



Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2023

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

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

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The readings for this Sunday encourage us to make our relationship with God first in all we do. The Gospel is not only about a way of life founded on love and mercy, but above all about the person of Jesus himself. He emphasizes the significance of receiving and supporting those who come in his name, assuring that even the smallest acts of kindness towards his disciples will be rewarded. Jesus also instructs His disciples to take up their cross and follow Him, signifying the willingness to bear the burdens and endure hardships that come with following Christ. He also encourages his disciples to show hospitality and receive others in His name, emphasizing the importance of caring for and supporting fellow believers and those who proclaim the message of the Gospel.

**First Holy Communion ~ Congratulations** to the final group of children who are making their First Holy Communion this weekend. Thank you to Canon Cooper, Fr Ian Westby, staff of St. Patrick's School and all who prepared the Church. Please keep the children and their families in your prayers so that they may always draw close to Jesus in the Eucharist.


*Be with our children as they encounter You more deeply in the celebration of the Eucharist. For the bread that gives everlasting life so that we can love God with all our strength, we thank you Lord. For the wine that gives everlasting joy, we thank you Lord. Amen.*



**As you will have heard in my recent pastoral letter, I am initiating a "listening exercise" for the whole of our diocese** to help respond to issues raised by the recent reports, occasioned by the events surrounding the resignation of Bishop Byrne. The aim is to begin to look to the future together with healing and hope. One of the strands of the overall exercise is to listen to the thoughts and concerns for the future of you, the laity of our diocese. It is important to hear one another and to look both individually and collectively at the culture we want to build for our parish communities and this diocese.

To this end, I am convening meetings to which you are invited to generously share your wisdom, hurts and hopes. **I would like to invite you to attend a meeting on Thursday, 13th July, at English Martyrs and St. Peter & St Paul's, Stockton-on-Tees, TS19 9BY.** The meeting will begin at 7pm (prompt) and finish at 8.30pm. It will include a time for listening and discussion and a liturgy of healing for those who wish to partake. I have asked Amy Cameron from the Vicariate of Faith & Mission to co-ordinate the Listening process and I have asked Dr Karen Kilby, Bede Chair at Durham University to provide me with a summary of these meetings. I encourage you to be generous in taking part in this process to faithfully move our diocese forward under the care of our new bishop, Bishop Stephen Wright. (Most Reverend Malcolm McMahon)

**Pope's Prayer Intention 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.

13 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year			
2	Sunday	9.00am	People of our Parish
3	Monday <b>St Thomas</b>		No Mass
4	Tuesday		
5	Wednesday		
6	Thursday	6.00pm	Divine Mercy, Service of the Word & Holy Communion
7	Friday		No Mass
8	Saturday		No Mass
14 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year			
9	Sunday	9.00am	Philip Andrews
<b>Recently Deceased:</b>		Michael Williams ~ May he rest in peace. Amen	
<b>Anniversaries:</b>		Patricia Boyce, Ryszarda Okninski, Jill Bradley, Monica McShane, Evelyn Hobson	
		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 9 <sup>th</sup> July ~ John Bowron			
For Parish Centre bookings please ring Rebecca on 07514 335003			



**The Parish Shop at rear of the Church** is open every Sunday morning. Holy Communion gifts can be purchased in the Church Hall following the First Holy Communion Mass.

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**Next Sunday is Sea Sunday.** It is a day for people to come together to pray for seafarers and thank them for the vital role they play in all of our lives. **There will be a second collection** for Stella Maris.

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**This Sunday there will be a second collection for Peter's Pence.** This is to support the Holy Father's own charities and the charitable outreach of the Vatican.

**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. Please contact Karen Dick on 07759984586 if you are able to make a donation and need assistance with collection. Sincere thanks for your kindness, from all the volunteers at RASPS.

**SPUC Club Draw Result ~ 18<sup>th</sup> June, 2023: 1<sup>st</sup> Prize, No. 42, Susan Hepworth: 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize, No. 19, Christine Pope, 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize No. 36, Pat Walker.** Many thanks to all who contribute to the SPUC Club Draw, your support is greatly appreciated. If anyone would like to take a number please contact Christine Pope on 07980 290432.

**CAFOD, in partnership with The Archbishop Romero Trust,** Pilgrimage to Holy Island. Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> July. Join us as we journey to Lindisfarne to reflect and pray. 10:00am - Meet at Purdy Lodge Café, A1, and travel in convoy to Holy Island causeway. 11.30am: Meet at 1st refuge on causeway to walk and reflect on global food systems (approx. 2 hour walk). Non-walkers welcome to join service in St. Aidan's Catholic Church at 12 noon. Please bring your own lunch. 3pm: Mass in St Mary's Church: 4:30pm: Depart from Holy Island.