:1-15**

This Sunday is the inaugural World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. Pope Francis has given it the theme "I am with you always" from the Gospel of Matthew (Mt 28: 30). Bishop Oakley, the Chair of the Bishops' Committee for Marriage and Family Life, praises the elderly for their witness of faith and long fidelity to the Catholic Church. He said "They have so much to contribute to the church, even if they're not able to get to Mass anymore, they can still play a huge role within the body of Christ through their prayerful intercession."

Promoting the important connection between generations, Cardinal Nichols said, "Elderly people get isolated, grandparents often get forgotten. But a day of prayer will help us to remember that we are gifts to each other because we are gifts of God. And if we give thanks for those gifts, we'll appreciate them."

Prayer for Grandparents and the Elderly.



***Lord Jesus,** help families and society to value the presence and role of grandparents and the elderly. May they never be ignored or excluded, but always encounter respect and love. Help them to live serenely and to feel welcomed in all the years of life which you give them. Mary, Mother of all the living, keep the elderly constantly in your care, accompany them on their earthly pilgrimage, and by your prayers, grant that all families may one day be reunited in our heavenly homeland, where you await all humanity for the great embrace of life without end. Amen*

Sister's visit from St Elisabeth Convent, Belarus . . We are sincerely grateful to you for considering our inquiry to create a small stall of our crafts at your **Parish of St Patrick's on Friday 30th of July at 9.15am and on Sunday 1st of August at 9am** and in this way support us in our challenging, yet rewarding work.



We would like to thank you for all your help and patronage in the past. Owing to your generosity, kindness and support we have been able to advance our ministry and help many more people in need. In recent years, we have been able to accommodate more than 180 residents at the rehab centre for men. We have also been able to help more women at a similar rehab centre that is run by our convent. St Elisabeth Convent, a Russian Orthodox community in Minsk, Belarus bears the name of the holy Martyr Grand Princess Elisabeth. It was founded in 1999 in the outskirts of Minsk and has originated from the sisterhood bearing the same name. The convent currently counts just under a hundred nuns and around 300 sisters of mercy. Taking up the ministry of our patron saint the sisters of our convent provide spiritual and social help to the sick and the suffering. To support and develop the above ministries, more than twenty workshops and studios operate within the frameworks of the Sisterhood. These include sewing and embroidery shops, candle workshop, wood-carving, stone and blacksmith workshops and many more. Some of the people working in the workshops are those who lost all hope in realizing their potential due to various illnesses. But the Lord gave a talent to everyone and these people have skilled hands and the desire to work. Together with the sisters these people produce beautiful articles with love and prayer in the convent's workshops.



Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle LOURDES ` Virtual Pilgrimage' . . . As the Diocese is unable to travel to Lourdes this year, there will be a 'Virtual Pilgrimage', providing opportunities for our Pilgrimage Family to join together in prayer and worship **over the course of a week which starts on 31st July with a day at Ushaw. Unfortunately, numbers are restricted and places do need to be booked in advance.**

Following our opening day of reflection at Ushaw, all other Masses and services will be streamed via YouTube or Facebook. During the week there will be a Service of Healing and a Bereavement Service. You can access the links to the services via the Pilgrimage website: www.hexhamandnewcastlelourdespilgrimage.co.uk or searching YouTube for HN-Lourdes Hospitalite. Please see the parish notice board for two posters giving further information.

ONGOING FAITH WITNESS AGAINST HASSECKFIELD . . . In October, the Home Office 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 people like ourselves who have the right to a place of safety and to be treated with respect and compassion. **A monthly prayer vigil will be held at the barrier to Hassockfield on the first Sunday of each month at 3pm starting on Sunday 1st August.** This will last for about 30 minutes and will incorporate a time of silent witness. Please support this with your prayer and, if at all possible, come along. For further information, please contact lizarchibald.justiceandpeace@gmail.com

DIARY DATE ~ SPUC Pro-Life Parish Mission . . . Join the community of St. Thomas More's Parish in Middlesbrough for a pro-life parish mission from Monday 27th September - Friday 1st October. Delivered by the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC), the mission will include a daily schedule of prayer and devotions, inspirational talks and powerful personal testimonies, presentations in local secondary schools, a Eucharistic Healing Service for anyone who has experienced any form of baby loss and an opportunity for married couples to renew their wedding vows. Further details and timings will follow in due course but for now, please save the dates. It is hoped that people from across the local area will feel warmly invited to attend. For more information, please contact Terry Graham, SPUC's Northern Development Officer at: terrygraham@spuc.org.uk



SUMMER FUNraiser! . . . This summer, support CAFOD with your very own Summer FUNraiser! By raising money, you'll be helping people around the world who are suffering because of the climate crisis, the pandemic and poverty. Are you a wannabe Olympian, tennis pro or football star? Take on an active challenge for CAFOD this summer in celebration of the return of international sporting events! Run, cycle, swim, play tennis or football, or anything else that you love doing. You can do it on your own or with your family! You'll be helping people around the world who are suffering because of climate change. For more information type into the search engine. [CAFOD Fund Raiser](#)

Ushaw's Outdoor Cinema is back on Saturday 31st July!

Live music - Starting at 8pm **Bohemian Rhapsody** - 9.30pm - 11:50pm
Food and refreshments - Pre-order Afternoon Tea or grab a slice of Pizza from Stivano's Wood Fired Pizza on the day! Snacks and refreshments also available from The Bounds Cafe.

Please be aware that the film cannot start until it is dark enough. A time has been set to begin the film, this may be altered slightly due to light conditions. You are advised to arrive from around 8pm where you can enjoy some live music, with the film set to begin at approximately 9:30pm (sunset) and ending at approximately 11:50pm. Visit Ushaw's Events website to book tickets.





Clothes are desperately needed for children aged 1–14 years old and also for adults, male and female. They are desperately needed for Asylum seekers, refugees and needy families. If you can help please contact Veronica Lindo anytime on Mob: 07523077656 or see any St Patrick's SVP member.

(For safety please do not leave bags of clothing at the back of church. Please arrange for collection with Veronica or SVP members)

THANK YOU to all St. Patrick's parishioners who are delivering 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.