

St. Patrick's R.C. Church

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

Parish Priest : Canon John Cooper
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Sunday 18th July 2021

In this Sunday's Gospel we see Jesus as he cares in different ways for those entrusted to him: for the apostles by giving them time for rest and nourishment, and for the crowds by teaching them. The desire to be in the presence of the Lord and to listen to his teaching is what draws us together each time we assemble as a church. The ministry of the church is an extension of the compassion of Jesus, the willingness to walk in the shoes of another person, to understand the joys and sorrows of their life. In this Sunday's gospel we hear of early groups of people who also had the desire to be with Jesus and how he took pity on them 'because they were like sheep without a shepherd, and he set himself to teach them at some length'. Let us think about our need to listen to the teachings of Jesus so that they can bring light into our lives and let us ask Jesus to give us His spirit of compassion so that we can be as sensitive and responsive to the needs of people around us as he was.

Lord, you are our Shepherd and we pray that you will protect us from all danger by keeping watch over us. Guide us towards green pastures where we can be nourished by Your word and lead us to pure still waters where we can be refreshed by Your love. Amen.



We pray for all those called to be shepherds in our Church and have dedicated their lives to spreading the good news of the gospel, our priests, nuns, deacons and lay missionaries that they be guided and protected in their mission by the grace of the Holy Spirit.

Lord, hear our prayer

As Covid restrictions are eased, we pray for all in our country, that we show responsibility, consideration and care for ourselves and for others.


Lord, hear our prayer

Merciful God we pray for all who suffer in body, mind or spirit and for those who care for them. We pray that those who have died may have peace and joy in the presence of God, whom they served on earth.

Lord, hear our prayer



A Pro-life Holy Hour will be taking place on Thursday 22nd July at St Cuthbert's after the 9.30am Mass. Please come and pray for the unborn and sanctity of life.

16th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR			
18	Sunday	9.00am	Golden Wedding Anniversary Nick & Olwyn Lyons
19	Monday	9.15am	Mary Douglas
20	Tuesday		
21	Wednesday		
22	Thursday St Mary Magdalene		
23	Friday St Bridget of Sweden	9.15am	Fred & Bessie Cain
24	Saturday Vigil Mass The Martyrs of the Diocese	4.00pm	Mary & Matt Wilson Confessions after Mass
17th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR			
25	Sunday	9.00am	People of our Parish
Anniversaries:		Margaret Horan, Mary Douglas, Eileen Cooper, Edward Wrigley	
		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	



Next Sunday is the first 'World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. Identifying with the more senior members of our society, the Pope says, "The whole Church is close to you – to us – and cares about you, loves you and does not want to leave you alone!" On this special day in which we celebrate grandparents and the elderly we pray for Mary, Mother of all the living, to keep them constantly in her care.

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS . . .

- **First Reading ~ Jeremiah 23:1-6**
- **Responsorial Psalm ~ Psalm 22**
- **Second Reading ~ Ephesians 2:13-18**
- **Gospel ~ Mark 6:30-34**



PRAYER FOR THE END OF A SCHOOL YEAR . . . *At the end of this school year we give thanks to God: For all the teaching and learning that has taken place in our schools, both in and out of the classroom. For the talents and gifts that have been shared and the challenges that have been faced. For the respect and care that has been given. We pray for those who are about to leave school and move on to the next stage in their lives, and for those for whom what happens next depends on exam results. Amen.*

Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle Covid Measures . . . I have taken both Clergy and Lay advice and due to the very high infection rates across all areas of the Diocese, I ask you to retain all the COVID control measures and cleaning protocols that you are currently following in all our churches and church halls until at least the end of August 2021. (Rt Rev Robert Byrne CO)

Attached with the bulletin is a statement from the Bishop's Conference.

ST MARY MAGDALENE has always been the example of great love and great forgiveness, one of those close to Jesus who grasped the truth of God's love for human beings and spent her life bearing witness to that love. On the day of our Lord's crucifixion she stood with the Mother of Jesus at the foot of the cross and she was the first recorded witness to the resurrection of Jesus. Recognizing St. Mary Magdalene's role as the first to witness Christ's resurrection and as a "true and authentic evangelizer," Pope Francis raised the July 22 memorial of St. Mary Magdalene to a feast on the Church's Liturgical Calendar.

Mary Magdalene was the first to greet your risen Son and carried the news of his triumph over death to the disciples. Strengthen us to be faithful witnesses to the gospel in the world and grant your grace to all who preach and teach the faith. Amen



THE MARTYRS OF THE DIOCESE (Saturday 24th July) . . . Of the three hundred and fifteen of our Catholic ancestors who sacrificed their lives for the Catholic faith in England and Wales during the religious persecution of the 16th and 17th centuries, twenty-eight can be considered as 'Martyrs of the North' as they were born, laboured or suffered within the confines of Northumberland and Durham. To return to England as a priest was high treason punishable by hanging, drawing and quartering; to shelter a priest was a felony punishable by imprisonment, fines, confiscation of property and in many cases, death. It was only heroes and heroines who could face such ordeals, these are our martyrs.

ONGOING FAITH WITNESS AGAINST HASSOCKFIELD . . . 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



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.