

Times of Mass, Intentions and Services

17th Sunday Ordinary Time Year A – 30th July 2023

	<u>English Martyrs and Ss Peter & Paul's</u>	<u>St Joseph's</u>	<u>St Bede's</u>	<u>Feast Days this week</u>
Sat 29th	<u>6:00pm</u> Sunday Vigil Mass Albert & Maria Fisher RIP (EF)	<u>9:30am</u> Sid Gillson RIP	—	—
Sun 30th	<u>11:00am</u> Mayor's Service	<u>10:30am</u> Patricia Kearns RIP (CK)	<u>9:00am</u> Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	17th Sunday Ordinary Time
Mon 31st	—	—	—	St Ignatius of Loyola <i>Priest</i>
Tue 1st	<u>12:30pm</u> Funeral Service Veronica (Ron) Murray RIP	—	<u>9:30am</u> Healing for Miguel (PR) <u>10:00am</u> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	St Alphonsus Liguori <i>Bishop, Doctor</i>
Wed 2nd	<u>9:30am</u> In Thanksgiving for the Work of the SVP (MS)	—	<u>13:30pm</u> Funeral Service Raymond Dowson RIP	St Peter Julian Eymard, <i>Priest</i> St Eusebius of Vercelli, <i>Bishop</i>
Thur 3rd	—	<u>9:30am</u> Marie Sayers RIP (AT) <u>12 noon</u> Requiem Mass Nancy Ansbro RIP	—	St Oswald, King, <i>Martyr</i>
Fri 4th	<u>5:00pm – 6:00pm</u> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament <u>6:00pm</u> Canon John Cooper	—	—	St John Vianney, <i>Priest</i>
Sat 5th	<u>6:00pm</u> Sunday Vigil Mass Marsden Ellis RIP (BG)	<u>9:30am</u> Healing Mass Jean Peacock RIP	—	—
Sun 6th	—	<u>10:30am</u> Betty & Jack Robson RIP (LG)	<u>9:00am</u> Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	Transfiguration of the Lord

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Thursday 3rd August
St Joseph's Legion Room
after Mass

Friday 4th August
EMSSPP Confessional
5:00pm – 5:45pm

Saturday 5th August
St Joseph's Legion Room
after 9.30am Healing Mass

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 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 July 2023

17th 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

Internet

Parish YouTube: Stockton Parish Family
Facebook page: @ParishFamilyStocktonRC
Parish website: www.parishfamilystockton.org.uk
Diocesan website: diocesehn.org.uk

Reflection 17th Sunday Ordinary Time Year A

St Matthew presents us this week with three final pictures from his collection of Jesus' images about the Christian community.

Matthew likes pairs of parables: the dragnet pairs with last week's dandelion-parable, the treasure pairs with the pearl.

The Kingdom is an exciting and unexpected treasure which can change our whole life; it's like winning the pools or the lottery – except that God's gifts change us only for the good, and fill our lives with meaning and joy.

Of course we know that God's call is demanding: you've got to pay a price for the field in which the treasure lies, or for the genuine pearl found in a junk-shop!

The very last picture - the householder bringing down different food-packets, pots and jars off the shelf - is encouraging too: some are old favourites (perhaps like the Christian values and prayers which we inherited from our families), but some add new flavours too, which we have discovered or been taught ourselves.

If we listen, the Spirit is always there to show us new ways of living out our Christian calling, revealing to us an opportunity for prayer or help or service.

This 'householder' is often thought to be Matthew's secret signature for himself: he brings out old and new in the Christian message.

How can we learn new ways of living out our Christian calling?

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 Raymond Dowson, Nancy Ansbro, Veronica (Ron) Murray, Jose Baldomero Jr. 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 flowerbeds. (A contractor is cutting the grass) 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 30th 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 after Saturday evening Mass at EMSSPP on the 5th August.

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: £13,495 has been donated towards the refurbishment works so far – as you will notice, work has begun on the interior decoration. **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.

Stockton Hope Community Larder Hardwick:

Stockton Hope would like to thank you once again for all your wonderful and generous donations of money and food you keep bringing every week. These really help us continue our work for the community and is much appreciated by both volunteers and users. 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.

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'.

Proud Catholics - Mass and Picnic: 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, 15th August**. To celebrate the Feast of the Assumption, we will join the Mass at St Andrew's at 5.30pm and then walk to nearby Leazes Park (St Andrew's Chaplaincy if bad weather) for a bring-and-share picnic. You can also join after Mass, meeting at 6.15pm outside St Andrew's, or directly in Leazes Park. Please get in touch for more information. No Zoom link on this occasion. For more information, phone Isabel on 07858 934457, email proud.catholics@yahoo.com, or visit our website <http://www.proud Catholics.co.uk>

Rainbows Bereavement Support Great Britain (GB) is a well-respected National Charity which supports Children and Young People who have experienced a significant loss through death, relationship break down or any other Adverse Childhood Experience

Volunteers are needed to join the North East Team. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer please contact Ruth Higginbottom, Rainbows North East Secretary, on 01670 518546 or rainbows.northeast@btconnect.com

SPUC: There is a petition available to sign at back of Churches or on line at www.spuc.org.uk/complicit-petition in response to coercive abortion in China.

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

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

A Liturgical Day of Reflection for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Saturday 23 September 2023: 10.30am-3.00pm: **Location:** St Joseph's, High West Street, Gateshead, NE8 1LX. Cost: £10.00 per person. Please bring a packed lunch, tea and coffee will be provided. The day will include a Mass. This Day of Reflection may be self-funded or funded by your parish. You can indicate your payment preference on the online booking form. An invoice will be sent to the payee following the event. Payments can be made by bank transfer or cheque. Booking Deadline: Monday 18 September 2023. Booking: please book your place by accessing the online form at bit.ly/LiturgyCoursesAndEvents or via the parish office.

Marian retreat at Minsteracres: Wednesday 20th- Friday 22nd September 2023, 6:30pm-2pm) For information and bookings visit www.minsteracres.org, or call 01434 673248, or email 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

17th Sunday Ordinary Time - 30th July 2023

First reading

1 Kings 3:5,7-12

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its number cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 118(119):57,72,76-77,127-130

R: Lord, how I love your law!

1. My part, I have resolved, O Lord,
is to obey your word.
The law from your mouth means more to me
than silver and gold.

2. Let your love be ready to console me
by your promise to your servant.
Let your love come and I shall live
for your law is my delight.

3. That is why I love your commands
more than finest gold,
why I rule my life by your precepts,
and hate false ways.

4. Your will is wonderful indeed;
therefore I obey it.
The unfolding of your word gives light
and teaches the simple.

Second reading

Romans 8:28-30

We know that by turning everything to their good, God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

Gospel

Matthew 13:44-52

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field. 'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it. 'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. 'Have you understood all this?' They said, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'

Thought for the Day

Don't think you are on the right road just because it is a well beaten path.