

Sunday 4th December 2022

St. Patrick's R.C. Church

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

Parish Priest : Canon John Cooper
Tel. 01642 674321

The focus of this Sunday's Gospel is John the Baptist, but his focus is always on the One who is to come and who is more powerful and greater than he is. John the Baptist is the perfect saint for Advent. The joy of the message from John the Baptist is that there is forgiveness available for everyone and he invites us to joyfully anticipate and prepare others for the coming of the Word made flesh.

Today is Bible Sunday. Reading the Bible is an essential part of our Christian life. It is an important way through which, as individuals and as a community, we get to know God and the person of Jesus Christ. The study of His words and actions helps to deepen our relationship with our loving Saviour. Through reflecting on His words we can also learn much about how to reach out to others with God's mercy and love.

Lord, your precious Word is revealed to us through prophets and in the wisdom of your Son. Your living Word is given to us to be shared, read aloud and acted on through the worship of our lives. Amen.





St. Joseph's Form Groups from Our Lady and St. Bede RC School would love to invite you all to a very special Mass. The Mass will take place Our Lady & St Bede's at 2.20pm on **Monday 5th December**. All of the pupils in St. Joseph's form groups have prepared this Mass. It will include introduction, readings, reflection and bidding prayers. We would love to see as many of you as possible at this Mass and we thank you for always showing us your care and support. Thank you.

A Message from Year 10 St. Cuthbert's in Our Lady and St. Bede School. Advent is a season of expectation and preparation, as we light the first candle and prepare our hearts and minds with confidence and joy for the birth of Jesus. As we celebrate it, we must keep in mind those less fortunate than us. Advent is a time of coming together, as a family, as a school, as a community. Therefore, today we also think about the vulnerable, the elderly, the homeless, and those who in these difficult times need to find the courage to face their struggles. We pray that everyone in Our Lady and St Bede and in our local community have a happy, safe and peaceful Christmas.



St. Patrick's SVP invite you to a Christmas Coffee Morning this Sunday in the Church Hall after the 9am Mass. Sit back, enjoy a coffee, cakes and mince pies and listen to Nativity music. All welcome.

Parish Shop: Christmas Cards and Gifts, Advent Calendars, Diaries and Cards for all occasions, on sale after Mass. Thank you for your support.

| 2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT | | | |
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| 4 | Sunday | 9.00am | People of our Parish |
| 5 | Monday | 9.15am | Jean Stebulitis |
| 6 | Tuesday | | |
| 7 | Wednesday <i>St Ambrose</i> | | |
| 8 | Thursday <i>The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i> | 6.00pm  | Holy Hour ~ Rosary and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament |
| 9 | Friday | 10.00am | Requiem Mass ~ Pauline Davies |
| 10 | Saturday | 9.15am | Craig Chapman Sacrament of Confession after Mass |
| 3rd Sunday of Advent | | | |
| 11 | Sunday | 9.00am | Fred & Bessie Cain |
| Recently Deceased: | | Pauline Davies, Callum McDonagh May they rest in peace. Amen | |
| Anniversaries: | | Craig Chapman, Mary Hutchinson, Mollie Cawood, Alan Riley, Mark Holmes | |
|  | | Margaret Devlin, Pauline Morton, Mike Rutland, Margaret Kenning, Christopher Brown, Fr. Pat McKenna, Rosie Owens, Andrew Brydon, Mary Talbot, Betty Griffiths, Rose Marie Bruno, | |
| Reader for Sunday 11th December ~ Alfred McAndrew | | | |
| For Parish Centre bookings please ring Rebecca on 07514 335003 | | | |



As we light the second candle of Advent fill us with a deep and abiding peace. Help us share that peace with everyone we encounter, especially those who need it most.

Holy Father's Prayer Intention for December

We pray that volunteer not profit organisations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.

Mary, you were conceived without sin. Pray for me today as I seek all that is good and holy. Lord, help me look to Mary as a guide in this life. Amen.

The Funeral for Callum McDonagh (RIP) will be in St. Cuthbert's RC Church, Stockton, on Tuesday, 6th December at 10am.

SPUC CLUB DRAW . . . The next draw will take place on Sunday, 17th December. Could you please let Christine, Eileen or Maurice have any outstanding monies? Many thanks.

Christmas Masses and Carol Services



St. Patrick's RC Church (Christmas Eve) **Carol Service ~ 6pm** **Mass ~ 6.30pm**

St. Mary's RC Church (Christmas Eve) **Carols ~ 11.30pm** **Midnight Mass ~ 12.00**

St. Cuthbert's RC Church (Christmas Day) **Mass ~ 10.00am**

Fairtrade Christmas . . . There will be a Fairtrade Stall on Sunday 11th December, 11am to 1.30pm in Ropner Park, Stockton at their Christmas Fare.