

## Times of Mass, Intentions and Services

### 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time Year A – 16<sup>th</sup> July 2023

	<u>English Martyrs and Ss Peter &amp; Paul's</u>	<u>St Joseph's</u>	<u>St Bede's</u>	<u>Feast Days this week</u>
<b>Sat 15th</b>	<u>6:00pm</u> <b>Sunday Vigil Mass</b> Late Members of Nertney & Stewart Families RIP (AP)	<u>9:30am</u> Deceased Members of Hamilton & Williams Families RIP (PH)	_____	_____ _____
<b>Sun 16th</b>	_____	<u>10:30am</u> Audrey Watson RIP (Friendship Group)	<u>9:00am</u> Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	<b>15<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time</b>
<b>Mon 17th</b>	_____	_____	_____	_____
<b>Tue 18th</b>	_____ _____	_____ _____	<u>9:30am</u> <b>Whole School Mass</b> Priest's Intention	_____
<b>Wed 19th</b>	<u>9:30am</u> Priest's Intention	_____ _____	_____	_____
<b>Thur 20th</b>	<u>12:45pm</u> <b>Funeral Service</b> Lynda Hyde RIP	<u>9:30am</u> <b>Whole School Mass</b> In Thanksgiving for Prayers Answered (MF)  <u>2:00pm – 4:00pm</u> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	_____ _____	St Apollinaris <i>Bishop, Martyr</i>
<b>Fri 21st</b>	<u>5:00pm – 6:00pm</u> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament  <u>6:00pm</u> Dorothy & Jim Lane RIP (AS)	_____ _____	_____	St Lawrence of Brindisi <i>Priest, Doctor</i>
<b>Sat 22nd</b>	<u>6:00pm</u> <b>Sunday Vigil Mass</b> Karen Harley RIP (VP)	<u>9:30am</u> Wedding Anniversary Thanksgiving (AA&SS)	_____	<b>St Mary Magdalene</b> _____
<b>Sun 23rd</b>	<u>9:00am</u> Mass for the Polish Community	<u>10:30am</u> Thanksgiving for Zuderis Zika Mansella	<u>9:00am</u> Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	<b>16<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time</b>

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July**  
**St Joseph's Legion Room**  
**after Mass**

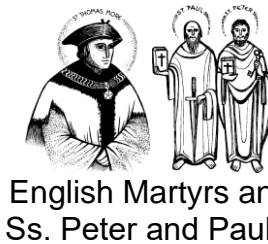
**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July**  
**EMSSPP Confessional**  
**5:00pm – 5:45pm**

**Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> July**  
**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



## P A R I S H N E W S L E T T E R

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2023**

### 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time 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 15th Sunday Ordinary Time


Like any good teacher, Jesus uses pictures – or parables.  
Ever heard the one about the elephant and the wasp? Or electricity like a toy train going round a room?  
Anyway, for the next three weeks we have some of these pictures, to show us what Jesus is trying to do.  
This first one is rather sad. Whatever the sower does seems to fail: seed pecked up by birds, scorched by the sun, choked by thistles.  
What are my pecking birds, my scorching sun, my choking thistles which annihilate the seed Jesus sows in me?  
It's probably different for every one of us.  
But some, just a little, of the seed bears a fantastic harvest. There must be something I can show to the Lord with pride and gratitude: 'Look, this is the seed you gave me; it has grown, developed, and here is your harvest.'  
Jesus, too, reflected on his mission to establish his Father's sovereignty on earth. Jesus, too, may well have wondered if he was getting anywhere.  
It was only when he had failed utterly, alone, deserted and tortured, that his perseverance won the crown.  
Jesus doesn't want the successful. He wants the failures as his followers – and that is where the harvest lies.  
In Jesus' story what is the seed?  
What prevents the seed reaching its full growth in me?  
In what way has the seed made me a better person?


*Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB, 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 Ken Patterson, Lynda Hyde and all those who have died recently. May they rest in peace. Amen.

 **Volunteer gardener(s) needed at St Bede's** to look after the flower beds. (The grass is being cut by a contractor) If you are willing to help, please speak to Fr Mark. Thank you.

**St Bede's Summer Coffee / Bingo Evening:** on Friday 25th August 2023 at 7pm. Tickets £1 each available at the back of Church.

**Mayoral Service at EMSsPP:** Roseworth councillor, Jim Beall is Stockton Mayor for this year, and he has asked us to hold his Mayor's Sunday service in English Martyrs', St Peter and Paul's Church on **Sunday July 30<sup>th</sup> at 11am**. This will be a service of readings and hymns with the theme, "The River of God- The water of Life". You are all warmly invited to attend and to share in this act of worship. I do hope many of you will come and offer a welcome to our mayor and all the visitors.

**Book Sale:** there will be a book sale at St. Joseph's, Thornton Hall on **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> July** after 10:30am Mass. Contact Pat Alderson on 01642 890421.

**PARISH FINANCES**


**New Bank Account Details:** Please make cheques payable to **DHN Stockton Our Lady of Walsingham**. If you would like to make a direct Bank transfer or set up a standing order, please contact the parish office for the new account details. Thank you.

**Offertory envelopes.**

Please contact the parish office if you would like (or no longer need) a box of envelopes, if you have changed your address or would like to sign up for Gift Aid.

**St Joseph's Refurbishment Appeal:** **£13,062 has been donated so far 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.

**Thank you:** Second collections and donations received during the quarter ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023 have recently been passed on to the following: CAFOD £289.00; Mary's Meals £67.59; Missionaries of Africa (Fr. Vincent) £4000.00; Holy Family India Project £90.00; RASPS £36.00; Lay Training fund £328.02; Holy Places £597.43; Northern Brethren Fund £788.10; Little Sisters of the Poor £100.00 and St. Cuthbert's Care £45.00 . Sincere thanks to all who donated.

 **Stockton Hope Community Larder Hardwick:** Many thanks for the generous donation of £180 for the Stockton Hope Project Community Larder and warm space received recently. This will help us continue our work for the community much appreciated by both volunteers and users. Also, thanks for all your continuing food donations. With blessings to you all from Stockton Hope Trustees & Volunteers

**The Refugee and Asylum Seeker Project, Stockton,** continue to appeal for suitcases, clothing for women, men, and especially children, bedding and all household items for their clients. Arrangements can be made if you are able to make a donation and need assistance with collection. Sincere thanks for your kindness, from all the volunteers at RASPS.

**Concert at Little Sisters of the Poor**

The Newcastle Male Chorus will be performing a Sounds of Summer Concert in the Chapel at St Joseph's Home Newcastle, (Little Sisters of the Poor) on Saturday 22nd July 2023 at 7.00pm. The concert is in aid of the work of the Little Sisters of the Poor in St Joseph's Home. Tickets are £8 (interval drink included) and are available from St Joseph's Home – 0191 2731279.

**Parish Contacts**

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

**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**.

**St. Joseph's Thornton Hall:** For any requests to book / hire the Hall please contact Philip and Cath Jackson direct on 01642 284770  
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'.

**Worldwide Church News**

**Pope Francis Monthly Intentions for July: For a Eucharistic Life**

We pray that Catholics may place the celebration of the Eucharist at the heart of their lives, transforming human relationships in a very deep way and opening to the encounter with God and all their brothers and sisters.

**Prayer and Liturgy News**

**The Prolife Rosary** is going to be said after Mass on **Thursday 20th July** at St Joseph Church Norton. Come and join us in praying for the unborn and the sanctity of life . Thank you

**Rosary Rally:** On Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> August, Minsteracres will be having a Rosary Rally starting at 10:00am. If you are interested please contact Pat Alderson on 01642 890421.

**Marian retreat at Minsteracres:** Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup>- Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023, 6:30pm-2pm) For information and bookings visit [www.minsteracres.org](http://www.minsteracres.org), or call 01434 673248, or email [info@minsteracres.org](mailto:info@minsteracres.org)

**Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies (CCRS) 2023-2024:** The Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies is managed and awarded by the Board of Religious Studies on behalf of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. The programme seeks to ensure that participants have a basic understanding of the central beliefs of the Catholic faith. This programme is available for catechists, lay leaders and other adults wishing to deepen their understanding of the Catholic faith and Catholic education, serving teachers in Catholic and other schools, and teachers in training preparing to take up posts in Catholic schools. The CCRS course programme is now available for 2023-2024 on the Diocesan website: <https://diocesehn.org.uk/education/continuing-professional-development-and-formation/#ccrs>  
If anyone would like further information, they can contact Eamonn Diffley at the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle, Department for Education on 0191 243 3313 or email [education@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:education@diocesehn.org.uk)

**Readings: 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time Year A**

**First reading**

**Isaiah 55:10-11**

Thus says the Lord: 'As the rain and the snow come down from the heavens and do not return without watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.'

**Responsorial Psalm**

**Psalm 64(65):10-14**

*R; Some seed fell into rich soil and produced its crop.*

1. You care for the earth, give it water,  
you fill it with riches.  
Your river in heaven brims over  
to provide its grain.

3. You crown the year with your goodness.  
Abundance flows in your steps,  
in the pastures of the wilderness it flows.

2. And thus you provide for the earth;  
you drench its furrows;  
you level it, soften it with showers;  
you bless its growth.

4. The hills are girded with joy,  
the meadows covered with flocks,  
the valleys are decked with wheat.  
They shout for joy, yes, they sing.

**Second reading Romans 8:18-23**

I think that what we suffer in this life can never be compared to the glory, as yet unrevealed, which is waiting for us. The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal his sons. It was not for any fault on the part of creation that it was made unable to attain its purpose, it was made so by God; but creation still retains the hope of being freed, like us, from its slavery to decadence, to enjoy the same freedom and glory as the children of God. From the beginning till now the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not only creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free.

**Gospel**

**Matthew 13:1-23**

Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but such large crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat there. The people all stood on the beach, and he told them many things in parables. He said, 'Imagine a sower going out to sow. As he sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Others fell on patches of rock where they found little soil and sprang up straight away, because there was no depth of earth; but as soon as the sun came up they were scorched and, not having any roots, they withered away. Others fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Others fell on rich soil and produced their crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Listen, anyone who has ears!' Then the disciples went up to him and asked, 'Why do you talk to them in parables?' 'Because' he replied, 'the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven are revealed to you, but they are not revealed to them. For anyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away. The reason I talk to them in parables is that they look without seeing and listen without hearing or understanding. So in their case this prophecy of Isaiah is being fulfilled: You will listen and listen again, but not understand, see and see again, but not perceive. For the heart of this nation has grown coarse, their ears are dull of hearing, and they have shut their eyes, for fear they should see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their heart, and be converted and be healed by me. 'But happy are your eyes because they see, your ears because they hear! I tell you solemnly, many prophets and holy men longed to see what you see, and never saw it; to hear what you hear, and never heard it. 'You, therefore, are to hear the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom without understanding, the evil one comes and carries off what was sown in his heart: this is the man who received the seed on the edge of the path. The one who received it on patches of rock is the man who hears the word and welcomes it at once with joy. But he has no root in him, he does not last; let some trial come, or some persecution on account of the word, and he falls away at once. The one who received the seed in thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this world and the lure of riches choke the word and so he produces nothing. And the one who received the seed in rich soil is the man who hears the word and understands it; he is the one who yields a harvest and produces now a hundredfold, now sixty, now thirty.'

**Thought for the Day**

One of the most difficult things to give away is kindness – it is usually returned. *C.Flint*