

Times of Mass, Intentions and Services
25th Sunday Ordinary Time Year B – 19th September 2021

	English Martyrs and Ss Peter & Paul's	St Joseph's	St Bede's	Feast Days this week
Sat 18th	6:00pm Raymond Kirk RIP	—	—	Sunday Vigil Mass
Sun 19th	—	10:30am Peter White RIP (AW)	9:00am Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	25th Sunday Ordinary Time
Mon 20th	—	—	—	Ss Andrew Kim, Paul Chong Hasang and Companions (<i>The Korean Martyrs</i>)
Tue 21st	—	—	9:30am Priests Intention	St Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist
Wed 22nd	First Holy Communion Mass Please pray for the children and their families	—	—	—
Thur 23rd	—	9:30am Stanley Bell RIP	—	St Pius of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio), <i>Priest</i>
Fri 24th	6:30pm Enid Henry	—	—	Our Lady of Walsingham
Sat 25th	6:00pm Veronica Paxton (EF)	—	—	Sunday Vigil Mass
Sun 26th	—	10:30am Noel Rodrigues RIP (K&JM)	9:00am Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	26th Sunday Ordinary Time

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Thursday 23rd September
St Joseph's
after 9.30am Mass

Friday 24th September
EMSSPP Sanctuary
6:00pm – 6:30pm

Saturday 25th September
EMSSPP Sanctuary
5:30pm – 6:00pm

Or by Appointment – call 01642 806469

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

25th Sunday Ordinary Time – Year B
19th September 2021

Clergy

Parish Priest: Fr. Mark Millward
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@outlook.com

Internet

Parish YouTube: [Stockton Parish Family](https://www.youtube.com/StocktonParishFamily)
Facebook page: [@ParishFamilyStocktonRC](https://www.facebook.com/ParishFamilyStocktonRC)
Parish website: www.parishfamilystockton.org.uk
Diocesan website: www.rcdhn.org.uk

Reflection for 25th Sunday of the year

Who is the greatest?'

'they had been arguing about which of them was the greatest' Mark 9:34.

Our news bulletins are full of stories of human conflict. Social media can become a hotbed of dispute, mudslinging and slander. In today's Gospel the disciples find themselves in conflict about who has greater status. As we all know conflict can start close to home: families, friends, social groups, and the parish can sometimes become places of disagreement.

We can get stuck in seeing things only from our perspective, Jesus shows us a way to be: 'If anyone wants to be first, they must make themselves last of all and servant of all'. Mark 9:35

We are called to see things from the other's point of view, to serve rather than to dominate, to welcome rather than shun. In welcoming the other we welcome the Lord himself.

Fr Mark

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 Noel Rodrigues RIP and all those who have died recently. May they rest in peace. Amen.

Covid: UPDATE

We have received updated guidance from Bishop Robert regarding our Diocese Covid procedures following the recent meeting of the Bishop's Council. As you are aware, legal restrictions were lifted in July, however local infection rates and hospital admissions are now increasing and health officials in the region are advising that maintaining Covid control measures such as face covering, and social distancing throughout the coming autumn/winter period will be vital to controlling infections. It is still down to all of us to keep each other safe by reducing the potential spread of infections.

Some controls are being relaxed, but a number of measures will continue for the present time so that our churches remain safe places to attend Mass.

- ✓ You will still be asked to sanitise your hands as you enter and leave church
- ✓ It is recommended that you continue to wear a face mask in church, unless you are exempt
- ✓ Churches will continue to be cleaned between Masses and other services
- ✓ Please try to keep 1m distance from those not in your household or 'bubble'
- ✓ The one-way system in church will continue
- ✓ Ministers, servers and readers can return to their normal duties
- ✓ We will no longer be taking contact details for test and trace

Our marshals have a very important role to play in keeping us safe. Please follow their guidance and co-operate with them as they do their job to seat people making best use of all the available space in church.

The obligation to attend weekend Mass remains suspended for the present time.

Thank you all for your co-operation and understanding. Fr Mark.

Second Collection: There will be a second collection for Home Mission this weekend. Thank you.

First Holy Communion Masses: Please note that the First Holy Communion Masses are for the children and their invited guests only. Due to social distancing church capacity is limited and we need to keep everyone safe. Thank you for your understanding.

Extraordinary Ministers of Communion Weekend 2nd/3rd October: There are many ways in which parishioners have helped with Holy Communion in the past. Many of our housebound parishioners find Communion to be the spiritual highlight of their week. In churches where priests and deacons need support in distributing Holy Communion this ministry has been a tremendous benefit in the past. At our Sunday Mass on this weekend, we give thanks for these ministers, and we ask them to commit themselves again to this work.

Congratulations: to Ben and Leanne who were married in English Martyrs and Ss Peter & Paul last Friday. May God bless their marriage.

September Baptisms: Please pray for William Andrew Cole, Alana Rachel Carey, Luna Aila Gartland, Harley James Willshaw, Jude Croft & Grayson Croft who received the Sacrament of Baptism in September. May they and their godparents grow in their Faith in the years ahead.

SVP Update: If anybody needs any support or wants to know more about the SVP please call Alan on 07939912354.

Exploring Sycamore – a taster session

Sycamore is an informal course about the Christian faith and its relevance for life today. It gives you space to meet other people, share ideas, explore your beliefs, and think about questions that really matter. Each session involves a short film and time for discussion. Everyone is welcome. For anyone considering running Sycamore in their parish or partnership, or who would like to experience Sycamore, Faith & Mission invite you to a **Sycamore Taster Session on Sunday, 19th September at 4 pm via Zoom.** A number of groups from across our diocese are using Sycamore. Sycamore offers various pathways around enquiry, formation and sacramental preparation. Please visit <https://www.sycamore.fm/pathways/> for more information.

To register a place, you can register online or email adminfaith.mission@diocesehn.org.uk with your name, contact details and parish/town.

Diocesan Days of Reflection for Ministers: Are being held at Ushaw College, Durham. During these days we shall reflect together on the call of our ministry and how the Pandemic may raise the need to introduce new ways of working and also we shall consider the approaching Synod.

Breaking the Word for those who have been Readers at Mass on Sundays or Weekdays

Saturday 9th October 2021 10:30am – 3:30pm (*book by Thursday 23rd September*)

Called to the Supper of the Lamb for those who have served as ministers taking Holy Communion to the Sick or helping distribute during Mass.

Option 1: Saturday 16th October 2021 10:30am – 3:30pm (*book by Thursday 30th September*)

Option 2: Saturday 30th October 2021 10:30am – 3:30pm (*book by Thursday 14th October*)

See the posters in church for further details. The cost of the day will be paid by your parish and refreshments will be provided. Please contact the Parish office if you wish to attend any of these events.

First Steps – Exploring the Catholic Faith Online: Are you wondering about your relationship with God and not sure where to start? Join us on a journey this Autumn and see if the Catholic Church can help your relationship grow. This may be the right path for you. It may even help you take the next steps towards coming into the Church. We gather weekly via Zoom and invite you to come along to find out more. Starts **Wednesday 22nd September at 7pm.** If you are interested to find out more, you can enquire/register using the **Online Enquiry Form** or email adminfaith.mission@diocesehn.org.uk. For full details, please see the poster on the noticeboard.

SPUC Pro-Life Mission: Please feel warmly invited to join the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC) for a Pro-Life Mission taking place at **St. Thomas More's Church, Kirkham Row, Beechwood, Middlesbrough, TS4 3EE from Monday 27th September – Friday 1st October.** There will be Mass on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at 10:30am at St. Thomas More's; on Wednesday 29th the Mass and the presentation which follows will take place at St. Joseph's Church, Park Road South, Middlesbrough, TS4 2RB. All presentations and workshops will be given by members of staff from SPUC. For further details, please see poster and leaflets at the back of church or contact **Terry Graham, SPUC Northern Development Officer: 07549 068226; terrygraham@spuc.org.uk**

Latest News from Fr. Vincent: Fr Vincent writes "The rains are starting soon and I am sure we shall face a problem of getting seeds for planting since a lot of them have been eaten as food. I pray to God for a solution since the people will run to me. However, I will use part of the grain in the food bank for planting. Once again, thank you for all the support. Here each day is very stressful but God sees me through." Please pray for Fr. Vincent as he tries to respond to the needs of his people.

Worldwide Church News

Pope Francis' Monthly Intentions for September: An Environmentally, Sustainable, Lifestyle.

We pray that we all will make courageous choices for a simple and environmentally sustainable lifestyle, rejoicing in our young people who are resolutely committed to this.

Prayer and Liturgy News

First Reading

Wisdom 2:12,17-20

The godless say to themselves: 'Let us lie in wait for the virtuous man, since he annoys us and opposes our way of life, reproaches us for our breaches of the law and accuses us of playing false to our upbringing.

'Let us see if what he says is true, let us observe what kind of end he himself will have. If the virtuous man is God's son, God will take his part and rescue him from the clutches of his enemies.

Let us test him with cruelty and with torture, and thus explore this gentleness of his and put his endurance to the proof. Let us condemn him to a shameful death since he will be looked after – we have his word for it.'

Psalm:

53(54):3-6,8

The Lord upholds my life.

1. O God, save me by your name;
by your power, uphold my cause.

O God, hear my prayer;

listen to the words of my mouth.

2. For proud men have risen against me
ruthless men seek my life.

They have no regard for God.

3. But I have God for my help.

The Lord upholds my life.

I will sacrifice to you with willing heart

and praise your name for it is good.

Second Reading

James 3:16-4:3

Wherever you find jealousy and ambition, you find disharmony, and wicked things of every kind being done; whereas the wisdom that comes down from above is essentially something pure; it also makes for peace, and is kindly and considerate; it is full of compassion and shows itself by doing good; nor is there any trace of partiality or hypocrisy in it. Peacemakers, when they work for peace, sow the seeds which will bear fruit in holiness.

Where do these wars and battles between yourselves first start? Isn't it precisely in the desires fighting inside your own selves? You want something and you haven't got it; so you are prepared to kill. You have an ambition that you cannot satisfy; so you fight to get your way by force. Why you don't have what you want is because you don't pray for it; when you do pray and don't get it, it is because you have not prayed properly, you have prayed for something to indulge your own desires.

Gospel

Mark 9:30-37

Jesus and his disciples made their way through Galilee; and he did not want anyone to know, because he was instructing his disciples; he was telling them, 'The Son of Man will be delivered into the hands of men; they will put him to death; and three days after he has been put to death he will rise again.' But they did not understand what he said and were afraid to ask him.

They came to Capernaum, and when he was in the house he asked them, 'What were you arguing about on the road?' They said nothing because they had been arguing which of them was the greatest. So he sat down, called the Twelve to him and said, 'If anyone wants to be first, he must make himself last of all and servant of all.' He then took a little child, set him in front of them, put his arms round him, and said to them, 'Anyone who welcomes one of these little children in my name, welcomes me; and anyone who welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.'

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...

Thought for the Day: Pray, hope and don't worry. Anxiety doesn't help at all. Our merciful Lord will listen to your prayer.

St Padre Pio