



Sunday 12th February 2023

St. Patrick's R.C. Church

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

Parish Priest : Canon John Cooper
Tel. 01642 674321

e-mail: stpatricks.fairfield@btinternet.com

This Sunday's gospel challenges us to choose freely and wisely to observe the laws given by a loving and caring God. Jesus came to earth, both to save us through his sacrificial death, and to show us how God wants us to live. When we are redeemed through Jesus, we are given His Spirit who enables us to grow in our ability to live out the deeper meaning of God's commandments.

Lord, help us to hold high the standard of your teaching, even when it is hard to apply it to our modern way of life. May we strive to never lower your standards, or to change what you teach, but to pray diligently for a realistic understanding of what you want for us in every aspect of our lives. Amen.

Can you help?

St. Patrick's RC School . . . To celebrate the 60th anniversary of St Patrick's School we are going to work with the folk trio, The Younguns, to compose a song to mark this great occasion. The song will mark the key events in the life of the school. Therefore, we are asking you to email or write to school to suggest significant milestones in the life of the school since 1963 that you believe we could use. We look forward to letting you all hear the finished piece later in the year. E-mail address is admin@stpatricks.bhcet.org.uk Mr. S. Williams (Headteacher)

A feature of our parish since its inception over 50 years ago has been the involvement of parishioners in the running of both the spiritual and social aspects of parish life. In the background for many years there has been a small cohort involved in the management of our premises in accordance with diocesan and statutory requirements, from church upkeep and building maintenance to paying the bills. For the last couple of years or so, much of this has been put on hold because of Covid, but now things are returning to normal and the parish premises are starting to be fully used again.

However there needs to be an appraisal of how we manage this. Most of the cohort mentioned above have been involved for many years. Ill health and old age are starting to take their toll and so we may need to introduce some new blood into our 'back room' set up. Involvement would mean not necessarily being able to 'do things' but also being able to get things done. So if you feel you can contribute to this 'behind the scenes' team, please contact Bill Douglas on 0795 4422636.

Invitation

In March Canon Cooper celebrates his 50th Anniversary into the priesthood. A special Mass of thanksgiving is to be held at St. Patrick's on **Saturday, 11th March at 12 noon**, followed by refreshments in the Parish Centre. Everybody welcome.

The Men's Club Social is on Saturday, 18th February, in the Parish Centre, 8pm. There will be music, a quiz and bingo. £5 per couple. Everyone welcome.

| 6 th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR | | | |
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| 12 | Sunday | 9.00am | Ann Harbron |
| 13 | Monday | 9.15am | Josie Murphy-Palmer |
| 14 | Tuesday SS Cyril, Monk & Methodius | 10.00am | Requiem Mass – Brian Coyle |
| 15 | Wednesday | | |
| 16 | Thursday | 6.00pm | Pro-Life Holy Hour |
| 17 | Friday | 9.15am | Fred & Bessie Cain |
| 18 | Saturday | 9.15am | Alan Taylor |
| 7 th Sunday of the Year | | | |
| 19 | Sunday | 9.00am | People of our Parish |
| Anniversaries: | | Alan Taylor | |
|  | | 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, | |
| Reader for Sunday 19 th February ~ David Wright | | | |
| For Parish Centre bookings please ring Rebecca on 07514 335003 | | | |



National Marriage Week is from 7th to 14th Feb.

God our Father, we pray in thanksgiving for the vocation to marriage and for each couple that you join together in order to make a family. We ask that every marriage brings each couple closer to you and closer to holiness. We pray for those who are struggling in their marriage at present, that they can make it through this tough time and support each other in their differences. We make this prayer through Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen.

New stock has arrived in the Parish Shop, including First Holy Communion gifts and cards. All welcome.

A Pro-Life Holy Hour will take place at **St Patricks Church on Thursday, 16th February** between 6-7pm. Please come and pray for the unborn and the sanctity of life. Thank you

Third World - Syria - Turkey Earthquake . . . In the wake of the terrible earthquakes in Syria and Turkey CAFOD's local experts are already on the ground in Syria and responding to the needs of those affected. Your support for CAFOD throughout the year allows their Catholic agency to act quickly when disasters strike. **For the next four weeks**, all donations placed in our Third World box will be forwarded to CAFOD for their emergency Syria-Turkey Appeal. Thank you for your continued support. God Bless

You are invited to the Cleveland Circle of the Newman Association's talk on Wednesday 15th February in St Mary's Cathedral Hall. Dr Gregory Ryan, for the Centre for Catholic Studies at Durham University, will talk on "**A Bigger Tent for a Synodal Church.**" This title comes from the working document for the next stage of the Synod process which takes a theme from Isaiah, "Enlarge the Space of Your Tent". This talk will reflect on what this might mean for us. Does it simply mean "Greater inclusivity at local level" or is it a challenge to think more deeply about what it is to be fully "Catholic" and "Church", especially with respect to ecumenical learning? As usual tea and coffee will be available from 7.00pm and the talk will start at 7.30pm. There is no charge but a small contribution to our costs is always welcome. We look forward to seeing you there.