



St. Patrick's R.C. Church

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

Parish Priest : Canon John Cooper
Tel. 01642 674321

Sunday 16th January 2022

In this Sunday's Gospel Jesus performed the first of his miracles at Cana in Galilee. There is powerful symbolism in the event. For most of the people at the wedding wine would have been a rare treat and used mainly on occasions of celebration and so it had come to be a symbol of joy. By turning water into wine Jesus was changing what was plain and ordinary into a new experience of joy and celebration.

Jesus came into the world to make a difference, to change people and to make all things new. His presence among us is an invitation to change our ways and is a call to a new way of life. When our lives are plain and ordinary Jesus seeks to burst into them and to brighten us up with new hope and a fresh start. When we do whatever Jesus tells us, when we pause and pray and reflect and consider what Jesus would tell us to do in all kinds of situations we will find ourselves acting in the best way and going in the right direction as Jesus brings the change that gives us joy and fulfilment, contentment and peace.

We give thanks to Jesus, whose first miracle was turning water into wine, renewing the joy of the guests. We give thanks to Jesus who enters every place in our lives, the joyful, the painful and the trivial, and meets our need to be renewed, refreshed and sustained. May we always depend on God for our needs. Amen.



This Sunday is PEACE SUNDAY and the theme Pope Francis has chosen for the 55th Message for the World Day of Peace is "Dialogue between Generations, Education, Work and Dialogue: Tools for Building Lasting Peace. Jesus shows up in our lives every day, in the best of times and the worst. In all the ups and downs, angry words and hurts, splits and reconciliations that are family life, including all the misunderstandings and tensions that can come between the generations. The atmosphere at home depends on our little decisions day by day. We can choose to live hope-filled lives together, young and old, in friendship or we can live together in resentment and hurt.

The same is true of our life as a global family sharing this precious, fragile common home. On this Peace Sunday Pope Francis and our Bishops invite us to educate ourselves about the threats to peace and to our Common Home and to recommit once more to ensuring that all are invited to the great wedding banquet of God's Kingdom.

Reconciling Christ, bless our efforts to bring about reconciliation. Give us the strength to persevere without counting the hurts, and to find within ourselves the capacity to keep on loving. Bless those who are called to reconcile on a large-scale, politicians, world leaders, and those who stand in the midst of bitter conflict. Reconciling Christ, bless us and bless all who engage in the sacred work of bringing about peace and bringing people and nations together. Amen.



| 2nd SUNDAY OF THE YEAR | | | |
|---|-----------------------------|--|---|
| 16 | Sunday | 9.00am | People of our Parish |
| 17 | Monday St Anthony | 9.15am | Deceased Members of Lindo and Carter Families |
| 18 | Tuesday | | |
| 19 | Wednesday | | |
| 20 | Thursday | | |
| 21 | Friday | 9.15am | Andre Tassel |
| 22 | Saturday | | No Mass |
| 3rd SUNDAY OF THE YEAR | | | |
| 23 | Sunday | 9.00am | People of the Parish |
| Recently Deceased: | | Jean Hemblade ~ May she rest in peace. Amen | |
| Anniversaries: | | Margaret Morton | |
|  | | 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, Dave | |



Virgin Mary, Queen of peace, you who stood at the foot of the cross, obtain from your Son pardon for our sins; you who never doubted the victory of his resurrection, sustain our faith and our hope; you who are enthroned as Queen in glory, teach us the road of service and the glory of love. Amen

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS . . .

- **First Reading ~ Isaiah 62:1-5**
- **Responsorial Psalm ~ Psalm 95:1-3, 7-10**
- **Second Reading ~ 1 Corinthians 12:4-11**
- **Gospel ~ John 2: 1-11**



Almighty Father, grant that our relatives, friends and all the deceased who have passed from this life may, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, come to share Your eternal happiness. **Holy Spirit of Peace, grant our prayer**

The Northern Cross Diocese Newspaper is for sale in the Church Porch, price £1.50.



Society for the **Protection**
of Unborn Children

WHITE FLOWER APPEAL 2022 - the Society for the Protection of Unborn children (SPUC) will be holding its annual appeal next weekend.

SPUC is currently campaigning to protect Pro-Life speech. Pro-life witness is being restricted now more than ever; we must be able to speak freely to protect unborn babies.

Please be as generous as you can to help SPUC defend unborn babies and their mothers from this new attack.

SPUC YOUTH CONFERENCE . . . Why not join people from around the country at the SPUC 2022 Youth Conference (18 – 30 years) which takes place from **Friday, 25th February to Sunday, 27th February** at the Yarnfield Park Training & Conference Centre, Stone, Staffordshire. The Conference aims to educate, inspire and empower our young people to work for the pro-life movement. Cost for the weekend is £135 and there is some sponsorship still available. For further details please see poster at back of church or contact Christine Pope, SPUC Stockton Office, 01642 602842



WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY ~ The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, held 18th-25th January, will draw together churches across the globe to reflect on the hope and joy in Matthew 2:2, "We saw the star in the East, and we came to worship him." Materials for the week have been prepared by the churches of the Middle East.

This expresses the Eastern Churches' tradition of joining Epiphany to the mystery of the Baptism of Christ, a baptism all Christians hold in common as testimony to their faith in the Son of God, exhibiting solidarity with those who suffer. The story of the Magi visiting the Holy Family in Bethlehem is one very familiar to us. The Magi have sometimes been seen as a symbol of the world's diversity – different religions and cultures – that comes to pay homage to the Christ-child. The story might therefore represent the unity of all created that God desires.

Creator of light, illumine our path by the Light of Christ who moves before and leads us. May He be a beacon for our pilgrimage. We thank you for the gift of that unfolding Star, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. Heal our divisions and draw us closer to the Light that we may find unity in him. Amen.



POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR JANUARY ~ For true human fraternity . . . We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognised, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.

Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle . . . Holocaust Memorial Evenings 2022: 'One Day.' For many years the Diocesan Department for Interreligious Relations has held Holocaust Memorial Evenings. We use two host schools, St Mary's Catholic School in Newcastle and St Michael's Catholic Academy in Billingham and we have also been invited to take part in a commemoration held in St Leonard's Catholic School, Durham. We are fortunate in having the support of members of the United Hebrew Congregation from the Graham Park Road Synagogue in Gosforth, who work enthusiastically with our schools during the memorial week.

The two events will take place at St Mary's Catholic School, Newcastle on **Tuesday 25th January** and St Michael's Catholic Academy, Billingham on **Thursday 27th January**. We are fortunate to welcome Mrs Hanneke Dye who will be our guest speaker.

Hanneke was born into a Jewish family, in Nazi occupied Holland, in 1943. A sympathetic doctor, realising the peril the family were in, hid her in a vacuum cleaner box for her safety. She went on to spend the first two years of her life in hiding. The family were living with her Uncle Jeep when the Nazi's raided the house. Fortunately for Hanneke, she was fast asleep in the vacuum cleaner box and was not discovered. For her safety, Uncle Jeep managed to move her to a nearby Catholic Children's home where she was looked after by a lady named Aunt Pop. This move saved her life. Whilst she was reunited with her parents after the war, tragically her grandparents were murdered in the Auschwitz-Birkenau complex.

There is no cost but booking is essential please tel: 0191 273 3903 or contact: interreligious.relations@diocesehn.org.uk



Vacancy in the Diocese . . . The Diocese is looking to appoint a Health and Safety Officer to co-ordinate and manage all aspects of health and safety across the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle. This will include, but is not limited to, ensuring that all Diocesan personnel are kept safe and that Diocesan properties and projects, and the associated activities are safe and without risk as far as is reasonably practicable. Full-time, permanent. Closing date for applications is 27th January. For further information and details of how to apply please visit our website www.diocesehn.org.uk or contact us on 0191 243 3301

Please forward any prayers, thoughts, poems, news, anniversaries or any item that you would like to share and I will include them 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.parishfamilystockton.org.uk.