

**Times of Mass, Intentions and Services**  
**First Sunday of Lent Year C – 6<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

	<b>English Martyrs and Ss Peter &amp; Paul's</b>	<b>St Joseph's</b>	<b>St Bede's</b>	<b>Feast Days this week</b>
<b>Sat 5th</b>	<b>6:00pm</b> Anne Brannen RIP	—	—	Sunday Vigil Mass
<b>Sun 6th</b>	—	<b>10:30am</b> Kathleen & Bob Martin RIP (LC) <b>4:00pm</b> HOLY HOUR	<b>9:00am</b> Eileen Frances Henry RIP	First Sunday of Lent
<b>Mon 7th</b>	—	—	—	Ss Perpetua & Felicity, <i>Martyrs</i>
<b>Tue 8th</b>	<b>11:30am</b> Stations of the Cross <b>12:00 noon</b> Lenten Lunch <b>7:00pm</b> Lent Study Group	—	<b>9:30am</b> Pro Populo (People of the Parish) <b>10:00am – 11:00am</b> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	St John of God, <i>Religious</i>
<b>Wed 9th</b>	<b>9:30am</b> Intentions of the Hamilton Family (PDR)	—	—	St Frances of Rome, <i>Religious</i>
<b>Thur 10th</b>	—	<b>9:30am</b> Kallaghan Family <b>2:00pm – 4:00pm</b> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	—	—
<b>Fri 11th</b>	<b>5:00pm – 6:00pm</b> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament <b>6:00pm</b> Denis Harrington RIP (GEM) <b>Followed by</b> Stations of the Cross	<b>11:30am – 12:30am</b> Stations of the Cross followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	—	—
<b>Sat 12th</b>	<b>6:00pm</b> Paul & Vinnie Debono RIP (AA)	—	—	Sunday Vigil Mass
<b>Sun 13th</b>	<b>9:00am</b> Mass for the Polish Community	<b>10:30am</b> Damian Perry RIP (OH)	<b>9:00am</b> Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	2nd Sunday of Lent

<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation</b>		
<b>Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March</b> St Joseph's after 9.30am Mass	<b>Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March</b> EMSSPP Sanctuary 5:00pm – 5:45pm	<b>Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> March</b> EMSSPP Sanctuary 5:00pm – 5:45pm
<b>Or by Appointment – call 01642 806469</b>		

**Bulletin Items:** If you would like a notice included in the next bulletin, please email [parishnewsletterstockton@gmail.com](mailto: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

### First Sunday of Lent Year C – 6<sup>th</sup> March 2022

### Clergy

**Parish Priest:** Fr Mark Millward  
**Assistant Priest:** Fr Oliver Keyes  
**Deacon:** 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](mailto: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](http://www.parishfamilystockton.org.uk)  
**Diocesan website:** [www.rcdhn.org.uk](http://www.rcdhn.org.uk)

### Reflection First Sunday of Lent Year C

I like presiding at Baptisms, the Sacramental stepping-stone that leads on to all of the other Sacraments.  
 I'm sure that those attending any Baptism look forward to being there- and perhaps also the celebration that often follows!  
 In today's Gospel we encounter Jesus just after His Baptism. No post Baptism celebration for Him though, no raising of a glass of wine or even a quick bite to eat to mark the occasion. Instead, He is led by the Spirit into the wilderness where He is tempted by the devil.  
 I can remember studying this Gospel passage in school. In my mind, Jesus was tempted three times and each time He literally threw the temptation back at the devil.  
 But to focus on these three temptations sort of misses the point, since Luke tells us clearly that Jesus was '...tempted by the devil for forty days...' and that the three temptations that we all know happened at the end of those forty days when Jesus was hungry.  
 In other words, our Lord was tempted by the devil for each and every hour, each and every minute, each and every second of those forty days.  
 The devil was trying to make Jesus think about Himself, to put Himself first to the exclusion of all else, in particular His Mission to spread the Good News that His Father had sent Him to bring to you and I.  
 But Jesus would have none of it. He was focused on that Mission, focused on His desire to serve all mankind- including us- so He said 'No'.  
 We too are tempted in all sorts of ways. Every second of every day there is some form of temptation snapping at our heels that will pull us away from God if we give in to it.  
 Let's pray that we like Jesus can say 'No' when we are tempted, such that we too remain focused on those things that are pleasing to God and glorify Him.  
 And as we begin Lent let's ask the same Spirit that filled Jesus to fill us too so that we might worthily accompany our Lord on His journey to Calvary.

Deacon Paul

## 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 all those who have died recently. May they rest in peace. Amen.

### The following COVID MEASURES will continue to apply 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.**
- **We recommend that you wear a face mask in church unless you are exempt.**
- **Please still be mindful of social distancing.**
- **If you have any cold, flu or gastric symptoms then please stay at home.**

Please follow the marshals' guidance and co-operate with them as they do their job to seat people making best use of all the available space in church. Thank you all for your co-operation and understanding. Fr Mark.

**Our marshals have a very important part to play in keeping us safe, but more numbers are needed for the rotas - please volunteer to assist with this vital role, if you are able to.**

### St Joseph's Refurbishment Appeal

The new the roof at St Joseph's has been completed and has cost almost £50,000. We would now like to renew the lighting and decorate internally and externally, and we anticipate that this may cost up to another £50,000. We urgently need your financial help in these endeavours please. You may be able to give a financial contribution and where possible Gift Aid it, you may have fundraising ideas or you may like to consider increasing your weekly offering and again when possible to Gift Aid your donation. However you can help or whatever you can do will be gratefully received. Thank you – Fr Mark. Donations towards the Refurbishment Fund of £3,431 have already been received – Sincere thanks to those who have contributed so far.

**Ukraine Appeal:** Our Polish parishioners are co-ordinating an appeal for any of the following supplies to assist the refugees on the Polish border: - personal hygiene products, women's sanitary products, baby supplies, first aid kits, colouring books etc. for children, baby porridge, fruit and vegetable snacks (in tubes not in jars), instant foods such as soup and canned goods, sleeping bags and bedding, clothing for men, women and children. Collection boxes will be in all three churches. Please donate if you can. Thank you.

**February Baptisms:** Please pray for Sebastian David Ray Rigby, Lucca Benjamin Gary Rigby, Lucia Grace Patulan, Nirvana Higgins, Gustas Sauciunas, Isaac Arthur Grayson and Logan Casey who received the Sacrament of Baptism in February. May they and their godparents grow in their Faith in the years ahead

**South Sudan Appeal:** Thanks to your kindness and generosity our SVP conference has sent a cheque for £1500 on behalf of our three churches to the annual South Sudan appeal Our brothers and sisters in South Sudan are suffering extreme hardship and your donations will make a big difference.

**SVP Update:** We will be holding our next SVP meeting at English Martyrs and SS Peter and Paul church on Tuesday morning 15th March. If anybody wants to know more about the Society of St Vincent de Paul, would like to meet the members or just wants a chat over a tea or coffee please come and join us between 10:00 and 10:30.

**Legion of Mary 'Acies' Ceremony:** Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> March at 3:00pm. In St Joseph's. All welcome.

**BIBLE ALIVE SUBSCRIPTION:** would those who have not yet done so please hand their £29.99 in to the parish office. Thank you.

**Proud Catholics - Stations of the Cross:** Do you identify as LGBT+ or are you questioning your sexual or gender identity? Would you like to attend a support group run by and for LGBT+ Catholics in the North East? We meet on the third Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm at St Andrew's RC Church, Worswick St. Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday, 15th March at 7.30pm** (GMT). Christians traditionally pray the Stations of the Cross during Lent to remember and share in Jesus' painful journey from the Garden of Gethsemane to the garden of his tomb. We will pray the Stations together around the walls of St Andrew's, joining those who encountered Jesus during those hours of suffering, and remembering that this is ultimately an uplifting pilgrimage, culminating in the Resurrection. For more information, phone Isabel on 07858 934457, email [proud.catholics@yahoo.com](mailto:proud.catholics@yahoo.com), or visit our website <http://www.proud Catholics.co.uk>

**Vacancies:** The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle is looking to appoint a new Head of Finance. The role will be based in the Diocesan Offices in Newcastle, and agile working is available. Full-time or 30 hours a week. Closing date for applications: 12 March 2022. Please visit [www.diocesehn.org.uk](http://www.diocesehn.org.uk) for full details or contact us 0191 243 3301

**Latest News from Fr Vincent:** After being closed for 2 years the schools in Uganda have reopened but many children have not returned. In some cases this is because many parents have lost their jobs, so the little money they have is used for daily survival. Other children have outgrown primary education and feel shy about going back to school as they would be learning with younger children. They are working on farms and doing odd jobs. Fr. Vincent says, *"Without education they have no future. My Lenten campaign will be to go to different villages for the 40 days of Lent to appeal to the children to go back to school. I hope for good results"* **Please pray for Fr. Vincent and his people**

**Would you like someone to talk to?** A trained listener is available who can offer a confidential listening service to anyone who needs a listening ear. This could include issues such as loss, anxiety, loneliness or any other matters of concern. An initial phone call can be made with the option of meeting one to one or continuing on the telephone. Please contact the parish office on 01642 806469 or email [parishfamilystockton@outlook.com](mailto:parishfamilystockton@outlook.com) leaving your name and contact details and a listener will get in touch. 'Being listened to and heard is one of the greatest desires of the human heart'.

**St. Bede's Red Boxes:** The Mission Boxes are now due for collection. Could you please leave the boxes at the back of Church, or ring John Evans on 01642 895739 who will arrange collection.

**St Cuthbert's Care Lenten Alms 2022:** Five members of our clergy are living with us at Holy Cross. **Canon Robert Spence** has asked to share a Lenten message with you all: "This has always been one of my favourite charities. I've always loved supporting St Cuthbert's Care right from the time that Sister Fintan engaged me as a football coach at the lovely children's home at Ryhope! I never thought I would end my days at Holy Cross Home in the care of the marvellous staff who keeps us all safe, peaceful, and happy. With your help, through your Lenten Alms, St Cuthbert's Care can bring a smile to the faces of countless folk of all generations' right across the North East. Thank you for all the support you give this great local charity. You are helping make Hexham and Newcastle the sort of church Pope Francis is urging us to be!" This Lent, we hope that we may be able to call upon your kindness to help us raise funds towards a new vehicle. Please give generously.

## Worldwide Church News

**Pope Francis' Monthly Intentions for March:** For a Christian response to bioethical challenges

We pray for Christians facing bioethical challenges; may they continue to defend the dignity of all human life with prayer and action.

## Prayer and Liturgy News

**Lent Reflection Booklet:** . . . As we begin the season of Lent, the Diocese Vicariate for Faith and Mission has now produced the first part of the booklet of Lenten reflections. Last year's Lenten booklet was very well received. The past couple of years have probably felt like a very long Lent to many people, so now is a very appropriate liturgical season to express and engage fully with our tribulations. As Christians, we have a hope that shines at the end of every rough road, and we trust that this year's booklet will foster prayerful reflection on the Scriptures' relevance to our daily Christian living as we look forward to Easter. The reflections have been contributed by a mix of clergy, religious and lay people to express the richness and variety of our diocesan community. To access the booklet visit [www.diocesehn.org.uk](http://www.diocesehn.org.uk), select 'Liturgy & Prayer', then scroll down to Lent Reflections.

**Online Retreat for Lent:** The Ignatian Spirituality Centre in Glasgow is holding an online retreat for Lent which is open to all and this year, to celebrate the 500 years since the conversion of St. Ignatius Loyola, is based on his life. Each day of Lent the retreat we provide an episode from the life of Ignatius, Music, Art, a reading from Scripture and a reflection. Participants can join an online group for a weekly meeting with others to share the fruits of their prayer. The retreat is available on the web ([www.onlineprayer.net](http://www.onlineprayer.net)) as an App, or a book. For more details, see their website at [www.iscglasgow.co.uk](http://www.iscglasgow.co.uk)

**Sycamore for Lent:** "We are pilgrims 'journeying together' whose listening and speaking is that of those who seek and not that of those who believe they have found."

Sycamore opens up the heart of the Christian message and helps people to grow in faith. The films give an inspiring vision of Catholic Christianity. They involve some clear teaching and thought-provoking testimonies. The discussion groups, even online, help people grow in friendship and build a sense of community. The Diocese Vicariate for Faith and Mission invite you to join on such a journey this Lenten season. We will gather online each Sunday from 6 March to 10 April at 4.00pm until 5.15pm. Why not invite a friend to come along too? This is a free course. Please register at [www.diocesehn.org.uk/whats-on/event/len-sycamore-course](http://www.diocesehn.org.uk/whats-on/event/len-sycamore-course).

**Lent Study Group:** Fr Mark will host a Lent Study Group at 7:00pm on Tuesday evenings in EMSSPP Hall. All are welcome.

**First Saturday Devotion:** Let's heed the message of Our Lady of Fatima in praying for peace. The World Apostolate of Fatima England & Wales invites you to an online First Saturday Devotion 5th March, 8 to 9pm. Please go to the following websites to join: [www.facebook.com/fatima.apparitions1917](https://www.facebook.com/fatima.apparitions1917) <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCnySyKpPuNROpIkbZq1q1g>

**Stations of the Cross:** see times on the back of the newsletter. **Please note the earlier Friday Mass time at EMSSPP.**

### **First Sunday Lent – Year C – 6th March 2022**

#### **First Reading**

#### **Deuteronomy 26:4-10**

Moses said to the people: 'The priest shall take the panner from your hand and lay it before the altar of the Lord your God. Then, in the sight of the Lord your God, you must make this pronouncement: "My father was a wandering Aramaean. He went down into Egypt to find refuge there, few in numbers; but there he became a nation, great, mighty, and strong. The Egyptians ill-treated us, they gave us no peace and inflicted harsh slavery on us. But we called on the Lord, the God of our fathers. The Lord heard our voice and saw our misery, our toil and our oppression; and the Lord brought us out of Egypt with mighty hand and outstretched arm, with great terror, and with signs and wonders. He brought us here and gave us this land, a land where milk and honey flow. Here then I bring the first-fruits of the produce of the soil that you, the Lord, have given me." 'You must then lay them before the Lord your God, and bow down in the sight of the Lord your God.'

#### **Psalm:**

#### **90(91):1-2,10-15**

#### **Be with me, O Lord, in my distress.**

1.He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High and abides in the shade of the Almighty says to the Lord: 'My refuge, my stronghold, my God in whom I trust!'

2. Upon you no evil shall fall, no plague approach where you dwell. For you has he commanded his angels, to keep you in all your ways.

3.They shall bear you upon their hands lest you strike your foot against a stone. On the lion and the viper you will tread and trample the young lion and the dragon. I will save him in distress and give him glory.

4. His love he set on me, so I will rescue him; protect him for he knows my name. When he calls I shall answer: 'I am with you,'

#### **Second Reading**

#### **Romans 10:8-13**

Scripture says: The word (that is the faith we proclaim) is very near to you, it is on your lips and in your heart. If your lips confess that Jesus is Lord and if you believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, then you will be saved. By believing from the heart you are made righteous; by confessing with your lips you are saved. When scripture says: those who believe in him will have no cause for shame, it makes no distinction between Jew and Greek: all belong to the same Lord who is rich enough, however many ask his help, for everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

#### **Gospel**

#### **Luke 4:1-13**

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit through the wilderness, being tempted there by the devil for forty days. During that time he ate nothing and at the end he was hungry. Then the devil said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to turn into a loaf.' But Jesus replied, 'Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone.' Then leading him to a height, the devil showed him in a moment of time all the kingdoms of the world and said to him, 'I will give you all this power and the glory of these kingdoms, for it has been committed to me and I give it to anyone I choose. Worship me, then, and it shall all be yours.' But Jesus answered him, 'Scripture says: You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.' Then he led him to Jerusalem and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God,' he said to him 'throw yourself down from here, for scripture says: He will put his angels in charge of you to guard you, and again: They will hold you up on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.' But Jesus answered him, 'It has been said: You must not put the Lord your God to the test.' Having exhausted all these ways of tempting him, the devil left him, to return at the appointed time.

**Year of the Eucharist:** The Diocese Vicariate for Faith & Mission has produced a reflection booklet, entitled Encountering the Father, as part of the Year of the Eucharist. A copy has been emailed to those on our mailing list and the booklet is also available to view on our website [www.parishfamilystockton.org.uk](http://www.parishfamilystockton.org.uk) (under Parish News / Diocesan Events) and will also be made available for download on the Diocesan website [www.diocesehn.org.uk](http://www.diocesehn.org.uk) . If anyone is unable to view the attachment or access the websites and would like a printed copy, then please let the parish office know.

#### **and now for some Light Relief...**

**Thought for the Day:** Never be afraid to trust an unknown future to an all knowing God.

*Corrie ten Boom. Holocaust survivor*