

Times of Mass, Intentions and Services
5th Sunday of Easter Year C – 15th May 2022

	English Martyrs and Ss Peter & Paul's	St Joseph's	St Bede's	Feast Days this week
Sat 14th	6:00pm Sunday Vigil Mass Denis Jenkins RIP (CJ)	9:30am Vincent Naylor RIP (JM)	—	St Matthias, Apostle
Sun 15th	—	10:30am Reg Watson RIP	9:00am Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	5th Sunday of Easter
Mon 16th	—	—	—	—
Tue 17th	—	—	*9:00am Joan Walker (90) (M&PW) *9:30am – 10:30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	—
Wed 18th	9:30am Service of the Word and Holy Communion	—	—	St John I Pope, Martyr
Thur 19th	—	9:30am Service of the Word and Holy Communion 2:00pm – 4:00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	—	St Dunstan Bishop
Fri 20th	5:00pm – 6:00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 6:00pm Joan Wilson RIP (MH) 7:00pm Holy Hour	—	—	St Bernadine of Siena, Priest
Sat 21st	6:00pm Sunday Vigil Mass Andrew Dunn RIP	9:30am Private Intention of D & P	—	St Godric of Finchale, Religious St Christopher Magallenes & Companions, Martyrs
Sun 22nd	9:00am Mass for the Polish Community	10:30am Thanksgiving (KLG)	9:00am Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	6th Sunday of Easter

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Friday 20th May
EMSSPP Sanctuary
5:00pm – 5:45pm

Saturday 21st May
EMSSPP Sanctuary
5:00pm – 5:45pm

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
5th Sunday of Easter – 15th May 2022

Clergy

Parish Priest: Fr Mark Millward
Assistant Priest: Fr Oliver Keyes
Deacon: Paul Hargreaves

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
Facebook page: @ParishFamilyStocktonRC
Parish website: www.parishfamilystockton.org.uk
Diocesan website: www.rcdhn.org.uk

Reflection Fifth Sunday of Easter Year C

About 30 years or so ago I visited a factory as part of the work that I did at the time. The factory made bearings for heavy industrial use, and it was a noisy hive of activity with employees wearing all manner of protective equipment in order to enable them to do their work safely- overalls, boots, helmets, goggles and ear protection were worn by everyone including me as an accompanied visitor. In addition, I remember that there were warning signs absolutely everywhere, on the walls, the machinery, even painted on the floor. The wording of one such sign has stayed with me all of these years, and I now know it is a common sign that probably every factory has in some shape or form- 'Safety is everyone's responsibility' And indeed it is. In much the same way it is every Christian's responsibility to give Glory to God. How we go about doing this is entirely up to us, but it is a responsibility that we simply cannot avoid. In our first reading this weekend we see how Paul and Barnabas went about giving glory to God. Through their example and by their preaching they- '...put fresh heart into the disciples, encouraging them to persevere in the faith.' We can all do this. A kind word or a helpful gesture towards someone who is feeling down can have the most remarkable effect on them, and at the same time most definitely gives glory to God. And if we need some encouragement ourselves before we say or do anything to help our neighbour we need look no further than today's Gospel. Jesus gives His disciples a *new commandment*- '...love one another; just as I have loved you, you also must love one another. By this love you have for one another, everyone will know that you are my disciples.' In other words, follow my example. Whilst signs in factories explaining dangers are a good and necessary thing, it should not be necessary for us to explain to people that we are disciples of Jesus. Our discipleship should be obvious to them by how we love one another.
 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.

Offertory Envelopes: PLEASE REMEMBER TO COLLECT YOUR NEW BOX OF OFFERTORY ENVELOPES FOR THE NEXT FINANCIAL YEAR FROM CHURCH. Please let the Parish office know if you do not have any and would like some, if your address has changed, or if you no longer require a box. Many thanks.

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 £5,560 have already been received – Sincere thanks to those who have contributed so far.

'Raise the Roof' May Flower Festival: will be held at **1pm on Sunday 29th May** in EMSSPP Church and grounds. There will be a Flower procession with floral art representing images of Mary, refreshments and activity stalls and children's games. All proceeds will go towards the St. Joseph's refurbishment fund. All are welcome.

Northern Brethren Fund: The annual Sick and Retired Priests collection (23rd/24th April) raised £547.64. Sincere thanks to all those who contributed.

SVP Update:

Through the generous donations we continue to receive from you we are able to provide much needed assistance where we can. In the first quarter of this year we gave £1500 to the South Sudan appeal and £770 to the Ukraine relief effort. We have also given £30 in mass offerings for our deceased beneficiaries. More recently, we have given a further £220 to the Ukraine relief effort, £200 to the Polish Community in Newcastle for fuel to transport emergency supplies to Poland for Ukrainian refugees and £50 for the St Vincent Easter Egg Appeal. We can only provide this support through your generosity, so once again on behalf of your SVP conference, thank you very much and God bless you.

Little Sisters of the Poor Appeal: The Little Sisters of the Poor at St Joseph's Home in Newcastle are finding the current economic climate increasingly more difficult. The emergency lockdown measures we have had to implement to aid efforts to fight the COVID-19 pandemic and keep our residents safe have had a massive impact on our fundraising activities and the charitable donations we rely on to meet the ever increasing daily running costs of the Home. We are appealing for urgent donations to help us continue with our work of caring for the Elderly. In these uncertain times, small acts of kindness can make a huge difference in helping our Home. Thank you for your continued support and prayers. We are extremely grateful to you for the kindness shown to us. Cheques made payable to 'Little Sisters of the Poor' can be sent to: **St Joseph's Home, Westmoreland Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE4 7QA.** Alternatively, secure, online donations can be made by visiting: www.littlesistersofthepoor.co.uk/donate-here/

April Baptisms: Please pray for Liam, Rowan, Joseph, Sebastian, George, Harriet, Thaddeus, Alfie and Grace who received the Sacrament of Baptism in April. May they and their godparents grow in their Faith in the years ahead.

Catholic Women Speak, an international forum for dialogue and awareness-raising around issues to do with women in the Catholic Church, invites Catholic women to take part in a survey that will form part of a submission to the Synodal process. The survey takes about 10 minutes to complete and is available in six languages, with further information available here: <https://catholicwomenspeak.com/catholic-women-international-synod-survey>

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 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'.

Green Shop Closure: Sadly, the 'Green Shop' at the Forge, near Norton pond, is now closed. However, instead, a NORTON GREEN MARKET will be taking place, every 2nd Saturday of the month, at the Friends' Meeting House, from 1 pm to 4pm. Local makers, growers and producers will be displaying their wares, to help you to shop locally and sustainably. The Meeting House is at 50 The Green, and the dates are 11th June, 9th July, 13th August, etc.

Proud Catholics: 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. On **Tuesday, 17th May at 7.30pm (BST)** we will be holding our **Annual General Meeting**. We will review the achievements of the past year and we will look forward to the year ahead. There will also be elections to the Committee. New members are always very welcome, and this is a great opportunity to find out more about the group! It will be possible to connect through Zoom for people who are not able or don't feel safe to come to St Andrew's. If interested, get in touch to ask for the link. For more information, phone Isabel on 07858 934457, email proud.catholics@yahoo.com, or visit our website <http://www.proud Catholics.co.uk> or our social media accounts.

News from Uganda: During Lent, Fr. Vincent formed 7 Good Samaritan teams in the parish each with 6 women and 11 men. The teams went every Saturday to help the elderly on their farms because all work on farms is done by hand. They spent more than 6 hours each Saturday digging and in return Father provided the workers with a lunch of dried fish and beans. They were able to help more than 18 families who are now assured of a good harvest by July. Please pray for Fr. Vincent and his Mission.

Walsingham Pilgrimage: Balances are due by 28th May – for further details contact Mary on 07952 321396 or Pat on 01642 650904.

St Joseph's Holy Hikers are back! After the enforced break, we are back by popular demand. The next walk will be from Easington Village to Seaham. Please contact David Mackintosh on 01642 658837 or email lord_tosh@ntlworld.com if you would like to join us. This year's programme is on display on the noticeboard in each church.

Worldwide Church News

Pope Francis Monthly Intentions for May: Faith-Filled Young People:

We pray for all young people, called to live life to the fullest; may they see in Mary's life the way to listen, the depth of discernment, the courage that faith generates, and the dedication to service.

Prayer and Liturgy News

***PLEASE NOTE** the earlier Mass and Exposition times on **TUESDAY 17th**.

Priests Retreat: Fr Mark and Fr Ollie will be away on Retreat, with all the other priests in the Diocese, from Tuesday 17th to Friday 20th May.

SAVE THE DATE: "God wants to establish in the world devotion to my Immaculate Heart." - Our Lady of Fatima: The Fatima Immaculate Heart pilgrim statue is coming to EMSPP on the **18-19th June**.

Laudato Si Week

Pope Francis invites Catholic communities around the world to participate in Laudato Si' Week 2022 from May 22-29. The weeklong global event will mark the seventh anniversary of Pope Francis' landmark encyclical on creation care and unite the world's 1.3 billion Catholics to listen and respond to the cry of God's creation.

We will celebrate Laudato Si' week within our Diocese by holding a Mass at St Mary's Cathedral at 7pm on Monday May 23. Bishop Robert will preside at the Mass and Fr Chris Hughes will give the homily on hearing the cry of the poor and the earth. Music will be provided by pupils from Sacred Heart High School, Fenham. Everyone is welcome to attend this special Mass focusing on creation care.

Poverty Challenge: See, Judge, Act - Following the pandemic, many households now also face new hardships as prices rise. Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN), the Catholic agency addressing poverty and injustice in England and Wales, has released a free new booklet to increase awareness of Catholic Social Teaching on poverty, and to inform local responses. Please take a moment to read and encourage groups and individuals to engage with it. Download from www.csan.org.uk

Year of the Eucharist: The Vicariate for Faith and Mission has now produced the '*Encountering the Son*' booklet, which is the second of a series of three booklets to accompany the Year of the Eucharist and our Diocesan Synodal reflection. The booklet is available on the Diocesan website <https://diocesehn.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Year-of-the-Eucharist-Encountering-the-Son-reflection-booklet.pdf>

Stella Maris Day of Prayer & Pilgrimage to the Holy Island of Lindisfarne: Saturday 4th June 2022 led by the Rt Rev Paul Mason, Stella Maris Bishop Promoter, England & Wales. A peaceful day of prayer and reflection. Join us to pray for seafarers and for everyone involved in our ministry and charity. **Celtic Prayers** on the Green 12noon. Concelebrated Mass in **St Mary the Virgin Church 3pm**.

Safe Crossing Times 9:10am – 17.05pm Parish groups, families & individuals all welcome. For further information, please contact Regional Port Chaplains Paul Atkinson (07906 212 426) or Peter Barrigan (07713 924 504)

A Pro-life Holy Hour will take place on Friday 20th May at EMSSPP following the 6pm Mass. Please come and join us to pray for the Sanctity of life and the unborn. Thank you.

Fifth Sunday Easter – Year C – 15th May 2022

First Reading

Acts 14:21-27

Paul and Barnabas went back through Lystra and Iconium to Antioch. They put fresh heart into the disciples, encouraging them to persevere in the faith. 'We all have to experience many hardships' they said 'before we enter the kingdom of God.' In each of these churches they appointed elders, and with prayer and fasting they commended them to the Lord in whom they had come to believe. They passed through Pisidia and reached Pamphylia. Then after proclaiming the word at Perga they went down to Attalia and from there sailed for Antioch, where they had originally been commended to the grace of God for the work they had now completed. On their arrival they assembled the church and gave an account of all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith to the pagans.

Psalm:

144(145):8-13a

I will bless your name for ever, O God my King.

1. The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures.

2. All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord,
and your friends shall repeat their blessing.
They shall speak of the glory of your reign
and declare your might, O God,
to make known to men your mighty deeds
and the glorious splendour of your reign.

3. Yours is an everlasting kingdom;
your rule lasts from age to age.

Second Reading

Apocalypse 21:1-5

I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth; the first heaven and the first earth had disappeared now, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the holy city, and the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, as beautiful as a bride all dressed for her husband. Then I heard a loud voice call from the throne, 'You see this city? Here God lives among men. He will make his home among them; they shall be his people, and he will be their God; his name is God-with-them. He will wipe away all tears from their eyes; there will be no more death, and no more mourning or sadness. The world of the past has gone.' Then the One sitting on the throne spoke: 'Now I am making the whole of creation new.'

Gospel

John 13:31-33,34-35

When Judas had gone Jesus said: 'Now has the Son of Man been glorified, and in him God has been glorified. If God has been glorified in him, God will in turn glorify him in himself, and will glorify him very soon. 'My little children, I shall not be with you much longer. I give you a new commandment: love one another; just as I have loved you, you also must love one another. By this love you have for one another, everyone will know that you are my disciples.'

and now for some Light Relief...

Thought for the Day: Grace is simply God enabling us to become more than we ever imagined possible.

Karl Rahner SJ