

**Times of Mass, Intentions and Services**

**Palm Sunday Year A – 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2023**

	<b>English Martyrs and Ss Peter &amp; Paul's</b>	<b>St Joseph's</b>	<b>St Bede's</b>	<b>Feast Days this week</b>
<b>Sat 1st</b>	<b>6:00pm</b> <b>Sunday Vigil Mass</b> Margaret Jones RIP (MS)	<b>9:30am</b> <b>Healing Mass</b> Damien Perry RIP (OH)	—	—
<b>Sun 2nd</b>	—	<b>10:30am</b> Thanksgiving for 48 years of Marriage (PJ&CJ)	<b>9:00am</b> Happy Birthday (AP)	<b>Palm Sunday</b>
<b>Mon 3rd</b>	—	<b>9:30am</b> Richard H Hunter RIP (MH)	—	—
<b>Tue 4th</b>	<b>11:30am</b> Stations of the Cross <b>12:00 noon</b> Lenten Lunch	—	<b>9:30am</b> Priests Intention <b>10:00am</b> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament <b>7:00pm</b> Stations of the Cross	—
<b>Wed 5th</b>	<b>9:30am</b> Pat Chapman RIP (AC) <b>12:00 noon</b> <b>Funeral Service</b> Michael Crossen RIP	—	—	—
<b>Thur 6th</b>	—	—	<b>7:30pm</b> <b>Mass of the Last Supper</b> Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	<b>Maundy Thursday</b>
<b>Fri 7th</b>	<b>3:00pm</b> <b>CELEBRATION OF THE PASSION</b>	<b>11:00am</b> Stations of the Cross <b>3:00pm</b> <b>CELEBRATION OF THE PASSION</b>	<b>3:00pm</b> <b>CELEBRATION OF THE PASSION</b>	<b>Good Friday</b>
<b>Sat 8th</b>	<b>8:00pm</b> <b>EASTER VIGIL</b> Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	—	—	<b>Holy Saturday</b>
<b>Sun 9th</b>	<b>9:00am</b> Mass for the Polish Community	<b>10:30am</b> Nuala Sinclair & Ursula Croft RIP (JS)	<b>9:00am</b> Lawrence Fitzgerald RIP (MF)	<b>Easter Sunday</b>

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Available in English and Polish **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April 5:30pm – 7:30pm at EMSSPP**

**Or by Appointment – call 01642 806469**

**Bulletin Items:** If you would like a notice included in the next bulletin, please email [parishnewsletterstockton@gmail.com](mailto: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 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2023**

**Palm Sunday 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](mailto:parishfamilystockton@outlook.com)

**Internet**

**Parish YouTube:** Stockton Parish Family  
**Facebook page:** @ParishFamilyStocktonRC  
**Parish website:** [www.parishfamilystockton.org.uk](http://www.parishfamilystockton.org.uk)  
**Diocesan website:** [diocesehn.org.uk](http://diocesehn.org.uk)



**Reflection Palm Sunday Year A**

Today's liturgy concentrates on two very different events, the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem as Messianic King and the events of a few days later which culminated in his agonising and shameful death.

This seeming end-point was to be reversed by the explosion of new life in the Resurrection after three days, an explosion which constituted God's vindication of Jesus' loving obedience and the affirmation that it has overcome and wiped out the sin of Adam, human sin.

How much time did Jesus spend in Jerusalem? The Gospel of John recounts four separate visits to Jerusalem, whereas Mark (and Matthew and Luke, who follow Mark's outline) compresses all Jesus' Jerusalem ministry into one visit, inaugurated by the solemn entry, as narrated in the gospel we hear today before the procession with palms.

This event is recounted by the evangelists in the light of their fuller understanding of Jesus after the Resurrection. We see the colourful, festal atmosphere of crowds going up to Jerusalem, waving palm branches as banners in their enthusiasm and singing as they march. Jesus and his disciples join in. But it may be only later that the significance of this event was grasped: this entry was the fulfilment of the prophecy of Zechariah about the Messiah coming into his inheritance, to complete his God-given mission and to proclaim peace to the nations.

Matthew especially, writing for a community steeped in Judaism, actually quotes the prophecy and also the psalm-verse about 'him who comes in the name of the Lord'. He stresses that Jesus is this Son of David, whose eschatological kingship is about to be established.


Next week is known as Holy Week: how and when will you take time to listen to God and grow in holiness?

Dom Henry Wansbrough OS, *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 Ronnie Taylor, Michael Crossen and all those who have died recently. May they rest in peace. Amen.

**Second Collection:** There will be a collection for Holy Places this weekend (1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> April)


**Offertory Envelopes: THE NEW BOXES OF OFFERTORY ENVELOPES FOR THE NEXT FINANCIAL YEAR ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION FROM CHURCH.** Please let the Parish office know if you do not have any envelopes and would like some, if your address has changed, or if you no longer require a box. Many thanks.

**HELP WANTED For EMSSPP Church Cleaning for Easter:** Volunteers are needed to help with the Church cleaning for Easter. Please meet after the Wednesday morning Mass. *Many hands make light work.*

**St Joseph's Refurbishment Appeal:** Around £55,000 has now been spent on the new the roof and lighting. So far **£12,698 has been donated 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.

**Bank Account Update:** If anyone is having problems amending their standing order to our new joint parish account, please use the full account title **Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle Stockton Our Lady of Walsingham** as we have been advised that some banks will not accept the DHN abbreviation. Thank you, and apologies for any inconvenience.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION:** following the amalgamation of our parishes:  
If you wish to write a cheque out to St. Joseph's, EMSSPP or St Bede's after the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 please make it payable to DHN Stockton Our Lady of Walsingham.  
If you would like to make a transfer direct into the bank account please contact the parish office for the new account details. Thank 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 into 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.**

**“Serving those who have served us well”** The Sick and Retired Priests' Collection will be taken on the weekend of 15th and 16th April 2023, and the Fund will remain open until 5th May for anyone who might like to make further or individual donations. This collection goes to support our Sick and Retired Priests who have served our diocese over many years and we wish to make sure that this Fund is also there for future retired priests. Recent years have been very difficult and income has drastically dropped. If people were to give a suggested minimum of £5 or £10 per person in recognition of all the priests who have served their parishes over many years, it would be a great gesture as we “serve those who have served us well”. For further information on Gift Aid, one-off larger donations, or a bequest in your Will, please do not hesitate to contact us on ☎ 0191 586 4319.

**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.

**Thank you from the Fairtrade Pop up Shop at St Joseph's :** our pop up shop sold £842.10 of goods, we hope you enjoy your purchases knowing that what you have bought is helping growers and producers in the third world earn a fair wage for their labour. Don't forget to buy your Fairtrade Easter eggs in Aldi & Lidl where there is lots of choice.

**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.

### Volunteer Parish Safeguarding Representative Vacancy at St Bede's:


Father Millward is seeking to recruit a Parish Safeguarding Representative for Saint Bede's in Stockton and would welcome applications. The diocesan Safeguarding Team are more than happy to have a 'no commitment' discussion with anyone who would be interested in this important and interesting role, so you can learn more about the position and obtain more in-depth information. A brief description is below. Anyone who would like to be considered, please speak to Fr Millward and the Safeguarding Team on 0191 243 3305.

### The Parish Safeguarding Representative (PSR) – main responsibilities

The representative is the link between the parish and the Safeguarding Team and will be in regular contact with reporting of concerns and seeking advice/signposting.

The PSR also has an important role to play in the Safer Recruitment process for volunteers as well as supporting the Parish Priest to fulfil his safeguarding Responsibilities.

You will need a commitment to confidentiality, good organisational and listening skills and an ability to work as part of a team while building relationships with a wide variety of people.

 **March Baptisms:** Please pray for Norah Elizabeth, Solomon Lucas, Anna Nina and Aubrey Rae who received the Sacrament of Baptism in March. May they and their godparents grow in their Faith in the years ahead.

### Something free for all the family this Easter from Tees Valley Wildlife Trust!

- 1. Go Wild in Roseworth This Easter:** on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April at Kiara Hall 1pm – 3pm Pot up sunflower seedlings to grow at home. Nature trail and treasure hunt for kids. Paint a pebble pet for your garden. Spring crafts to make.
- 2. Bird-tastic crafts!** Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> April 10am – 11:30am at Roseworth Library Fun Easter holiday family activity Make model nests and eggs. Discover how wild birds bring up their chicks. Bird themed puzzles, games and quizzes.

**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](mailto:PresidentC211509@svp.org.uk).

**SPUC:** Please take cards at the back of Church and commit to pray for the end of culture of death and mark the 55 anniversary of the abortion act and 10 million lives lost. Thank you.

### SPUC CLUB DRAW RESULT 19 MARCH 2023

1st Prize : No. 56 Billy Barker  
2nd Prize: No. 42 Sue Hepworth  
3rd Prize: No. 38 Brian Kennedy

Many thanks to all who support the Club Draw, your generosity is greatly appreciated.

**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](mailto: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'.

## Worldwide Church News

### Pope Francis Monthly Intentions for April: For a culture of peace and non-violence

We pray for the spread of peace and non-violence, by decreasing the use of weapons by States and citizens.

## Prayer and Liturgy News

**Divine Mercy Sunday Celebration:** 16<sup>th</sup> April Holy Hour at St Joseph's Norton. More details next week.

**Lent Reflection Booklet:** the Diocese Vicariate for Faith and Mission has now produced the second 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. To access the booklet click on the following link: <https://bit.ly/DHNLent2023> or visit [www.diocesehn.org.uk](http://www.diocesehn.org.uk), select 'Liturgy & Prayer', then scroll down to Lent Reflections 2023. They will also be releasing further audio versions of the reflections in the next week weeks, beginning with the Annunciation of the Lord and these audio reflections will be available on the link above and on the Diocesan social media pages.

### Proud Catholics - Mass

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, 18th April at 7.30pm** (BST). We will celebrate Mass at St Andrew's RC Church Worswick Street. This will be followed by our usual social time in the chaplaincy room. All are welcome. It will also be possible to connect through Zoom. Please get in touch for the link. For more information, phone Isabel on 07858 934457, email [proud.catholics@yahoo.com](mailto:proud.catholics@yahoo.com), or visit our website <http://www.proud Catholics.co.uk>

### First reading

#### Isaiah 50:4-7

The Lord has given me a disciple's tongue. So that I may know how to reply to the wearied he provides me with speech. Each morning he wakes me to hear, to listen like a disciple. The Lord has opened my ear. For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away. I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle. The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults. So, too, I set my face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed.

### Responsorial Psalm

#### Psalms 21(22):8-9,17-20,23-24

**My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?**

All who see me deride me.  
They curl their lips, they toss their heads.  
'He trusted in the Lord, let him save him;  
let him release him if this is his friend.'

They divide my clothing among them.  
They cast lots for my robe  
O Lord, do not leave me alone,  
my strength, make haste to help me!

Many dogs have surrounded me,  
a band of the wicked beset me.  
They tear holes in my hands and my feet'  
I can count every one of my bones.

I will tell of your name to my brethren  
and praise you where they are assembled.  
You who fear the Lord give him praise;  
all sons of Jacob, give him glory. Revere him, Israel's sons.

### Second reading

#### Philippians 2:6-11

His state was divine, yet Christ Jesus did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave and became as men are; and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father

### Gospel

#### Matthew 21:1-11

When they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, 'Go into the village facing you, and immediately you will find an ass tied, and a colt with her: Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, "The Lord has need of them," and he will send them immediately.' This took place to fulfil what was spoken by the prophet, saying, 'Tell the daughter of Sion, Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on an ass, and on a colt, the foal of an ass.' The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the ass and the colt, and put their garments on them, and he sat thereon. Most of the crowd spread their garments on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. And the crowds that went before him and that followed him shouted, 'Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!' And when he entered Jerusalem, all the city was stirred, saying, 'Who is this?' And the crowds said, 'This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth of Galilee.'

## Thought for the Day

If you are what you should be, you will set the whole world ablaze.

*St Catherine of Sienna*