

## Times of Mass, Intentions and Services

### 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time Year A –24<sup>th</sup> September 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>
Sat 23rd	<u>6:00pm</u> <b>Sunday Vigil Mass</b> Colin Clamp RIP	<u>9:30am</u> Andy Hodgson RIP (JP&JL)	—	—
Sun 24th	<u>9:00am</u> Mass for the Polish Community <u>3:00pm</u> Our Lady of Walsingham Celebration with Healing and Benediction	<u>10:30am</u> Veronica Nall RIP (PK)	<u>9:00am</u> Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	25 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time
Mon 25th	—	—	—	—
Tue 26th	—	—	<u>9:30am</u> Priests Intention <u>10:00am</u> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Ss Cosmas & Damian <i>Martyrs</i>
Wed 27th	<u>9:30am</u> Margaret Bower RIP (SVP)	—	—	St Vincent de Paul <i>Priest</i>
Thur 28th	—	<u>9:30am</u> Ronnie Watson RIP (MH) <u>2:00pm – 4:00pm</u> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	—	St Wenceslas, <i>Martyr</i> St Laurence Ruiz & Companions <i>Martyrs</i>
Fri 29th	<u>5:00pm – 6:00pm</u> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament <u>6:00pm</u> Priests Intention	—	—	Ss Michael, Gabriel & Raphael Archangels
Sat 30th	<u>6:00pm</u> <b>Sunday Vigil Mass</b> Bob Lyle RIP	<u>9:30am</u> Vincent Roddam RIP (PDR)	—	—
Sun 1st	—	<u>10:30am</u> Michael Moreland RIP (EF)	<u>9:00am</u> Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	26 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September**  
**St Joseph's Legion Room**  
**after Mass**

**Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September**  
**EMSSPP Confessional**  
**5:00pm – 5:45pm**

**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> September**  
**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



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 24th September 2023**

**25<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time Year A**

### Clergy

**Parish Priest:** FrMark 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)

### Parish Contacts

**Holy Hikers:** 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](mailto: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

### Reflection 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time

It is hard not to sympathize with the workers who have sweated it out right through the day in the hot sun. The idlers who have hardly got earth on their spades or grease on their hands get a great bonus and I get no bonus at all! Is this fair? No. God is not fair.

You can't apply the concept of "fairness" to God at all. We can't enter into a reckoning with God. God does not calculate as we do. In the terms of this world, this is obvious enough. The wicked do prosper, while honesty and high moral standards, instead of being rewarded are often simply mocked.

Can we go deeper and say that the reward is in heaven? This hardly fits with the way Jesus worked here on earth. He did not reward the virtuous. He said he was the doctor who had come to the sick. His favourites were the worst of society, tax-collectors and prostitutes, not even amiable rascals. Heaven was open to anyone who accepted him.

It is no good looking for fairness in God, for this implies that we deserve something. We cannot claim to 'deserve' anything; we are simply called into a loving relationship and to put our trust in Jesus.

What does this Sunday's Gospel say about the generosity of God?


When have you experienced God's generosity, his kindness and forgiveness in your own life?

*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 Mavis Walton and all those who have died recently. May they rest in peace. Amen.

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.

**Thank you!:** Kathleen and John Morgan send grateful thanks to their kind friends who have given prayers, cards and good wishes on the occasion of their Diamond Wedding Anniversary and recent spells of poor health.

**Book Sale:** There will be a book sale after Sunday morning Mass at St Bede's on the 24<sup>th</sup> September. Proceeds to Fr Vincent.

**Red Boxes (St. Bede's and others):** The Mission Boxes are now due for collection. Could you please leave the boxes at the back of Church, or ring John Evans on 01642 895739 who will arrange collection.

**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. Please contact Karen Dick on 07759 984586 if you are able to make a donation and need assistance with collection. Sincere thanks for your kindness, from all the volunteers at RASPS.

**Our Journey in Faith Programme** will commence on Saturday 23rd September, 2pm – 3:15pm in Thornton Hall, St. Joseph's. Participants will be Baptised / Received into Full Communion with the church at Easter 2024. . **If you are not a Catholic** and are interested in learning more about the Catholic Faith please speak to Fr. Mark or contact the Parish Office and someone will contact you. **If you are already a Catholic** and would like to deepen your faith as you journey with others we would love to hear from you! Please pray for the success of the Journey in Faith.

**St. Joseph's School:** The children at St Joseph's would like to invite Parishioners to a Macmillan Coffee Morning in the school hall on **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2023, 9:15-10:30am.**

**Yarm Road Methodist Church Members,** invite you to the Final Methodist Service at Yarm Road Methodist Church. The service takes place on the 1st October. It will begin at 2.30pm and it will be followed by refreshments. All are welcome.

**St. Bede's form groups from Our Lady and St. Bede RC School** would love to invite you all to a very special Mass. The Mass will take place here in school at 2.20pm on Tuesday 26th September 2023. All of the pupils in Bede's form groups have prepared this Mass. It will include introduction, readings, reflections and bidding prayers. We would love to see as many of you as possible at this Mass and we thank you for always showing us your care and support.

**Advance Notice:** Spiritual and Pastoral Development Group meeting in EMSSPP Hall at **7pm on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> October.** Please note your diaries.

**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 September:

For people living on the margins: We pray for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions; may they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance.

Two Feasts of Our Lady – celebrations at EMSSPP



**Our Lady of Walsingham** Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> September 3pm  
Service of Healing, Exposition and Benediction. Sacrament of the Sick and opportunity to receive water from Lourdes  
Followed by a shared table in the Hall – launch of the Walsingham Pilgrimage June 7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> 2024.

**Our Lady of the Rosary** Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October – following 6pm Mass we will celebrate the many cultures who worship in our parish. Mass will be followed by a social with multicultural food and live music. There will be a charity collection of toiletries for the Apostleship of the Sea.

Prayer and Liturgy News

**A Eucharistic Ministers Day of Reflection for our Parish:** at St. Joseph's, Norton on **Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October** from 10:00am until 12 noon. Lunch will be provided afterwards, so **please register with the Parish Office** so that we can cater accordingly.

**New Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion Course:** The help provided by these ministers in distributing Communion in Church and taking the Blessed Sacrament to the Sick is of great importance in the life our parishes.

**The programme consists of three sessions: Venue:** St Joseph's, St Paul's Road, Hartlepool, TS26 9EY

**Session 1:** Tuesday 3 October (Evening session) 7.00 - 9.00pm **Session 2:** Tuesday 10 October (Evening session) 7.00 - 9.00pm

**Session 3:** Saturday 28 October (Day session) 10.30am – 4.00pm (arrivals and registration from 10.00am)\* \*Participants to bring their own packed lunch for the day event - tea and coffee provided NB: The Saturday session ends with a Mass of Commissioning at 3.00pm **If you would like to come along, please speak to Fr Mark or contact the Parish Office. Booking deadline Tuesday 26 September.**

**A Liturgical Day of Reflection for Liturgical Leaders of the Celebration:**

**Date:** Saturday 7 October 2023 **Times:** 10.30am-3.00pm - arrivals, registration and refreshments from 10.00am**Location:** St Joseph's, High West Street, Gateshead, NE8 1LX **Catering:** Please bring a packed lunch, tea and coffee will be provided. The day will include a Mass. **Book via the Parish Office - Deadline 02nd October.**

**Bidding Prayers from some Year 11 pupils wrote for the Earthquake in Morocco and the flood in Syria.**

We pray for the people of Morocco; may they find safety during this very scary time. May the aid that they need from other countries begin to arrive such as food, water, shelter and medical supplies.

Lord, in your mercy: Hear our prayer.

We pray for those who have lost family members and friends in the flooding in Syria. May they also receive the much-needed aid from the international communities around the world. We pray that both countries may be able to rebuild after such devastation. We ask you Lord to be close to them.

Lord, in your mercy: Hear our prayer.

As year eleven form groups we pray for our upcoming exams. Help us all to work hard, to aspire to be the best that we can be and to be thankful for all of the opportunities we receive from our amazing teachers and staff.

Lord, in your mercy: Hear our prayer.

We pray for peace in our troubled world and also within our local community.

Lord, in your mercy: Hear our prayer.

**Rosary Rally Saturday 7 October 2023:** A Rosary procession will be begin at St Joseph's Church, Gateshead going to Northumberland Street, Newcastle followed by public Rosary. The day will start with First Saturday Mass and devotions at 11.00am at St Joseph's, High West Street, Gateshead, then the Marian procession will start with a statue of Our Lady from the church at 12.30pm, walking over the Tyne Bridge before assembling in Northumberland Street to pray the Rosary starting at 1.15pm.All are welcome and anyone can join at any stage of the event.

**STOLEN LIVES AND A LAY-LED SYNODAL ASSEMBLY on HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE EMERGING CATHOLIC CHURCH:** A ground-breaking Lay-led Synodal Assembly on 8-14 October 2023, with 100+ Voices, worldwide, telling it like it really is. Look out for our content relating to church-based abuse!! The content 8-12 October is all on line from our YouTube channel. That's where 'Shaking the Tree' will take place. Tickets are £55 or £24 for unwaged people. On 13th and 14th October people have the option to attend either online or in person. For this option tickets for the whole event are priced at £88 for Rome and £77 for people who come to Bristol. Tom Doyle and Doris Reisinger as keynote speakers! 13 and14 October. Amazing survivors, activists and academics from around the world 'Shaking the Tree'. From Silence to Speech. Our speakers and storytellers on-line 8-12 October include:

- \* Hille Haker, Chicago moving talk about the journey from being silenced as a victim to telling one's story, including her own journey and its impact.
- \* Maggie Mathews at Stephen Wright's installation and the reaction of Fr John, from Leicester in a challenge to his parish to be allies-supporters.
- \* The experience of black clerical abuse survivors in the USA, Bryan Massingdale SJ, Professor, Fordham University
- \* Sr Dr Josee Ngulula's cutting-edge research: Women religious and their experience of clerical sexual violence in Africa.
- \* Brian Devlin and others -'It happens to priests too'. Scotland, USA and Papua New Guinea.
- \* The story of women fighting for their rights in Lebanon'- our good friend Huda Khoury and others.
- \* The abuse of women religious in Africa and Asia, Kochurani Abraham
- \* Des Kelly, Australia - the difference that public enquiries can make
- \* Prof Linda Woodhead talking about the weapons and armour that clerical abusers use to groom and abuse
- \* Antonia Sobocki with our LOUDFence!

We're delighted that Bishop Stephen from Hexham & Newcastle has already agreed to do this! I really hope that some of you will join us! We have tickets online only at £55, Online and at Bristol, on 13 and 14 October. Come and network with each other and activists. See you there!

**Children's Liturgy of the Word Autumn Programme for those serving and those who are interested in serving in this ministry.** The Church makes especial provision for helping children at Mass. On Sunday if sufficient numbers of children are present they can share in a form of the Liturgy of the Word shaped to their needs and understanding. It is wonderful ways of helping the young grow in their knowledge of the Gospel and the message of Jesus Chri

st. Lay people lead these young Christians in listening and responding to the Word of God and help to discover what the Lord is saying to us. The Church provides principles and guidelines to help adults in this great work. In our Diocese we are offering an opportunity for those who are new to this ministry (and anyone who would like a refresher).

There will be two sessions looking at principles, practicalities and resources for Children's Liturgy of the Word. The programme ends with a Blessing and participants will receive a Certificate recognising their training. **The programme consists of two sessions:** Session 1 Monday 30 October, 7.00 – 9.00pm Session 2 Monday 6 November, 7.00 – 9.00pm **Venue:** Saint Hilda's Resource Centre, West Road, Newcastle upon Tyne NE15 7PY **Cost:** £10.00 per participant (invoiced via your parish following the event). **Booking Deadline: Monday 23 October 2023** **If you would like to come along, please contact the Parish Office.**

**Prolife Holy Hour** is taking place on Thursday 28th September at 6pm at St Patrick Fairfield, please come and join us to pray for the unborn and the sanctity of life. Adoration and Rosary

**Vacancies:** The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle has the following job vacancies:  
**Dept. for Education** Senior Administrator – Full-time, permanent. Closing date: 2 October  
Primary Adviser – RE and Catholic Ethos – Full time, term-time. Closing date: 5 October  
Secondary Adviser – RE and Catholic Ethos – Part-time, term-time. Secondment may be considered. Closing date: 5 October.  
All roles based in the Diocesan Offices in Newcastle. Please visit www.diocesehn.org.uk for full details or contact us on 0191 243 3301.

25<sup>th</sup>Sunday Ordinary Time Year A

**First Reading** **Isaiah 55:6-9**  
Seek the Lord while he is still to be found, call to him while he is still near. Let the wicked man abandon his way, the evil man his thoughts .Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him, to our God who is rich in forgiving; for my thoughts are not your thoughts, my ways not your ways – It is the Lord who speaks. Yes, the heavens are as high above earth as my ways are above your ways, my thoughts above your thoughts.

**Responsorial Psalm** **Psalm 144(145):2-3,8-9,17-18**  
**R: The Lord is close to all who call him.**

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| 1. I will bless you day after day and praise your name for ever.<br>The Lord is great, highly to be praised, his greatness cannot be measured. | 2.The Lord is kind and full of compassion, slow to anger, abounding in love.<br>How good is the Lord to all, compassionate to all his creatures. | 3.The Lord is just in all his ways and loving in all his deeds.<br>He is close to all who call him, who call on him from their hearts. |
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**Second Reading** **Philippians 1:20-24,27**  
Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life or by my death. Life to me, of course, is Christ, but then death would bring me something more; but then again, if living in this body means doing work which is having good results – I do not know what I should choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone and be with Christ, which would be very much the better, but for me to stay alive in this body is a more urgent need for your sake .Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

**Gospel** **Matthew 20:1-16**  
Jesus said to his disciples: ‘The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out at about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, “You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage.” So they went. At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, “Why have you been standing here idle all day?” “Because no one has hired us” they answered. He said to them, “You go into my vineyard too.” In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, “Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first.” So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. “The men who came last” they said “have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day’s work in all the heat.” He answered one of them and said, “My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?” Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.’

Thought for the Day

Take good care of time, how you spend it, for nothing is more precious than time. In one little moment, short as it is heaven may be won or lost  
**Julian of Norwich**