

Times of Mass, Intentions and Services

28th Sunday Ordinary Time Year A – 15th October 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 14th	6:00pm Sunday Vigil Mass Valerie & Marsden Ellis RIP (BG)	9:30am Priests Intention	—	—
Sun 15th	—	10:30am Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	9:00am Joan Ayre RIP & Jack & Ann Riddle RIP (TA)	28th Sunday Ordinary Time
Mon 16th	—	—	—	St Hedwig, <i>Religious</i> St Margaret Mary Alacoque, <i>Virgin</i>
Tue 17th	—	—	9:30am Priests Intention 10:00am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	St Ignatius of Antioch <i>Bishop, Martyr</i>
Wed 18th	9:30am Birthday Greetings Billy, Joan, Mary & Arthur	—	—	St Luke Evangelist
Thur 19th	—	9:30am Bill Chawlk RIP (WJ) 10:30am Funeral Service Bernard Mahoney RIP 2:00pm – 4:00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	—	Ss John de Brébeuf, <i>Priest</i> , Isaac Jogues, <i>Priest &</i> Companions, <i>Martyrs</i> St Paul of the Cross, <i>Priest</i>
Fri 20th	5:00pm – 6:00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 6:00pm Mavis Walton RIP (J&KJ)	—	—	—
Sat 21st	6:00pm Sunday Vigil Mass Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	9:30am Brian Armstrong RIP (PDR)	—	—
Sun 22nd	9:00am Mass for the Polish Community	10:30am Thanksgiving Colum & MacGloin Families (BM)	9:00am Priests Intention	29th Sunday Ordinary Time

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Thursday 19th October
St Joseph's Legion Room
after Mass

Friday 20th October
EMSSPP Confessional
5:00pm – 5:45pm

Saturday 21st October
EMSSPP Confessional
5:00pm – 5:45pm

Or by Appointment – call 01642 806469

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 15th October 2023

28th 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

Parish Contacts

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

Reflection 28th Sunday Ordinary Time

A wedding is a time of joy and of completion after long preparation, a time of love and of complete satisfaction. In Judaism at the time of Jesus, the coming of the Messiah is often compared to the joy of a wedding-feast.

The marriage-feast at Cana must have been some party! At Mary's request Jesus produced 900 litres of wine.

The Letter to the Ephesians teaches that the love in a human wedding is only a foretaste of Christ's love for his bride, the Church.

In the story of the royal wedding in this Sunday's Gospel, however, two things go drastically wrong. First, the original wedding guests refuse to come. Not only do they refuse, but they brutally maltreat the innocent messengers, and the king (who must represent God) ruthlessly burns down their city. Secondly, the man who has no wedding-garment is thrown out: a wedding-garment is a standard Jewish image for works of generosity expected of every faithful Jew.

For us Christians too, the story constitutes a double warning.

Are we alert and listening for God's call?


Do we rest secure in being called Christians and leave the challenging jobs to others?

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 Tony Coleman, Bernard Mahoney 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.

Next Sunday is World Mission Sunday, when the Holy Father invites all Catholics to contribute to a special collection for Missio, his charity for world mission. Please support Missio in helping missionaries to work alongside communities throughout the world that are poor or in need, regardless of their background or belief. Join in on this special day, that unites Catholics all over the world in prayer and celebration of our Church's mission to share God's love with all people. Please call 020 7821 9755 or visit Missio's website to give a single gift, set up a direct debit and Gift Aid your donation if possible: missio.org.uk

Readers Lists for EMSSPP are now available in church.

Thank you: Second collections and donations received during the quarter ended September 2023 have been passed on to the following: Peter's Pence £423.50; Stella Maris £1,335.33; Evangelii Gaudium (formerly Home Mission) £372.59; Mary's Meals £40; Fr Vincent £460; Holy Family India Project £90; RASPS £140. Sincere thanks to all who donated.

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.

News from Uganda In his recent email Fr. Vincent says “Since I was stung in my ears, my hearing took time to get back to normal. Now all is ok. The rains have started and I am using funds you sent to buy good quality seed for the people. The biggest concern here is food so I encourage all to be on the farms and work. I have also lobbied the authorities to stock more snake bite medicine because when it rains and the people go to their farms they always meet the snakes. I attended to three cases of snake bites last week.” *(Fr. Vincent uses his truck to take people to the nearest hospital).* **Please pray for Father and his parishioners.**

Holy Hikers are having a Social Evening on Saturday 21st October beginning at 7:00pm in St Joseph's Thornton Hall. All welcome.

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

Advance Notice: Fr Stephen Kimani from St. Patrick's Missionary Society will be visiting our parish on the weekend of **28th & 29th October** to appeal for support with their work.

Music For the Mind: sessions are being held
• every Wednesday at Grays Institute, Grays Road, Stockton TS18 4LN 11:00am - 12:30pm £5 includes tea/biscuits/fruit
• on the 2nd Monday of the month at St Mary's Cathedral, Coulby Newham TS8 0TW 2pm for tea & cakes; 2:30pm - 3:30pm Singing

Fairtrade Popup Shop at St Joseph's on **Sunday 12th November** 10.00 to 12.30. Thornton Hall selling household goods, food, chocolate, jewellery, gifts and a range of Christmas items. Spend your money on lovely things and support producers to receive a fair price for all their efforts.

Autumn Fair: Saturday 18th November 10am – 12noon at St John's church, Durham Road. Various stalls, cakes, teas, tombola. Entrance free – all welcome.

St Bede's Christmas Coffee / Bingo Evening: on **Friday 1st December 2023** at 7pm. Tickets £1 each available at the back of Church. **Donations of any raffle prizes will be gratefully received.**

Significance Grand Draw Fr Dermott Donnelly, Director of Youth Services in our Diocese until his death in July 2022, founded the charity 'Significance' to enable young people to become all that God has created them to be. Significance has recently launched a fundraising appeal including a Grand Draw: First prize is 2 tickets for a live TV show in 2024 plus Meet and Greet with Ant and Dec, first class LNER travel and overnight stay in a London hotel (there are two first prizes); and there are other exciting prizes. Each ticket costs £5 and the aim is to raise £20,000 by selling 800 books x 5 tickets. The draw will take place on Youth Sunday 26th November 2023. Please support by buying a ticket or taking a book to sell. Raffle tickets can be sent to you by contacting Mary Hughes at significance316@gmail.com

Vacancies Our Lady and St. Bede School are looking for invigilators for the upcoming exams. Working as part of a team, invigilators contribute to ensuring a calm environment for the exams, giving candidate's confidence in the process. The public examination period is May and June; however, Invigilators will be required to attend during the year for training and to assist with internal exams. Readers/Scribes are required to support individual students by reading aloud and/or transcribing verbal answers to examination questions. If anyone would be interested in this role, could you, please email gilrainej@olsb.bhcet.org.uk or call school for further information.

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 October: For the Synod
We pray for the Church, that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle at every level, and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the peripheries of the world.

Prayer and Liturgy News

Rosary Workshop at St Joseph's School Norton We would like to invite our parishioners to our Rosary Workshop for families in our school hall. Our EY and KS1 workshop will be hosted on Monday 16th October at 3.30pm and our KS2 Workshop will be held on Tuesday 17th October at 3.30pm. Please contact the school office if you would like to reserve a place 01642 360401 office@stjosephsnorton.bhcet.org.uk.

OLSB Mass: St. Cuthbert'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 Wednesday 18th October 2023. All of the pupils in St. Cuthbert's form groups have prepared this Mass. It will include introduction, readings, reflections and bidding prayers. Our school Praise and Worship group will be leading the music and Fr. Ollie will be celebrating the Mass. 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.

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 Christ. 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.**

Our Parish Journey in Faith Programme is underway – meetings are held on Saturday afternoons, 2pm – 3:15pm in Thornton Hall, St. Joseph's (until 9th December). 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 the Parish Office and someone from the programme 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

Proud Catholics - Christ on the Margins: Jesus in the Gospel of Luke: 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, 17th October, at 7.30pm. Fr Dermot Preston SJ will join us to speak on what the Gospel according to Luke says about Jesus and "outsiders". It will be possible to connect by Zoom. Please get in touch for the link. For more information, phone Isabel on 07858 934457, email proud.catholics@yahoo.com, or visit our website <https://www.proud Catholics.co.uk/>

Readings 28th Sunday Ordinary Time

First reading **Isaiah 25:6-10**
On this mountain, the Lord of hosts will prepare for all peoples a banquet of rich food, a banquet of fine wines, of food rich and juicy, of fine strained wines. On this mountain he will remove the mourning veil covering all peoples, and the shroud enwrapping all nations, he will destroy Death for ever. The Lord will wipe away the tears from every cheek; he will take away his people's shame everywhere on earth, for the Lord has said so. That day, it will be said: See, this is our God in whom we hoped for salvation; the Lord is the one in whom we hoped. We exult and we rejoice that he has saved us; for the hand of the Lord rests on this mountain.

Responsorial Psalm **Psalm 22(23)**

R: In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit.

He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff; with these you give me comfort

You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing.

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever.

Second reading **Philippians 4:12-14,19-20**
I know how to be poor and I know how to be rich too. I have been through my initiation and now I am ready for anything anywhere: full stomach or empty stomach, poverty or plenty. There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the One who gives me strength. All the same, it was good of you to share with me in my hardships. In return my God will fulfil all your needs, in Christ Jesus, as lavishly as only God can. Glory to God, our Father, for ever and ever. Amen.

Gospel **Matthew 22:1-14**

Jesus began to speak to the chief priests and elders of the people in parables: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a feast for his son's wedding. He sent his servants to call those who had been invited, but they would not come. Next he sent some more servants. "Tell those who have been invited" he said "that I have my banquet all prepared, my oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, everything is ready. Come to the wedding." But they were not interested: one went off to his farm, another to his business, and the rest seized his servants, maltreated them and killed them. The king was furious. He despatched his troops, destroyed those murderers and burnt their town. Then he said to his servants, "The wedding is ready; but as those who were invited proved to be unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town and invite everyone you can find to the wedding." So these servants went out on to the roads and collected together everyone they could find, bad and good alike; and the wedding hall was filled with guests. When the king came in to look at the guests he noticed one man who was not wearing a wedding garment, and said to him, "How did you get in here, my friend, without a wedding garment?" And the man was silent. Then the king said to the attendants, "Bind him hand and foot and throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth." For many are called, but few are chosen.'

Thought for the Day

Evangelisation begins with a smile.

St Teresa of Calcutta