



Sunday 8th October 2023

St. Patrick's R.C. Church

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

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This Sunday's gospel tells us that the Kingdom of God is a gift, we need to accept Christ in our lives so that our heavenly Father can reserve a place for us in that Kingdom. The cornerstone of the Christian way of life is love. Every one of us has been given a vineyard by God, our families, our communities, our work and our church, they are all parts of our vineyard. Each of us is a tenant, looking after a small portion and when harvest time arrives we are expected to produce a crop of caring and sharing by the way we show love to those with whom we share our lives. The parable invites us to turn to Christ again and challenges us to keep working steadily in God's service.

Prisoners' Sunday . . . This Sunday marks the first day of the ecumenical Prisons Week, a week of prayer which raises awareness of issues faced by those affected by the criminal justice system. It is a day to direct our thoughts and prayers to prisoners and their families. PACT, the Prison Advice and Care Trust is the national Catholic charity supporting prisoners and their families, and works in many of the prisons and in the community. Prisoners' Sunday is the time to reflect on how we as individuals, as a Church and as a community are serving those affected by imprisonment. To donate to PACT please visit www.prisonadvice.org.uk/prisonersunday

Lord, you offer freedom to all people. We pray for those in prison and their families and those who have been the victims of crime. We commend to you all who work or volunteer in courts, prisons and communities. May they know your presence with them as they work and may their efforts inspire us to share your love ever more widely. Amen.

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.

St. Patrick's Men's Club Event . . The Parish Men's Club invite you to enjoy the 'Sounds of the Sixties' with the Persuaders in the Parish Hall on Sat 14th October, 8-11pm. Bring your own food and drink, contact Ken Marr to book (01642 602336) tickets £6. **Future events for your diaries:** Saturday 25th November – Striking Back: Saturday 16th December - Christmas Dance with Mosaic.



The Newman Association Cleveland Circle ~ 'Do we still have Prophets today?' The next talk is on **Wednesday 18th October**. The speaker is Austin McCarthy who helped to set up a study group on Catholic Social Teaching in the Hexham and Newcastle Diocese. The whole point of prophecy is that God is speaking to his children, and what God says is always true for everybody, not just one religion. He speaks to and through people of every nation and generation who are open to his grace. It is Catholic teaching that anyone can receive gifts of God, as his Spirit blows where it will. All talks are at St Mary's Cathedral Hall TS8 0TW. Light refreshment 7.30pm for 7.45pm start.

| 27th Sunday of the Year | | | |
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| 8 | Sunday | 9.00am | John Hill |
| 9 | Monday | 10.00am | Requiem Mass ~ Barry Holliday |
| 10 | Tuesday | | |
| 11 | Wednesday | | |
| 12 | Thursday | 6.00pm | Rosary & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament |
| 13 | Friday | | No Mass |
| 14 | Saturday | | No Mass |
| 28th Sunday of the Year | | | |
| 15 | Sunday | 9.00am | People of our Parish |
| Anniversaries: | | Clifford Brown, Robert Parkinson | |
|  | | 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, Samuel Kiberu, Betty Kimmins | |
| Reader for Sunday 15th October ~ Catherine Dixon Barker | | | |
| For Parish Centre bookings please ring Rebecca on 07514 335003 | | | |
| Feast Days: 9th Oct. St John Henry Newman: 10th Oct. St. Paulinus of York: 12th Oct. St. Wilfrid | | | |



Lord, help me to spread your fragrance wherever I go. Flood my soul with your spirit and life. Penetrate and possess my whole being so utterly that all my life may only be a radiance of yours. Shine through me, and be so in me that every soul I come in contact with may feel your presence in my soul. Amen. (Extract from a prayer written by St John Henry Newman)

There will be a second collection this Sunday after Mass for the return of the CAFOD Family Fast Day envelopes. Thank you for your generosity.

Third World Group Emergency Disaster Appeal. All donations placed in the Third World box at back of church until the end of October will be sent to CAFOD for the Emergency disaster appeal for Morocco and Libya.

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.

Autumn Concert . . . On Saturday 21st October there will be an Autumn Concert at St. Mary's Cathedral, Coulby Newham. Starting at 7pm, tickets £7 (accompanied children free), to include either a glass of wine or soft drink. It will feature Cathedral musicians along with professional singers and instrumentalists in a mix of music ranging from pop, through folk, to extracts from Mozart's opera 'The Magic Flute.' Come along and enjoy an evening of music and fellowship. Tel. 01642 597750 to purchase tickets.

The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle has the following vacancy: Administrator, Department for Education. Full time, permanent. Closing date 10th October, 2023. Please visit diocesehn.org.uk.