

Times of Mass, Intentions and Services

First Sunday in Lent Year A – 26th 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 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 Doris Vella RIP (AC)	1st Sunday in Lent
Mon 27th	—	—	—	St Gregory of Narek
Tue 28th	11:30am Stations of the Cross 12:00 noon Lenten Lunch	6:00pm Prayer & Bible Study Group	9:30am Irene, Stan & Peter Collins RIP (DO) 10:00am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 7:00pm Stations of the Cross	—
Wed 1st	9:30am For Healing (GEM)	—	—	St David, Bishop Patron of Wales
Thur 2nd	11:00am Requiem Mass Leah Rita Verbo RIP	9:30am James Lane RIP (AS) 2:00pm – 4:00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	—	—
Fri 3rd	5:00pm – 6:00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 6:00pm Pauline Blackwell RIP 6:30pm Stations of the Cross	11:30am Stations of the Cross followed by Lenten Lunch	2:00pm World Day of Prayer Service	—
Sat 4th	6:00pm Sunday Vigil Mass Sheila Dennis RIP (CP)	9:30am Healing Mass Intention of Suzanne Kenny (AT)	—	—
Sun 5th	—	10:30am Kathleen & Bob Martin RIP (LC) 4:00pm Holy Hour	9:00am Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	2nd Sunday in Lent

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Thursday 2nd March
St Joseph's Legion Room
after 9.30am Mass

Friday 3rd March
EMSSPP Confessional
5:00pm – 5:45pm

Saturday 4th March
St Joseph's Legion Room
after 9.30am Healing Mass

EMSSPP Confessional
5:00pm – 5:45pm

Or by Appointment – call 01642 806469

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 26th February 2023

1st Sunday of Lent: 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

First Sunday of Lent

Our readings today remind us that we are called to be in good relationship with God and with each other. However, sometimes we are tempted to go our own way rather than loving God and our neighbour.

The Christian faith is all about our relationship with Jesus, a relationship that brings us into communion with God and with each other. The season of Lent offers opportunities to renew those relationships.

Fasting brings longing and hunger for the things we have given up, when we feel that emptiness we remember that our longing can only truly be satisfied by the love of God and turn to him in **Prayer**.

Penance encourages us to reconcile and renew our relationships, to seek forgiveness and healing in our brokenness and hurt. To say sorry to God and to each other, to forgive and to be forgiven.

Almsgiving is our practical opportunity to support those less well off.

This Lent may I offer the opportunity to deepen our relationship with Jesus by inviting you to pray and study together the great Gospels stories of the Year A Lenten lectionary: The Transfiguration, the Samaritan woman at the well, the man born blind, and the raising of Lazarus.

We will also provide opportunities for Lenten devotions and prayers, and the sacraments of the sick and confession to share God's healing and reconciliation.

The time and place for the opportunities mentioned above will be in this weekly bulletin.

To serve Christ and show our love for our neighbour I would also like to suggest that this Lent we support two local charities: our catholic Refugee and Asylum Seeker Project (RASPS) and the Stockton Hope Community Pantry, the food bank we support every week.

We can give alms to RASPS, envelopes and gift aid forms will be made available.

The fruit of our own fasting could be to boost our food donations to Stockton Hope.

May you have a Blessed and Holy Lent,

Fr Mark

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 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 Leah Rita Verbo, Mary Robson 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. **£12,577 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.

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.

Red Boxes (St. Bede's or others): 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.

CONTACT PLEASE: Would **M W Pearce** and **Mrs M Ramshaw** please contact Gill in the Parish Office on 01642 806469. Many thanks.

Stockton Hope Community Larder Hardwick: 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.**

The Friendship Group thanks everyone who donated, helped and supported the recent Coffee Morning at St. Joseph's. The amount raised was £352.65.

St. Joseph's Thornton Hall: For any requests to book / hire the Hall please contact Philip and Cath Jackson direct on 01642 657436. Thank you.

BIBLE ALIVE SUBSCRIPTION: would those who have not yet done so please hand their £30.00 in to the parish office. Thank you.

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 Family Fast Day - Lent Appeal: This Lent, your donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day Appeal will help families fighting the climate crisis and ensure that our Church network can quickly respond to emergencies, like the recent earthquake in Syria and Turkey. Give today using the envelope or at **cafod.org.uk/give** and please join us in praying for CAFOD's development and emergency response work all over the world.

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.

Catholic Schools Admission Appeals Panels: The Diocesan Department for Education is looking for volunteers to serve on admission appeals panels for Catholic schools. Appeal panel members hear parents' appeal cases when, occasionally, they feel that the school they have been allocated for their child is not appropriate or practical. If you:

- are interested in education and want to get involved though you do not need to be a teacher;
- have excellent listening skills, combined with the ability to put people at ease and make balanced decisions;
- have the time to offer (usually appeals last half a day, a day, or two at each sitting);
- are willing to undertake training to understand the rules of school admissions

then this is an excellent way to serve Catholic schools. For more information and to obtain an application form, please email **education@diocesehn.org.uk** or phone 0191 243 3313.

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 202

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!

Lent Reflection Booklet: . . . the Diocese Vicariate for Faith and Mission has now produced the first part of a booklet of Lenten reflections. The reflections have been contributed by a mix of clergy, religious and lay people to express the richness and variety of our diocesan community. We trust that this year's booklet will foster prayerful reflection on the Scriptures' relevance to our daily Christian living as we look forward to Easter. To access the booklet visit **www.diocesehn.org.uk**, select 'Liturgy & Prayer', then scroll down to Lent Reflections 2023. They are working on distributing the link for the second book of Lenten reflections within the next few weeks.

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.

LENT Activities



Tuesdays: 11.30am at EMSSPP:

Tuesdays: 6:00pm – see back page for venue

Tuesdays: 7.00pm at St Bede's

Fridays: 11.30am at St Joseph's:

Fridays: 6.30pm at EMSSPP:

Stations of the Cross followed by Lenten Lunch.

Prayer and Bible Study Group

Stations of the Cross.

Stations of the Cross followed by Lenten Lunch.

Stations of the Cross after Mass

First Sunday of Lent: Year A

First reading

Genesis 2:7-9,3:1-7

The Lord God fashioned man of dust from the soil. Then he breathed into his nostrils a breath of life, and thus man became a living being. The Lord God planted a garden in Eden which is in the east, and there he put the man he had fashioned. The Lord God caused to spring up from the soil every kind of tree, enticing to look at and good to eat, with the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden.

Now the serpent was the most subtle of all the wild beasts that the Lord God had made. It asked the woman, 'Did God really say you were not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?' The woman answered the serpent, 'We may eat the fruit of the trees in the garden. But of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, "You must not eat it, nor touch it, under pain of death."' Then the serpent said to the woman, 'No! You will not die! God knows in fact that on the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil.' The woman saw that the tree was good to eat and pleasing to the eye, and that it was desirable for the knowledge that it could give. So she took some of its fruit and ate it. She gave some also to her husband who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realised that they were naked. So they sewed fig-leaves together to make themselves loin-cloths.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalms 50(51):3-6,12-14,17

Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned

1. Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.
In your compassion blot out my offence.
O wash me more and more from my guilt
and cleanse me from my sin.

3. A pure heart create for me, O God,
put a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
nor deprive me of your holy spirit.

2. My offences truly I know them;
my sin is always before me.
Against you, you alone, have I sinned;
what is evil in your sight I have done.

4. Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervour sustain me.
O Lord, open my lips
and my mouth shall declare your praise.

Second Reading

Romans 5:12-19

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of 'law-breaking', yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law. Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift. The results of the gift also outweigh the results of one man's sin: for after one single fall came judgement with a verdict of condemnation, now after many falls comes grace with its verdict of acquittal. If it is certain that death reigned over everyone as the consequence of one man's fall, it is even more certain that one man, Jesus Christ, will cause everyone to reign in life who receives the free gift that he does not deserve, of being made righteous. Again, as one man's fall brought condemnation on everyone, so the good act of one man brings everyone life and makes them justified. As by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man's obedience many will be made righteous.

Gospel

Matthew 4:1-11

Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.' But he replied, 'Scripture says: *Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.*'

The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God' he said 'throw yourself down; for scripture says: *He will put you in his angels' charge, and they will support you on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.*' Jesus said to him, 'Scripture also says: *You must not put the Lord your God to the test.*'

Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'I will give you all these' he said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship me.' Then Jesus replied, 'Be off, Satan! For scripture says: *You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.*' Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him.

Thought for the Day

You will achieve more in this world through acts of mercy than you will through acts of retribution.

Nelson Mandela