

Times of Mass, Intentions and Services

5th Sunday of Ordinary Time Year A – 5th February 2023

	<u>English Martyrs and Ss Peter & Paul's</u>	<u>St Joseph's</u>	<u>St Bede's</u>	<u>Feast Days this week</u>
Sat 4th	6:00pm Sunday Vigil Mass Harry Gallacher RIP (ML)	9:30am Healing Mass In Thanksgiving for Inner Healing	—	—
Sun 5th	—	10:30am Intention of Sheila Gillson (PDR) 4:00pm Holy Hour	9:00am Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	5th Sunday Ordinary Time
Mon 6th	—	—	—	St Paul Miki and Companions, <i>Martyrs</i>
Tue 7th	—	—	9:30am A Special Birthday 10:00am – 11:00am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	—
Wed 8th	9:30am Sheila Earl RIP (SP)	—	—	St Jerome Emiliani, <i>Priest</i> St Josephine Bakhita, <i>Virgin</i>
Thurs 9th	12 noon Requiem Mass Kevin Salmon RIP	9:30am In Thanksgiving for Inner Healing 2:00pm – 4:00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	—	—
Fri 10th	5:00pm – 6:00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 6:00pm Jose Palamattom RIP (JI)	—	—	St Scholastica, <i>Virgin</i>
Sat 11th	6:00pm Sunday Vigil Mass Doug Greenwood RIP (MG)	9:30am Delia Walsh RIP (MG)	—	—
Sun 12th	9:00am Mass for the Polish Community	10:30am Mr Joseph & Thressiamma Joseph RIP (JI)	9:00am Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	6th Sunday Ordinary Time

Sacrament of Reconciliation		
Thursday 9th February St Joseph's Legion Room after 9.30am Mass	Friday 10th February EMSSPP Confessional 5:00pm – 5:45pm	Saturday 11th February EMSSPP Confessional 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.

PARISH OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM, STOCKTON



St. Joseph's



English Martyrs and Ss. Peter and Paul's



St. Bede's

P A R I S H N E W S L E T T E R

Sunday 5th February 2023

5th Sunday of Ordinary Time: Year A

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: diocesahn.org.uk

Reflection 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

One of the things I hope to do when the days are longer - and it's a bit warmer and drier - is sort out my garage.

I know that there are all sorts of useful things in there...somewhere. I also know that there are just as many, if not more things in there that are just taking up valuable space and probably need to be taken to the tip. Wish me luck for when the day of reckoning comes and I have to decide - keep or throw away?

What brings this to mind is me looking for my battery charger last weekend. I bought it when I first started driving quite a few years ago now (!) and it's still going strong. I don't pretend to understand how the charger can bring a seemingly 'dead' car battery back to life, but it does.

I guess we all need something to revive us every now and again, the human equivalent of a car battery charger. There's not much in the way of good news in the media to revive us at the moment, that's for sure - I can't immediately recall the last time that I read anything there that filled me with delight, that gave me some real hope for the future.

For that, the Gospels are my first port of call. Have a go yourself- pick any page at random, and I guarantee that you will find something there that encourages you, that makes you feel better, that makes you thank God for all that He has done for you.

Something that will recharge your own battery.

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 Kevin Salmon and all those who have died recently. May they rest in peace. Amen.

St Joseph's Refurbishment Appeal: The new the roof has been completed and the lighting has been renewed – almost £54,000 has been spent. **£12,064 has now been received towards this – Sincere thanks to everyone who has contributed.** Envelopes are in now church for one off donations, if you are a UK taxpayer please use the yellow 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.

Stockton Hope Community Larder Hardwick: Many many thanks for all your generous donations for the Community Food Larder. Much appreciated by both volunteers and users. We are getting more and more people coming in to the Larder each week and your supplies have been invaluable. As well as food we are also collecting children's pyjamas, hats, gloves & scarves.

With sincere thanks once again; from Stockton Hope Trustees &Volunteers.

Holy Hikers - Social Evening: St Joseph's Holy Hikers are holding a Social Evening on **Saturday 18th February** in the Thornton Hall at St Joseph's, starting at 7:00pm. Shared Table, BYOD. Quiz, Bingo and Raffle. All welcome.

St Joseph's Friendship Group will be having a Coffee Morning on **Tuesday February 14th at 11am** – 1pm. Everyone Welcome.



January Baptisms: Please pray for Frankie Iris and Munachimso Ikenna Jnr who received the Sacrament of Baptism in January. May they and their godparents grow in their Faith in the years ahead.

White Flower Appeal: A big thank you to all who supported the **SPUC** White Flower Appeal, the total raised through your generosity was a fantastic **£599.80** which is greatly appreciated.

St Vincent De Paul Society: For anything SVP related please speak to one of our members or contact Alan on 07939 912354 or Mary on 07714 327665 or email PresidentC211509@svp.org.uk.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2023: Can you help the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes next year? We need nurses, healthcare assistants, doctors and volunteers to provide care to the assisted pilgrims who travel with us. Previous helpers have found it is a rewarding and spiritually uplifting week. We plan to travel on Friday 28th July. If you would like to find out more information, please email or look at our website <https://www.hexhamandnewcastlelourdespilgrimage.co.uk/> or email lourdes@rcdhn.org.uk

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'.

The Universe Catholic Weekly

Is true to its mission of being "a light to guide the world, and a mirror to reflect it" Keeping Catholics informed about their faith, and bringing them ever closer to God. In order to keep our high standard going and maintain a strong weekly Catholic voice at a time when it is much needed in the world, please consider taking out a subscription. We have an excellent website full of trustworthy articles and an online shop with all subscribers receiving a 10% discount. Order **your Digital** 4 weeks **FREE introductory offer** by calling Michelle on 0743 661 7650 or email: michelle.jones@universecatholicweekly.co.uk

Proud Catholics - Pancake Party

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, 21st February at 7.30pm** (GMT). To celebrate Shrove Tuesday, we will join the University Chaplaincy for a convivial time sharing pancakes and getting to know each other. On this occasion it won't be possible to connect through Zoom. For more information, phone Isabel on 07858 934457, email proudcatholics@yahoo.com, or visit our website <http://www.proudcatholics.co.uk>

Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle Statement to The Sunday Times, 19 January 2023

"The Diocese had previously invited the Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (CSSA) to conduct a review following the resignation of Bishop Byrne in December 2022. Diocesan Trustees have met and have had contact with the chief executive and representatives of the CSSA this week. They have discussed how the review, originally scheduled to happen in May 2023, will be undertaken and how the findings will be published. The review is now underway. Prior to Bishop Byrne's resignation in mid-December, Trustees were working with the Charity Commission, following their self-referral to that organisation. The Diocese will continue to work productively and swiftly with both organisations, learning where it needs to, not from rumours and misinformation, but from the facts and evidence provided. The Diocese remains fully committed to safeguarding as an integral part of the life and the ministry of the Church, and to providing assurance that its safeguarding procedures are appropriate and as they need to be."

Worldwide Church News

Pope Francis Monthly Intentions for February: For Parishes

We pray that parishes, placing communion at the centre, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need.

Prayer and Liturgy News

Holy Hour: at St. Joseph's on **Sunday 5th February 2023 at 4pm**. All welcome.

Are you ready to accept? The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle Priestly Vocations Team **invite men aged 18+** who might be experiencing the call from God to discern priesthood to join the Vocations Team in finding out more.

Discernment Evenings for 2023 are planned for: Tuesday 14th February; Tuesday 4th April; Tuesday 27th June; Tuesday 3rd October; Tuesday 5th December

Cloister Café - St Mary's Cathedral Clayton Street West, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 5HH 6.00pm - 8.00pm

There will be a time of Prayer, talk/discussion, followed by a meal together.

If you would like to attend, or for more information, please contact the Vocations Promoter, Fr Shaun Purdy by email: vocationspromoter@diocesehn.org.uk or by phone: 01670 812 200.

Is God calling you to be a Priest? The Diocesan Vocations Team have organised an **overnight retreat** for men aged 18+ to discern whether God is calling them to the Priesthood.

Date **Friday 3rd March 2023 5.00pm to Saturday 4th March 2023** (after lunch) Place Emmaus Youth Village Pemberton Rd, Allensford, Consett DH8 9BA Cost £50 (including all meals and ensuite accommodation) Spaces are limited.

Please contact Fr Shaun Purdy to book a place or for more information: Email vocationspromoter@diocesehn.org.uk Telephone 01670 812 200 Bookings to be made by Thursday 16th February.

Prayer for the Church

Heavenly Father, in every age, you have been our refuge. Yet again and still, we stand before you asking for your protection on your holy Church.

For justice for the victims of abuse and their families, pour out your healing and your peace.

For the Bishops of this country, continue to inspire their decisions, and guide them with your Spirit.

For good and faithful priests, who have followed your call to serve you and your people in holiness, sustain them by your grace.

For the faithful who are angry, confused, and searching for answers, embrace them with your love, restore their trust, console them with your clear Gospel message, and renew them with your sacraments.

We place our Church into your hands, for without you we can do nothing. May Jesus, our High Priest and true compass, continue to lead her in every thought and action to be an instrument of justice, a source of consolation, a sacrament of unity, and a manifestation of your faithful covenant.

Grant this through that same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen. (After Rita Thiron, 'Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commission')

Readings – Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading

Isaiah 58:7-10

Thus says the Lord: Share your bread with the hungry, and shelter the homeless poor, clothe the man you see to be naked and do not turn from your own kin. Then will your light shine like the dawn and your wound be quickly healed over. Your integrity will go before you and the glory of the Lord behind you. Cry, and the Lord will answer; call, and he will say, 'I am here.' If you do away with the yoke, the clenched fist, the wicked word, if you give your bread to the hungry, and relief to the oppressed, your light will rise in the darkness, and your shadows become like noon.

Responsorial Psalm

111(112):4-9

The good man is a light in the darkness for the upright.

He is a light in the darkness for the upright:
he is generous, merciful and just.
The good man takes pity and lends,
he conducts his affairs with honour.

The just man will never waver:
he will be remembered forever.
He has no fear of evil news;
with a firm heart he trusts in the Lord.

With a steadfast heart he will not fear;
open-handed, he gives to the poor;
his justice stands firm forever.
His head will be raised in glory.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 2:1-5

When I came to you, brothers, it was not with any show of oratory or philosophy, but simply to tell you what God had guaranteed. During my stay with you, the only knowledge I claimed to have was about Jesus, and only about him as the crucified Christ. Far from relying on any power of my own, I came among you in great 'fear and trembling' and in my speeches and the sermons that I gave, there were none of the arguments that belong to philosophy; only a demonstration of the power of the Spirit. And I did this so that your faith should not depend on human philosophy but on the power of God.

Gospel

Matthew 5:13-16

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes tasteless, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing, and can only be thrown out to be trampled underfoot by men. 'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill-top cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way your light must shine in the sight of men, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven.'

Thought for the Day

The only thing that comes to us without effort is old age.