

Times of Mass, Intentions and Services

7th Sunday of Ordinary Time Year A – 12th 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 18th	6:00pm Sunday Vigil Mass Pat Chapman RIP (AC)	9:30am James Lane RIP (AS)	—	—
Sun 19th	—	10:30am Rose Watson RIP (A&MJ)	9:00am Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	7th Sunday Ordinary Time
Mon 20th	—	—	—	—
Tue 21st	—	—	11:00am Requiem Mass Michael Lawler RIP	St Peter Damian <i>Bishop, Doctor</i>
Wed 22nd	9:30am Sheila Earl RIP	6:00pm James Lane RIP (AS)	11:00am Koffi Ackatchy RIP (RASTS) 12:00noon Funeral Service Marcie Rose McPherson RIP	ASH WEDNESDAY
Thur 23rd	—	9:30am Elizabeth Elliott RIP 2:00pm – 4:00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	—	—
Fri 24th	5:00pm – 6:00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 6:00pm Colin Clamp RIP	—	—	—
Sat 25th	6:00pm Sunday Vigil Mass In Thanksgiving (TJ)	9:30am Ronnie Watson RIP (MH)	—	—
Sun 26th	1:00pm Mass for the Polish Community	10:30am Jack & Betty Robson RIP (KLG)	9:00am Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	1st Sunday of Lent

Sacrament of Reconciliation		
Thursday 23rd February St Joseph's Legion Room after 9.30am Mass	Friday 24th February EMSSPP Confessional 5:00pm – 5:45pm	Saturday 25th 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

PARISH NEWSLETTER

Sunday 19th February 2023

7th 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 7th Sunday Ordinary Time Year A

Following on from the four adjustments of the Law in last Sunday's gospel come two more, perhaps the most demanding. The Law of Moses had limited revenge: only a tooth might be taken for a tooth, only an eye for an eye, not life itself. Jesus, however, will not tolerate even this limited vengeance; he allows no revenge at all. Again and again in the course of the gospel Jesus returns to this need for unconditional forgiveness. We daringly engage ourselves with this teaching whenever we say the Lord's Prayer, 'forgive us just as we forgive...'. The final demand, however, is the most challenging of all. There is in fact no passage of the canonical scripture which encourages 'hate your enemy'. In any case, just as God lavishes his benefits of life, sun and rain on good and evil alike, so we must put no limits to our love. Only in this way – think of the first reading! – can we attempt to honour and imitate the holiness of God. This is what it means to be a son of God, 'sons of your Father in heaven': only by following in his way and by fulfilling his designs can we be integrated into his family. There can be no enmity in Christianity. Can I really forgive with no trace of animosity?

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 Michael Lawler, Marcie Rose McPherson 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. **£12,220 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.

A huge thank you to the person(s) who made the recent very generous donation of £500 towards the upkeep of EMSSPP church. God bless you.

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.**

Spring Bingo / Coffee Evening: on Friday 24th March at 7pm in St. Bede's Sharratt room. Refreshments available. Entrance tickets £1 - available at the back of church. Donations for raffle prizes will be gratefully received.

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'.

CAFOD Turkey-Syria Earthquake Appeal

CAFOD is responding with support of provision of food, water, shelter, medical assistance and winter kits for survivors. Your donations in recent months have made that quick response possible. Let us join CAFOD in praying for our sisters and brothers affected by the earthquakes and the winter weather. Your support for CAFOD throughout the year allows our Catholic agency to act quickly when disasters strike. For more details visit CAFOD's Turkey Syria Emergency Appeal online at <https://cafod.org.uk/give>.

CAFOD – The Big Lent Walk: Walk 200km in 40 days to help fight global poverty. Challenge yourself and take on The Big Lent Walk! Walk when and where you choose over 40 days, alone or with friends. Raise money to help people as they overcome poverty. Go to CAFOD website for further information <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/>

St Cuthbert's Care Lenten Alms This Lent, we hope to call upon your generosity once again to help us raise funds to purchase a small vehicle across our two nursing homes. Your continued support allows us to offer the little extras that mean the world to our residents – Thank you.

We currently have vacancies at our two nursing homes in Newcastle and Sunderland. If you or anyone you know would like more information, please contact Gill Ennis, registered manager, on 07779 248 185 and she will be delighted to help.

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 proud.catholics@yahoo.com, or visit our website <http://www.proud.catholics.co.uk>

Holy Island SVP Vinnie Camp 2023

Are you interested in your child having a holiday in 2023? Let them join us for a week on Holy Island, They'll stay in our Centre and be looked after by DBS checked and trained helpers who will ensure they have a safe, fun time. We do lots of interesting and enjoyable activities such as rock pooling, longball, football, rounders, walking, craft and art, table tennis, long ball, Quizzes and competitions and marathons as well as laser tag, silly sports, sand castle building, swimming and scavenger hunts. Girls and boys can be aged 9-12 and it is a great way for them to meet new people and make friends from all over the North East. A week's all-inclusive holiday costs £150 and can be paid in instalments. In some circumstances children may be able to receive partial or full funding to attend. If you're interested, or know of a child who could benefit from such a holiday, please visit our website for further details at <https://www.svp.org.uk/microsite/holy-island> Applications open from 10th February 2023

Centre for Catholic Studies

The Centre for Catholic Studies (CCS) are seeking to appoint a part-time Administrator, 21 hours per week, whose work will focus on CCS events and communications. Do you know anyone who might be interested in applying? Full details can be accessed at Job Description - CCS Administrator (22001983) (taleo.net) The closing date for applications is midnight on Monday 20 February 2023.

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

World Day of Prayer (formerly Women's World Day of Prayer) takes place on Friday 3rd March. This year our Parish is hosting the service, which **will be held at St. Bede's Church, Friday 3rd March, at 2pm.** The theme is 'I have heard about your faith' and has been prepared by Christian women of Taiwan. All are welcome, including men!

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 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.

Lent Activities



From week commencing 26th February onwards:

11:00am Tuesdays at EMSSPP: Stations of the Cross followed by Lenten Lunch

7:00pm Tuesdays at St. Bede's: Stations of the Cross

11:30am Fridays at St. Joseph's: Stations of the Cross followed by Lenten Lunch

6:30pm Fridays at EMSSPP: Stations of the Cross after Mass

.... more to follow

Readings 7th Sunday Ordinary Time Year A

First reading

Leviticus 19:1-2,17-18

The Lord spoke to Moses; he said: 'Speak to the whole community of the sons of Israel and say to them: "'Be holy, for I, the Lord your God, am holy. "'You must not bear hatred for your brother in your heart. You must openly tell him, your neighbour, of his offence; this way you will not take a sin upon yourself. You must not exact vengeance, nor must you bear a grudge against the children of your people. You must love your neighbour as yourself. I am the Lord.'"

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 102(103):1-4,8,10,12-13

The Lord is compassion and love.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord,
all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings.

It is he who forgives all your guilt
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love and compassion.

The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.
He does not treat us according to our sins
nor repay us according to our faults.

As far as the east is from the west
so far does he remove our sins.
As a father has compassion on his sons,
the lord has pity on those who fear him.

Second reading

1 Corinthians 3:16-23

Didn't you realise that you were God's temple and that the Spirit of God was living among you? If anybody should destroy the temple of God, God will destroy him, because the temple of God is sacred; and you are that temple. Make no mistake about it: if any one of you thinks of himself as wise, in the ordinary sense of the word, then he must learn to be a fool before he really can be wise. Why? Because the wisdom of this world is foolishness to God. As scripture says: *The Lord knows wise men's thoughts: he knows how useless they are;* or again: *God is not convinced by the arguments of the wise.* So there is nothing to boast about in anything human: Paul, Apollos, Cephas, the world, life and death, the present and the future, are all your servants; but you belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God.

Gospel

Matthew 5:38-48

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You have learnt how it was said: *Eye for eye and tooth for tooth.* But I say this to you: offer the wicked man no resistance. On the contrary, if anyone hits you on the right cheek, offer him the other as well; if a man takes you to law and would have your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. And if anyone orders you to go one mile, go two miles with him. Give to anyone who asks, and if anyone wants to borrow, do not turn away. 'You have learnt how it was said: You must love your neighbour and hate your enemy. But I say this to you: love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you; in this way you will be sons of your Father in heaven, for he causes his sun to rise on bad men as well as good, and his rain to fall on honest and dishonest men alike. For if you love those who love you, what right have you to claim any credit? Even the tax collectors do as much, do they not? And if you save your greetings for your brothers, are you doing anything exceptional? Even the pagans do as much, do they not? You must therefore be perfect just as your heavenly Father is perfect.'

Thought for the Day

The Holy Spirit is not a reward for our faithfulness but rather a gift for our weakness.