



Sunday 26th February 2023

St. Patrick's R.C. Church

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

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As we begin Lent this Sunday's Gospel reminds us that no matter how many Lents we have lived through, the call is as urgent as it ever was. We may have become involved in many things which may have distracted our attention from our spiritual lives and our role in building God's Kingdom on earth. If we are to endure the temptations, tests and trials that come to us all we have to be growing in faith. We need to have the courage to entrust ourselves to God, in whatever our situation is, and the discipline to take time to reflect and pray.

God our Father you are the source of all goodness and our defender against all that is evil. Guide us with your Spirit through the wildernesses of our lives, keep us from apathy and in the face of sin show us the path of life which leads to your Kingdom, where you live for ever and ever. Amen.




Last Sunday's second collection for the CAFOD Turkey/Syria Appeal has so far raised a splendid £1127.47 and a first cheque has been sent to CAFOD. The collection remains open for other donations until 5th March. Please use the CAFOD envelopes at the back of Church, filling in the Gift Aid form therein, if you wish to Gift Aid your donation, or use a plain envelope marked CAFOD and put them in the main Sunday collections, or hand them to Martin Driffield. Thanks for your great support so far.

Third World: Syria - Turkey Earthquake . . . For the next two 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

World Day of Prayer is celebrated on the first Friday of March each year and is an international, inter-church organisation which enables us to hear the thoughts of women from all parts of the world: their hopes, concerns and prayers. The service this year has been prepared by the women of Taiwan and the theme is 'I have heard about your faith.' Taiwan is an island rich in natural resources and culturally diverse. The women of Taiwan share the issues faced geographically, politically and socially and also their hopes for the future. There will be a service on **Friday 3rd March in St. Bede's RC Church at 2pm.** All welcome.

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); if you 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 telephone 0191 243 3313 or e-mail: education@diocesehn.org.uk.<mailto:education@diocesehn.org.uk>

1 st Sunday of Lent			
26	Sunday	9.00am	People of our Parish
27	Monday	9.15am	Maureen Hunton
28	Tuesday		
1	Wednesday <i>St David</i>		
2	Thursday	6.00pm	Stations of the Cross and Exposition
3	Friday	9.15am	David Wilson
4	Saturday	9.15am	Joan Lutener
2 nd Sunday of Lent			
5	Sunday	9.00am	Denis Watt
Anniversaries:		John Leslie Shaw, Patrick Cooper	
		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 5 th March ~ John Bowron			
For Parish Centre bookings please ring Rebecca on 07514 335003			



Friday is a day of prayer for the needy and hungry of the world

Plant in us, Lord, seeds of solidarity, so that, rejoicing in your gifts, we may cherish your presence in each other and all creation. Cultivate in us, Lord, attentiveness to your call. Give us hope to dream of a better world and strength to play our part to make it a reality. Grow in us, Lord, your ways of peace and courage, so that, in this time of Lent, we may bear witness to your love, revealed to us in Jesus. Amen.

Stations of the Cross . . . If any group would like to volunteer to lead Stations of the Cross please contact Deacon Mick or telephone the Parish office, 01642 580171. This Thursday Stations of the Cross will be led by the SVP.

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

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)



The Parish Men's Club present Teesside top pop/rock band 'Striking Back' on Saturday 18th March, 8.00 – 11.00pm in the Parish Centre. Order your tickets (£6) via Ken Marr 01642 602336. Striking Back are a "band in demand" and tickets will go fast so make sure you're not disappointed.