



St. Patrick's R.C. Church

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

Parish Priest : Canon John Cooper
Tel. 01642 674321

Sunday 12th December 2021

The theme in the readings and prayers of this Sunday's Mass is a message of hope and rejoicing. God's intervention in human history is about to happen in the person of Jesus Christ. Jesus is near, working with us and in us. In the gospel John the Baptist describes Jesus as '*standing among you, unknown to you*'. In John's time this was because Jesus had not yet begun his ministry, but in our own day these words have a particular relevance. We live by faith in Jesus the crucified and risen Lord present in our world. In preparing for Christmas we want to renew our awareness of that presence and to help others be aware of it. In Advent we, like John, are called to be witnesses to the light He brings. In small but important ways we can bring light into the lives of those around us. Simple acts of kindness, sharing our time, talents or resources with those in need, is the way Christ's light will shine for many people this Christmas.



Mighty God as we contemplate the teaching of John the Baptist on our Advent journey, give us the courage to be faithful and to bear fruits worthy of repentance until your promises are fulfilled. Help us to look forward in hope to the coming of our Saviour. May we live as he taught, ready to welcome him with burning love and faith. Amen

MASSES FOR CHRISTMAS

CHRISTMAS EVE

St. Cuthbert's RC Church	Carol Service	6.00pm
	Vigil Mass	6.30pm

St. Mary's RC Church	Carol Service	11.30pm
	Mass	Midnight

CHRISTMAS DAY

St. Patrick's RC Church	Mass	10.00am
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SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION

St. Cuthbert's RC Church ~ Thursday 23rd December ~ 10am-11am

St. Patrick's RC Church ~ Thursday 23rd December ~ 6pm-8pm

3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT			
12	Sunday	9.00am	People of the Parish
13	Monday St Lucy	9.15am	Joan Barker
14	Tuesday St John of the Cross		
15	Wednesday		
16	Thursday		
17	Friday	9.15am	In Thanksgiving
18	Saturday	9.15am	Josie Murphy Confessions after Mass
4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT			
19	Sunday	9.00am	Fred & Bessie Cain
Recently Deceased:		Alan Dijksman ~ May he rest in peace. Amen	
Anniversaries:		Peter McLouchlin, Helen Genery, Kathleen Ferguson, Thelma Brown, Pat Walton, Patrick Casey (PJ), Ronald Healey,	
		Billy McGuinness, Pat Jackson, Margaret Devlin, Pauline Morton, Mike Rutland, Margaret Kenning, Christopher Brown, Fr. Pat McKenna, Rosie Owens, Andrew Brydon, Mary Talbot, Betty Griffiths, Rose Marie Bruno	



The third week of Advent we remember the gift of Joy we have in Christ. We remember the joy that Mary felt when the angel Gabriel told her that a special child would be born to her. When we light the third candle we remember that Christ came to bring true and everlasting joy to all people.

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS . . .

- **First Reading ~ Zephaniah 3:14-18**
- **Responsorial Psalm ~ Isaiah 12:2-6**
- **Second Reading ~ Philippians 4:4-7**
- **Gospel ~ Luke 3:10-18**



It is with great sadness that the Diocese informs us that Fr Peter Smith and Fr. Kevin Daly died this week. Please keep them in your prayers. May they rest in peace. Amen.

Holy Father's Prayer Intention for December: *Catechists*

Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Congratulations to St. Bede's RC Church on celebrating their 70th Anniversary last weekend.

SPUC CLUB DRAW

The next draw will take place this Sunday. Could you please let Christine, Eileen or Maurice have any outstanding monies? Many thanks

If anyone has lost a small silver bracelet a few weeks ago in church it can be collected from the Parish Shop.

Thank You!

St Patrick's RC Primary School would like to thank parishioners for donations to the Advent appeal for the Billingham Food Bank.

PARISH SHOP .. Thank you for your support

- ❖ Boxes of 18 Christmas Cards £3.99
- ❖ Small packets of 10 Christmas cards, a few left £1.30
- ❖ 2022 Catholic Diaries £2.99

Gifts and cards on sale in the Shop or on the table in church porch.

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.