



## St. Patrick's R.C. Church

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

Parish Priest : Canon John Cooper  
Tel. 01642 674321

Sunday 8th January 2023

Today we commemorate Jesus' Baptism in the River Jordan when the Holy Spirit descended on Him at the beginning of his public ministry. In the waters of the Jordan, Jesus is revealed as the beloved Son of God. In the waters of baptism we too are washed by the Word, anointed by the Spirit and named God's beloved children. Our baptismal mission is to proclaim good news to all who are oppressed or in need of God's healing.

*God our Father, as children of light we are called to rise up from the waters of Baptism, refreshed with new life. Filled with your Spirit let the grace of Jesus empower us to serve with compassion, to work for justice and to pray as one. May the light of Christ shine through us for others. Amen.*



**A Diocesan Requiem Mass for Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI** will be celebrated at St Mary's Cathedral on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January at 12.05pm. Bishop Séamus will preside at this Mass and all are welcome to attend.

*Father, eternal Shepherd, hear the prayers of your people for your servant Benedict who governed your church with love. In your mercy bring him with the flock once entrusted to his care to the reward you have promised your faithful servants. May he who faithfully administered the mysteries of your forgiveness and love on earth, rejoice with You for ever in heaven. Amen.*




Society for the **Protection**  
of Unborn Children

**SPUC White Flower Appeal – 15 January 2023 . . .** The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC) will be holding its appeal next weekend. SPUC wants a world where abortion is unthinkable and is raising awareness of the widespread problem of abortion coercion. According to an independent poll, 87% of GPs are concerned that the Government's "pills by post" scheme leaves women vulnerable to coerced abortion. SPUC is calling on the Prime Minister to condemn this abhorrent tragedy. Please be as generous as you can to help SPUC defend unborn babies and their mothers by highlighting this urgent crisis.

**Next Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> January, is Peace Sunday** and this year the message from Pope Francis tells us: 'No one can be saved alone. Combatting Covid-19 together, embarking together on paths of peace'. In this country we have an active Catholic peace movement in Pax Christi, which aims at working together to promote peace through parishes, schools and social media. Pax Christi needs support to keep going. If you'd like to make a donation, small or large, the link is: <https://tinyurl.com/yxfcw67x>

**Holy Father's Prayer Intention for January . . .** We pray that educators may be credible witnesses who help the youngest and most vulnerable. May they teach fraternity rather than competition.

<b>THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD</b>			
8	Sunday	9.00am	People of our Parish
9	Monday	9.15am	Luke Casey (SVP)
10	Tuesday		
11	Wednesday		
12	Thursday <i>St Benet Biscop</i>	6.00pm	Holy Hour ~ Rosary and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
13	Friday	9.15am	Pauline Davies (SVP)
14	Saturday	9.15am	Ron Mazzey (SVP)
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the Year</b>			
15	Sunday	9.00am	People of our Parish
<b>Anniversaries:</b>		Kathleen Jones, Michael Morton, Eileen Lyons	
		Margaret Devlin, Pauline Morton, Mike Rutland, Margaret Kenning, Christopher Brown, Fr. Pat McKenna, Rosie Owens, Andrew Brydon, Mary Talbot, Betty Griffiths, Rose Marie Bruno, Brian Lee	
<b>Reader for Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> January ~ Gwen Gallagher</b>			
For Parish Centre bookings please ring Rebecca on 07514 335003			



On Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December Endre Kormos was ordained Deacon in the Chapel of St. Mary's College, Oscott. Endre is a seminarian for the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle who is originally from Hungary and is a former minister in the Church of England. Endre will be ordained priest alongside Paul Kilduff in the summer of 2023. Please keep them in your prayers.

**Parents of children in Years 9, 10 & 11 who would like them to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation** this year please see Canon Cooper. Candidates should be attending Mass every Sunday.



**A Pro-life Holy Hour will follow the 9:30am Mass at St Cuthbert's on Thursday, 12th January.** Adoration, Rosary, please come and pray for the sanctity of life and the unborn.

**Father Sean Hall continues to offer his weekly reflections** on the Sunday Readings and Pat Kennedy her monthly reflections, both available to read online or download in the Prayer Resources section on the Diocesan website.

**Flame 2023 ~ Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at Wembley Arena, London.** The biggest Catholic youth event in the UK is returning to London, as CYMFED organise Flame 2023. Many exciting speakers will be present and the day is expected to be a fantastic opportunity to celebrate our shared faith on a grand scale. Pope Francis teaches that the Church needs to see herself as young with a heart that is eternally young like Christ's. He makes clear that at the heart of all youth ministry there is to be an invitation of love to show Christ is a person who loves immensely and who asks for our love in return. Visit [www.cbcew.org.uk](http://www.cbcew.org.uk) to find out more.