

Times of Mass, Intentions and Services

22nd Sunday Ordinary Time Year C – 28th August 2022

	English Martyrs and Ss Peter & Paul's	St Joseph's	St Bede's	Feast Days this week
Sat 27th	6:00pm Sunday Vigil Mass Richard H Hunter RIP	9:30am Pat Chapman RIP	—	—
Sun 28th	9:00am Mass for the Polish Community	10:30am Thanksgiving for Family & Friends (LG)	9:00am Pro Populo (People of all three Parishes)	22nd Sunday Ordinary Time
Mon 29th	—	—	—	The Passion of St John the Baptist
Tue 30th	—	10:00am Requiem Mass Jean Peacock RIP	9:30am Noel Bartholomew Rodriguez RIP (JA) 10:00am – 11:00am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Ss Margaret Clitheroe, Anne Line, <i>Martyrs & Margaret Ward, Virgin & Martyr</i>
Wed 31st	9:30am Arthur Vokes RIP (A&A)	—	—	St Aidan, <i>Bishop, and the Saints of Lindisfarne</i>
Thur 1st	—	9:30am Heather Hopfl RIP (HMH) 2:00pm – 4:00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	—	—
Fri 2nd	5:00pm – 6:00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 6:00pm Catherine Findlay Teasdale RIP (MT)	—	—	—
Sat 3rd	6:00pm Sunday Vigil Mass Maurice Milburn RIP	9:30am Healing Mass Phillip Harris (Healing) (SD)	—	St Gregory the Great Pope, Doctor
Sun 4th	—	10:30am Tom McMaster RIP (AW,CR,PMcL)	9:00am Pro Populo (People of all three Parishes)	23rd Sunday Ordinary Time

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Thursday 1st September
St Joseph's Legion Room
after 9.30am Mass

Friday 2nd September
EMSSPP Confessional
5:00pm – 5:45pm

Saturday 3rd September
St Joseph's Legion Room
after 9.30am Healing Mass
EMSSPP Confessional
5:00pm – 5:45pm

Or by Appointment – call 01642 806469

ST. HILDA PARTNERSHIP



English Martyrs and Ss. Peter and Paul's



St. Bede's



St. Joseph's

PARISH NEWSLETTER

22nd Sunday Ordinary Time
Year C – 28th August 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 – 22nd Sunday Ordinary Time

Two parables in today's Gospel about invitations to table. Both are from Luke's special material, without parallel in the other gospels. Jesus moves in a higher stratum of society than he does in Mark and Matthew, and often has in mind the implications of the Gospel in this context. The first parable, however, like several of Luke's parables, seems to be developed from a little Old Testament proverb: 'Do not give yourself airs, do not take a place among the great; better to be invited, "Come up here," than to be humiliated' (Proverbs 25:6-7). At first sight this seems a merely worldly precaution, a false humility engineered to gain attention. But for Luke a banquet is always an image of the heavenly banquet of the Lord. So the message is a moral one too: don't think yourself better than you are. The message is also typical of Luke's open and straightforward approach. One is reminded of the Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax-collector at prayer, where the latter prays only 'God be merciful to me, a sinner'. The second parable also is typical of Luke: it exemplifies his stress on the inherent danger of wealth, on the need to use wealth well, and on his concern for the poor and neglected in society. What is the message of these two parables? What does their message say to me about the way I lead my own life?

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB, *from Wednesday Word*

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 Jean Peacock RIP and all those who have died recently. May they rest in peace. Amen.



All the Parishes are asked to Support the Community Larder St Andrews Church Hardwick.

Boxes are available at each Church for donations of tinned and dry products (pasta, rice, cereals, flour etc.) toiletries, toilet rolls, nappies, sanitary and laundry products. The Larder is open every Wednesday 11-1.30pm. Everyone is welcome regardless of income; no referral is required. You can purchase 8 items for £1; some items are free or for a small donation. In this challenging time any donation will be gratefully received. Fr Mark.

The volunteers there have asked me to pass on their thanks and gratefulness for all the things our parishes have donated. Although grateful for anything, at the moment they particularly need tinned fruit, tinned rice, dried rice, coffee, sugar and 'gluten free' items.

St Joseph's Refurbishment Appeal

The new the roof at St Joseph's has been completed and has cost almost £50,000. The lighting is now being renewed and is costing £4,100. **Donations of £7,695 have now been received – Sincere thanks to all those who have contributed.** We have received a quotation to redecorate the inside of the church which was almost £18,000 so will wait until more funds have been raised towards that before proceeding with the work. Envelopes are in now church for one off donations ... please use the forms to Gift Aid your donation where possible. However you can help or whatever you can do to assist with the fundraising effort will be gratefully received. Thank you – Fr Mark.

St. Joseph's Book Sale: Sincere thanks to all those who contributed to the success of the recent book sale at St. Joseph's. The sum of £275.41 was raised for the Church Refurbishment Fund.

PARISH FINANCES: A copy of each Parish's March 2022 Year End Financial Return is now on display on its notice board if you wish to view it. **Please do not remove from church.**

A HUGE THANK YOU: to all parishioners for your generosity in donating to recent appeals and to those of you who have increased your offertory or signed up to the Gift Aid scheme. God bless you all, Fr Mark.

ONLINE DONATIONS: The Diocese has recently added a facility to their website which enables you to donate online to either your own Parish or a Diocese project. Donations can be made by clicking the 'Donate' tab at the top of the Diocesan website www.diocesehn.org.uk. From this Donations page, you can scroll down to find your Parish or choose to donate to one of the featured Projects. You can also search for your Parish using the 'Search for a location' field at the top of the list of parishes. When you find your chosen parish, just click on the 'Donate' button and then choose either one of the suggested amounts or another amount you would like to donate. You can choose to make a single donation, but can also set up a weekly or monthly donation too, and can Gift Aid your donations simply by turning on the 'I would like to Gift Aid this donation' button.

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.

Thank You: Margaret and Alan would like to thank our priests and parishioners for helping us celebrate our 60th wedding anniversary on August 18th with their generous good wishes, prayers, cards, and flowers; followed by the lovely surprise of coffee and cakes in the Thornton Hall after Mass. Thank you and God Bless.

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'.

St. Joseph's Holy Hikers: the next walk will be to Great Ayton on **Sunday 18th September**. All are welcome. Please contact David on 01642 658837.

Sedgefield Mayor's Charity Night: a 50's and 60's Tribute Night by The Moondogs, is being held on Friday 18th November (7:30pm – 11:00pm) in Sedgefield Parish Hall. See poster in church. Cash bar, raffle & games. Tickets £12 from Sedgefield Town Council Offices or via Jane Collard-Gentle.

Vacancy: Safe Families for Children have an exciting job opportunity for a new Family Support Manager based in their Kings Church office, Darlington. The role covers working with families across Teesside including Darlington. More details are available via their website <https://safefamilies.uk/teesside-family-support-manager/> The deadline for applicants is Sunday 28th August.

Did you know? CAFOD is the official overseas aid agency of the Catholic Church in England and Wales. We work with some of the most hard-to-reach communities around the world and those living in the hardest of circumstances. We believe in tackling the root causes of poverty and this is why we ask our supporters to take part in our campaigns which address poverty and injustice head-on. We encourage people to sign petitions, meet their MPs and contact big businesses etc. Together we've witnessed some historic breakthroughs such as debt relief for struggling countries, action by government on climate change and large companies signing up to ethical agreements. Thank you for joining us in this work. Do have a look at our current campaign which is about food cafod.org.uk/food and help make the world a better place for all. If you would like to get involved, please contact CAFOD's local Community Participation Officer on 07779 804243 or mmaughan@cafod.org.uk

Proud Catholics – Mass

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, 20th September at 7.30pm (BST). We will be celebrating Mass at St Andrew's RC Church, Worswick Street. Mass will be followed by social time and bring-and-share refreshments. Please get in touch for more information. For more information, phone Isabel on 07858 934457, email proud.catholics@yahoo.com, or visit <http://www.proud Catholics.co.uk>

Worldwide Church News

Pope Francis Monthly Intentions for August: Small businesses

We pray for small and medium sized businesses; in the midst of economic and social crisis, may they find ways to continue operating, and serving their communities.

Prayer and Liturgy News

St Bernadette Relic Tour 2022: In September and October this year, the relics of St Bernadette will journey on a pilgrimage to England, Scotland, and Wales for the very first time. This very special once in a lifetime event will provide an opportunity for people of all ages and backgrounds to experience the special gifts and charisms of Lourdes, in a church or cathedral near them.

The relics will be at St Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle on 1st to 2nd October and at St Mary's Cathedral, Coulby Newham, Middlesbrough on 2nd to 3rd October

For more information, visit www.stbernadette.org.uk/the-tour **Registering will be essential to secure your place.**

Encountering the Holy Spirit: The Vicariate for Faith and Mission has now produced the '*Encountering the Holy Spirit*' booklet, which is the third of a series of reflection booklets to accompany the Year of the Eucharist. The booklet is available on the Diocesan website www.diocesehn.org.uk/living-the-faith/year-of-the-eucharist/#booklet

Liturgical Formation and Days of Reflection: The Vicariate for Faith & Mission is pleased to share their Autumn calendar for Liturgical Formation and Days of Reflection for Eucharistic Ministers of Holy Communion and Readers. Please visit www.diocesehn.org.uk/living-the-faith/liturgy-prayer/#events for further details or see the poster and information sheet on the parish notice board/website. Please book via the parish office. Further dates will be announced for other ministries.

Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies (CCRS) 2022-2023

The Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies is managed and awarded by the Board of Religious Studies on behalf of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. The programme seeks to ensure that participants have a basic understanding of the central beliefs of the Catholic faith. This programme is available for catechists, lay leaders and other adults wishing to deepen their understanding of the Catholic faith and Catholic education, serving teachers in Catholic and other schools, and teachers in training preparing to take up posts in Catholic schools. The CCRS course programme is now available for 2022-2023 and there is a short presentation shown on the Diocesan website: <https://diocesehn.org.uk/education/continuing-professional-development-and-formation/#ccrs> Further information, contact Eamonn Diffley at the Diocese Department for Education on 0191 243 3313 or email education@diocesehn.org.uk

FIRST STEPS – Exploring the Catholic Faith Online

Are you looking to explore the Catholic faith? 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. The course starts on Wednesday 21 September at 7.00pm. If you are interested to find out more, you can enquire/register using the Online Enquiry Form (<https://forms.office.com/r/4jwBpFuRvb>) or email us (adminfaith.mission@diocesehn.org.uk)

22nd Sunday Ordinary Time

First Reading

Ecclesiasticus 3:1921, 30-31

My son, be gentle in carrying out your business, and you will be better loved than a lavish giver. The greater you are, the more you should behave humbly, and then you will find favour with the Lord; for great though the power of the Lord is, he accepts the homage of the humble. There is no cure for the proud man's malady, since an evil growth has taken root in him. The heart of a sensible man will reflect on parables, an attentive ear is the sage's dream.

Responsorial Psalm

67(68): 4-7,10-11

In your goodness, O God, you prepared a home for the poor

1. The just shall rejoice at the presence of God, they shall exult and dance for joy.
O sing to the Lord, make music to his name; rejoice in the Lord, exult at his presence.

2. Father of the orphan, defender of the widow, such is God in his holy place.
God gives the lonely a home to live in; he leads the prisoners forth into freedom.

3. You poured down, O God, a generous rain: when your people were starved you gave them new life. It was there that your people found a home, prepared in your goodness, O God, for the poor.

Second reading

Hebrews 12:18-19,22-24

What you have come to is nothing known to the senses: not a blazing fire, or a gloom turning to total darkness, or a storm; or trumpeting thunder or the great voice speaking which made everyone that heard it beg that no more should be said to them. But what you have come to is Mount Zion and the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem where the millions of angels have gathered for the festival, with the whole Church in which everyone is a 'first-born son' and a citizen of heaven. You have come to God himself, the supreme Judge, and been placed with spirits of the saints who have been made perfect; and to Jesus, the mediator who brings a new covenant and a blood for purification which pleads more insistently than Abel's.

Gospel

Luke 14:1,7-14

On a sabbath day Jesus had gone for a meal to the house of one of the leading Pharisees; and they watched him closely. He then told the guests a parable, because he had noticed how they picked the places of honour. He said this, 'When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take your seat in the place of honour. A more distinguished person than you may have been invited, and the person who invited you both may come and say, "Give up your place to this man." And then, to your embarrassment, you would have to go and take the lowest place. No; when you are a guest, make your way to the lowest place and sit there, so that, when your host comes, he may say, "My friend, move up higher." In that way, everyone with you at the table will see you honoured. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the man who humbles himself will be exalted.' Then he said to his host, 'When you give a lunch or a dinner, do not ask your friends, brothers, relations or rich neighbours, for fear they repay your courtesy by inviting you in return. No; when you have a party, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; that they cannot pay you back means that you are fortunate, because repayment will be made to you when the virtuous rise again.'

and now for some Light Relief

Thought for the Day: The secret of genius is to carry the spirit of the child into old age.

Aldous Huxley