

**Times of Mass, Intentions and Services**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter Year A –30<sup>th</sup> April 2023**

	<b><u>English Martyrs and Ss Peter &amp; Paul's</u></b>	<b><u>St Joseph's</u></b>	<b><u>St Bede's</u></b>	<b><u>Feast Days this week</u></b>
<b>Sat 29th</b>	<b><u>6:00pm</u></b> <b><u>Sunday Vigil Mass</u></b> Joseph Austin Stephens RIP (FS)	<b><u>9:30am</u></b> Ida Cordoza RIP (AC,FC&family)	—	<b>St Catherine of Siena, <i>Virgin, Doctor</i> Patron of Europe</b>
<b>Sun 30th</b>	—	<b><u>10:30am</u></b> George & Delia Lancaster & Ian Ritchie RIP (VR)	<b><u>9:00am</u></b> Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</b>
<b>Mon 1st</b>	—	<b><u>9:30am</u></b> Charles Viva RIP	—	St Joseph the Worker
<b>Tue 2nd</b>	—	—	<b><u>9:30am</u></b> Margaret & Denis Harrington RIP (GEM)  <b><u>10:00am</u></b> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	St Athanasius <i>Bishop, Doctor</i>
<b>Wed 3rd</b>	<b><u>9:30am</u></b> Holy Souls	—	—	<b>Ss Philip &amp; James Apostles</b>
<b>Thur 4th</b>	—	<b><u>9:30am</u></b> Kath Todd RIP  <b><u>2:00pm – 4:00pm</u></b> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	—	<b>The English Martyrs</b>
<b>Fri 5th</b>	<b><u>5:00pm – 6:00pm</u></b> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament  <b><u>6:00pm</u></b> Intentions of Maria (PMc)	—	—	—
<b>Sat 6th</b>	<b><u>6:00pm</u></b> <b><u>Sunday Vigil Mass</u></b> Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	<b><u>9:30am</u></b> Julia Gallagher RIP (KLG)	—	—
<b>Sun 7th</b>	—	<b><u>10:30am</u></b> Joan Wilson RIP (MH)	<b><u>9:00am</u></b> Pat Chapman RIP (AC)	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</b>

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May**  
**St Joseph's Legion Room**  
**after 9.30am Mass**

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May**  
**EMSSPP Confessional**  
**5:00pm – 5:45pm**

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May**  
**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](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 30th April 2023**

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter 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 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

Everyone who has been baptised has been called to holiness. That call is unique to each of us – he calls us one by one.

Our journey through life in response to God's loving purpose for us is different from the person sitting next to us.

Some of us live out our vocation in a particular way such as by being married and having a family.

Others will live in a religious community. Many people respond to the call to holiness through the work they do, perhaps as a teacher or in a caring profession.

There are as many ways of hearing God's call and answering it as there are people on this earth. Our responsibility as Christians is to listen to God's word and hear how he is calling us individually.

Hearing the call of the Jesus and responding to it is not a simple process of making a lifestyle choice. It requires getting to know Jesus so we can recognise his voice amongst the many other attractions and opportunities in life.

St John Henry Newman, summed up vocation this way:

***'God has created me to do Him some definite service. He has committed some work to me which He has not committed to another.'***

May the joy of the Risen Lord be with you and your families as you reflect on his call.

Most Rev Malcolm McMahon OP

## 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 Margaret Dollard and all those who have died recently. May they rest in peace. Amen.

**Second Collection:** “*Serving those who have served us well*” The Sick and Retired Priests Fund collection **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.

**Offertory Envelopes:** A few boxes of envelopes have not yet been collected from church – please collect asap. Please let the Parish Office know if you have not received a box and would like one, if your address has changed, or if you no longer require a box. Many thanks.

**St Joseph’s Refurbishment Appeal:** So far **£12,932 has been donated towards the cost of the new roof and other planned refurbishments – Sincere thanks to everyone who has contributed.** Special ‘Refurbishment Fund’ envelopes are in church for one off donations; if you are a UK taxpayer please use the yellow forms to Gift Aid your donation where possible. Any help you can give 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 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.**

**Lent Almsgiving:** Sincere thanks to everyone who supported my appeal for donations to Stockton Refugee and Asylum Seekers Project and to those of you who gave or increased your food donations during Lent. The total amount raised for RASPS from our parishes was **£1,000**. God bless you all. Fr Mark

**Holy Hikers:** are out walking again for the summer season of monthly walks. Contact David Mackintosh for details on 07913 021814.

**Walsingham Pilgrimage 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> June:** Remaining **balances are due by 6<sup>th</sup> May** at the latest. Please contact Mary on 07952 321396 or Pat on 01642 650904 if you have any dietary requirements. Thank you.

**Josie Clamp:** would like to say a big thank you to her parish family who have prayed for her over the last few weeks. Your prayers have carried her through this challenging time. God Bless.

**SVP Update:** On behalf of our conference, I want to thank you for your continued generosity. So far this year we have been able to send £500 to the South Sudan appeal, we held the parishioners party in January, are sponsoring a parishioner to go on the Walsingham pilgrimage and have responded to some individual requests for help. The aim of the SVP is to provide help and support to those in need. If you are aware of anyone who may need our help, please speak to one of our members, phone Alan on 07939912354, Mary on 07714327665 or email President211509@svp.org.uk.

**More News from Uganda:** On the Tuesday after Easter Fr. Vincent organised a party in the parish for more than 93 children and adults. Wood for the fire was collected by some parishioners while others collected beans and did the cooking. Fr. Vincent provided soft drinks for all. Father says “For us here a meal is the best way to share the joy of the Risen Lord” **Please pray for Fr. Vincent and his people.**

### 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.

**Message from the Little Sisters of the Poor:** The Little Sisters of the Poor at St Joseph’s Home in Newcastle are finding these difficult economic times, which everyone is facing, increasingly more challenging. It is certainly a worrying and anxious time for us all. The current economic climate is having a significant impact on our fundraising activities and the charitable donations we rely on to meet the ever increasing daily running costs of the Home. We are working hard to raise vital funds to help with the cost of replacing the three lifts in the Home. They have served us well over the years and with us relying heavily on them, they are in constant need of expensive repairs. As you can appreciate, the lifts play an integral role in helping to maintain the safety of our residents at all times, helping to increase their level of mobility and allowing them to maintain their independence for longer. For this reason we are appealing for urgent donations to assist us in our efforts to make critical upgrades to our lifts, which in turn will help the Sisters and Staff deliver essential person centred care at all times. Cheques made payable to ‘Little Sisters of the Poor’ can be sent to: St Joseph’s Home, Westmorland Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE4 7QA. Alternatively, secure, online donations can be made by visiting: **www.littlesistersofthepoor.co.uk/donate-here/** Thank you for your continued support and prayers. We are extremely grateful to you for the kindness shown to us.

### O.L.S.B School Bidding Prayers:

Lord, we pray for the unfortunate, the homeless and those who feel lost. May we show compassion and mercy to those we know who may be feeling this way. Lord in your mercy. **Hear our Prayer.**

Lord, we pray that we may be people of peace. Help us to bring peace to our families, school community and to build a better world for all people. Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our Prayer.**

We pray for our Muslim brothers and sisters who are fasting in preparation for Eid. May this be a fruitful and peaceful time for them all.

Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our Prayer.**

**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.

**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’.

### Update from the Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle on the investigations underway:

The Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (CSSA) has confirmed it is in the process of drafting a report which will be published in due course. Similarly, after a robust and thorough process, the final interviews in the investigation for the Dicastery for Bishops took place in the last few days of March, with further submissions being received within the last week. Carol Lawrence has collated all of the information and is currently drafting a report for Archbishop McMahon. As we continue to celebrate the Easter season, we ask you to remember in your prayers those currently preparing the reports. We pray for their work and for renewal in the Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle as we move forward, learning from their findings and recommendations.

**Proud Catholics – AGM:** 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, 16th May at 7.30pm** (BST). We will hold our Annual General Meeting, where we will review the year, plan for the future, and hold elections for the coming year's Committee. It will be possible to connect through Zoom (get in touch for the link). The AGM will be followed by our usual bring-and-share refreshments. All are welcome. 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>

## Worldwide Church News

### Pope Francis Monthly Intentions for May: For church movements and groups

We pray that Church movements and groups may rediscover their mission of evangelization each day, placing their own charisms at the service of needs in the world.

## Prayer and Liturgy News

**Coming Soon - A Day for Catechists:** Are you involved with Baptismal Preparation, First Holy Communions, Confirmations, Marriage Preparation, RCIA, Children’s Liturgy or other faith sharing initiatives? We are excited to host the largest gathering of Catechists the diocese has seen in recent times. This will be a special opportunity to come together and renew our approach to sacramental preparation and faith-sharing post-pandemic. Whether you are a seasoned catechist or just considering becoming one, we want you to join us. We will be sharing key principles from the New Directory of Catechesis and affirming good practices, as well as providing new ideas and inspiration. Individuals and parish groups are welcome. To register your interest/book a place, please **visit [bit.ly/DHND0C23](http://bit.ly/DHND0C23)**.

## Readings 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

### First reading

Acts 2:14,36-41

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd in a loud voice: ‘The whole House of Israel can be certain that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified both Lord and Christ.’Hearing this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the apostles, ‘What must we do, brothers?’ ‘You must repent,’ Peter answered ‘and every one of you must be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise that was made is for you and your children, and for all those who are far away, for all those whom the Lord our God will call to himself.’ He spoke to them for a long time using many arguments, and he urged them, ‘Save yourselves from this perverse generation.’ They were convinced by his arguments, and they accepted what he said and were baptised. That very day about three thousand were added to their number.

### Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 22(23)

***The Lord is my shepherd: there is nothing I shall want.***

1.The Lord is my shepherd;  
there is nothing I shall want.  
Fresh and green are the pastures  
where he gives me repose.  
Near restful waters he leads me,  
to revive my drooping spirit.

2.He guides me along the right path;  
he is true to his name.  
If I should walk in the valley of darkness  
no evil would I fear.  
You are there with your crook and your staff;  
with these you give me comfort.

3.You have prepared a banquet for me  
in the sight of my foes.  
My head you have anointed with oil;  
my cup is overflowing.

4.Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me  
all the days of my life.  
In the Lord’s own house shall I dwell  
for ever and ever.

### Second reading

1 Peter 2:20-25

The merit, in the sight of God, is in bearing punishment patiently when you are punished after doing your duty. This, in fact, is what you were called to do, because Christ suffered for you and left an example for you to follow the way he took. He had not done anything wrong, and there had been no perjury in his mouth. He was insulted and did not retaliate with insults; when he was tortured he made no threats but he put his trust in the righteous judge. He was bearing our faults in his own body on the cross, so that we might die to our faults and live for holiness; through his wounds you have been healed. You had gone astray like sheep but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

### Gospel

John 10:1-10

Jesus said: ‘I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and a brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers. ‘Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them.So Jesus spoke to them again:‘I tell you most solemnly, I am the gate of the sheepfold. All others who have come are thieves and brigands; but the sheep took no notice of them. I am the gate. Anyone who enters through me will be safe: he will go freely in and out and be sure of finding pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full.’

## Thought for the Day

The greatest glory in living is not in never falling but in rising every time you fall. **Nelson Mandela**