



Sunday 30th April 2023

St. Patrick's R.C. Church

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

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The Fourth Sunday of Easter is traditionally celebrated as Good Shepherd Sunday and Vocations Sunday. This is because in the Gospel of the day Jesus speaks of himself as the Shepherd who is prepared to lay down his life for his sheep. Whilst appreciating all vocations, the Church concentrates its attention this day on vocations to the ordained ministries, priesthood and diaconate, and consecrated life in all its forms. The first moment of vocation is baptism; the baptismal vocation is for witness, love and service. We witness to love in marriage, in family, extended family and in friendship. Any love is a sharing in the love of God. In the moments of unselfish love in any relationship we are living out our vocation.

God our Father, You made each of us to use our gifts in the Body of Christ. We ask that You inspire young people whom You call to priesthood and consecrated life to courageously follow Your will. Send workers into Your great harvest so that the Gospel is preached, the poor are served with love, the suffering are comforted, and Your people are strengthened by the sacraments. Amen.

The Diocese has requested that parishes renew their church evacuation plan in the event of an emergency. Attached is the plan for our parish. Please study it to see what is entailed. It is proposed that we carry out a 'fire drill' at the end of a Sunday Mass in the next few weeks.

CAFOD Fix the Food System . . . The world is facing a food crisis, CAFOD works with small farmers around the world. For hundreds of years farmers have freely used and shared their own seeds, but laws are being passed to limit what they are allowed to do with their own seeds. Salina, a small farmer in Bangladesh, is writing a letter to the World Bank which has lots of influence over agricultural issues, asking them to protect the rights of small farmers to use and share their own seeds, otherwise it would give them little choice but to buy expensive seeds from large companies. **Please sign Salina's letter on the way out of Mass.** Thank you for your support of CAFOD's work.

From Wednesday 3rd May until Friday 5th May, the Bishops of England and Wales encourage Catholics to pray for His Majesty and the Queen.

O God, to whom every human power is subject, grant to your servant our sovereign Charles success in the exercise of his high office, so that, always revering you and striving to please you, he may constantly secure and preserve for the people entrusted to his care the freedom that comes from civil peace. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen (Taken from the Bishops of England and Wales website)

St. Patrick's Men's Club invite you to a Social Evening on Saturday 13th May, 8.00pm, in the Parish Centre. There will be a Quiz, Bingo and Raffle. Everyone welcome.

4th Sunday of Easter			
30	Sunday	9.00am	People of our Parish
1	Monday	9.15am	Lawrence Jordison (Snr.)
2	Tuesday <i>St Athanasius</i>		
3	Wednesday <i>SS Philip and James</i>		
4	Thursday <i>The English Martyrs</i>	6.00pm	Divine Mercy & Exposition
5	Friday		No Mass
6	Saturday	9.15am	Michael Dick
5th Sunday of Easter			
7	Sunday	9.00am	Dave Callaghan
Recently Deceased:		Fr John Reid ~ May he rest in peace. Amen	
Anniversaries:		Anne Marie Pilbin, Beryl Harley, Diane Drewery, Dennis McGloin, Ann McGowan	
		Margaret Devlin, Pauline Morton, Mike Rutland, Margaret Kenning, Christopher Brown, Fr. Pat McKenna, Rosie Owens, Andrew Brydon, Betty Griffiths, Rose Marie Bruno, Brian Lee, Kathleen Hanley	
Reader for Sunday 7th May ~ Margaret Wilson			
For Parish Centre bookings please ring Rebecca on 07514 335003			



Please keep the Candidates who are preparing for Confirmation in your prayers.

The Sick & Retired Priests Fund remains open until 5th May for Private and Group donations. Please put your donation in an envelope marked 'Sick & Retired Priests' and put it in the main Sunday collections, or hand it to Martin Driffield. Many thanks.

Parish Shop ~ .Lots of new stock of gifts and cards are available for First Holy Communion and Confirmation.

The following Bidding Prayers have been sent from Our Lady & St. Bede’s School for inclusion on the bulletin.

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*

The St Bernadette Relic Tour team have released a film commemorating last year’s visit. The tour reached one in four UK Catholics, with thousands of people participating in the visit. “We hope this short film encourages people to reflect on the message of St Bernadette and consider visiting Lourdes themselves in the future.” You can watch the film at youtu.be/3HY8iT2GioM or search ‘St Bernadette UK Relic Tour – A Pilgrimage of Faith.’

EMERGENCY EVACUATION OF CHURCH

In the event of an incident/fire affecting the main doors of the church the emergency exit will be via the crèche. The exit procedure will be managed by the celebrant.

Please study the diagram. You will note that the congregation should move to the aisle on their right then proceed to the front of the church before moving to the end aisle on the right to exit the church via the crèche, with those in the RH pews after exiting to their right, turning immediately towards the crèche. Just move at a normal pace and do not rush.

Help will be on hand for those who are infirm or have difficulty walking, who may be directed to move through the pews to the RHS of the church to shorten their exit.

In the event of an incident at the front of the church the congregation should exit the church by the main doors in an orderly fashion and move away so as not to block those following. The celebrant will also manage this as required.

On exiting the church you should assemble on the far side of the car park beyond the car park access.

CHURCH EVACUATION PLAN AVOIDING MAIN ENTRANCE

