



Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2023

**St. Patrick's R.C. Church**

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

**Parish Priest : Canon John Cooper**  
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This Sunday's gospel presents Jesus as our guide in life, the 'Way, Truth and Life'. The Christian centre is the person of Christ. Our work for Jesus and our love for people, no matter what our calling in life, flow from this. We believe that he is divine as well as human and we accept the uniqueness of his saving death and resurrection. All of what God wishes us to know about his nature and his will is to be glimpsed in Jesus who manifests God's unconditional love and forgiveness. He dies for us and for all sinners so that we may have eternal life.

**Jesus our Way** - guide me in life; **Jesus our Truth** - *teach me your meaning of life;*  
**Jesus our Life** – love me always

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION . . .** This is a very special time as we prepare to receive Jesus on our First Holy Communion day. We are collecting names of parishioners who are praying for us. A prayer vine wall is being prepared at school. Your names will be added to colour paper grapes on the display, these represent home, school and parishioners prayers being offered for us. Please pray for us and add your name to the list at the back of church. They will be included on the display. Thank you for your prayers.



St Patrick's First Holy Communion children ~ *May Christ be seen in us.*

**The Sick & Retired Priests collection now stands at a splendid £491.91.** The collection closes this weekend. Please put any final donations into an envelope marked 'Sick and Retired Priests' and put it into the main collection, or hand it to Martin Driffield. Thanks.

**The Bishops of England and Wales have chosen Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> May as a Day of Prayer for Victims and Survivors of Abuse.** It is a day of prayer for those who have been abused in a season of hope and new life.

*Praise to you, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ the source of all consolation and hope. Be the refuge and guardian of all who suffer from abuse and violence. Comfort them and send healing for their wounds of the body, soul and spirit. Help us all and make us one with you in your love for justice as we deepen our respect for the dignity of every human life. Amen*

**The renowned historian Professor Eamon Duffy**, also a frequent broadcaster on radio and television, is visiting Holy Name Church, Jesmond, Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 3JX, on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May at 11am to give an entertaining and informative lecture about a period and subject which will be new to most audiences. He will tell the fascinating story of Father Robert Benson, the most famous Catholic Priest in Edwardian England, and his extraordinary family. Fr Benson's father was Archbishop of Canterbury, while one brother wrote "Land of Hope and Glory" and the other wrote the Mapp and Lucia novels. Booking is not required; doors open at 10.30am and all are welcome.

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

<b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</b>			
7	Sunday	9.00am	Dave Callaghan
8	Monday	9.15am	Bernadette Mulholland
9	Tuesday		
10	Wednesday		
11	Thursday	6.00pm	Holy Hour ~ Rosary and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
12	Friday	9.15am	Rose Watson
13	Saturday	9.15am	Maureen Hunton
<b>6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</b>			
14	Sunday	9.00am	People of our Parish
<b>Anniversaries:</b>		Florence Brannen, Jennifer Simpson, Anthony Ward	
		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	
<b>Reader for Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May ~ Karen Dick</b>			
For Parish Centre bookings please ring Rebecca on 07514 335003			



### **The Month of Mary**

The month of May is a special time to pay homage to our Blessed Mother Mary. Her life in the Gospel years was one of service and great devotion to Jesus, from the stable in Bethlehem where she gave birth to Him, to Calvary in Jerusalem where she stood by His cross at His Crucifixion. While she has a low profile in the Gospels, her words still resonate with us today and challenge us to follow her example of humility, obedience and service to God.

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

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

**Pope's Prayer Intention for May . . .** 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.

**Weekend Liturgy Resources . . .** Suggested Prayers of the Faithful (bidding prayers) and Reflections will be updated each week. Other resources include suggested music, Children's Liturgy of the Word and Cycle of prayer. Resources and signposts to the coming weekend's liturgy resources, kindly provided by people within our Diocese, will be available to view and access on the Diocesan website every Thursday for the following weekend's liturgy. If you are interested in joining the Diocesan Writing Team please view the Diocesan Newsletter, via the website, for more information.

**Stella Maris invites you to join their Annual Day of Prayer and Pilgrimage** on Holy Island, Lindisfarne, on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June. Prayers on the grass (outside St Mary's Church) will be at noon. Holy Mass will be at 3.00pm in St Mary's Church, Safe crossing times on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June are between 10.00am to 6.00pm. For more information contact Stella Maris regional Chaplain: Deacon Peter Barrigan (Tees, Hartlepool & Seaham) on 07713 924504.

