

Times of Mass, Intentions and Services

32nd Sunday Ordinary Time Year A –12th November 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 11th	6:00pm Sunday Vigil Mass Deceased Members of Chapman & Harrington Families RIP (AC)	9:30am Charles & Veronica Burlinson RIP (CB)	—	—
Sun 12th	9:00am Mass for the Polish Community	10:30am Eileen Reay RIP (PM)	9:00am Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	32nd Sunday Ordinary Time
Mon 13th	—	—	—	—
Tue 14th	—	11:00am Requiem Mass Lillian Greenwell-Bliss RIP	9:30am Margaret Pinder RIP (MP) 10:00am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	—
Wed 15th	9:30am Sheila Masterman RIP (JV)	—	—	St Albert the Great <i>Bishop, Doctor</i>
Thur 16th	—	9:30am Edward McVay RIP (MM) 2:00pm –4:00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	—	St Edmund of Abingdon, <i>Bishop</i> St Margaret of Scotland
Fri 17th	11:15am Funeral Service Colin Walters RIP 5:00pm – 6:00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 6:00pm Anne & Bill Foley RIP (MF)	—	—	St Hilda of Whitby <i>Abbess</i>
Sat 18th	6:00pm Sunday Vigil Mass Valerie Ellis RIP (BG)	9:30am Thanksgiving for passing exams (AA&SS)	—	—
Sun 19th	—	10:30am Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	9:00am Margaret Webber RIP (TA)	33rd Sunday Ordinary Time

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Thursday 16^h November
St Joseph's Legion Room after Mass

Friday 17th November
EMSSPP Confessional
5:00pm – 5:45pm

Saturday 18th November
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

PARISH NEWSLETTER

Sunday 12th November 2023

32nd 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 32nd Sunday Ordinary Time

Of course they weren't bridesmaids! According to the custom of the time the girls were attendant on the bridegroom, to greet him with their lamps as he arrived at the wedding-reception. Anyway, half of them weren't ready, let him down, and then found themselves shut out.

There is a subtle difference between the parables given in Mark's and Matthew's gospels. In Mark they are all about the sudden coming of God's Kingship in history, at the time of Jesus. Jesus proclaimed that the crisis was now. In him God's reign had arrived: it was time to take drastic action. Matthew's parables take a longer-term view: there will be a final judgment at the end of time, for which we, in the Church and in the course of history, must prepare. Some will and some won't. Some will be found to be wheat, others to be weeds. When the catch of fish comes in, some fish will be thrown away, some kept. Some will be sheep and others goats.

Each year, as the liturgical year draws to a close, the Church reminds us of this. And the End will be sudden and unpredictable, like a burglar on the one night I forgot to lock the door, or like a mouse-trap snapping shut, or like the unpredictable moment of birth pangs.

Am I ready for the coming of Christ?

What does it mean to be like the wise bridesmaids and have oil in my lamp?


Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB, from Wednesday Word

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 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 Lilian Greenwell-Bliss, Colin Walters 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.

Clergy Training Fund. The collection will remain open for donations until **26th November.**

Thank you: for your warm welcome and generous support for Fr Stephen of St. Patrick's Missionary Society on his recent visit to our parish. In total over **£1,100** has been donated.

Roseworth Community Garden is looking for people with DIY skills to help them build a polytunnel and shed on their site at Hope Community Church on Ragpath Lane. They meet every Tuesday from 1.00-3.00pm. Tools can be provided. Just turn up or for more information contact Holly Goodfellow at hollygoodfellow@teeswildlife.org More volunteers needed in the spring to help with planting vegetables.

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.

Homes for Ukraine Matching Service: Caritas Social action Network, in partnership with St John of God Hospitaller Services, an international Catholic charity with many services for the vulnerable in the UK and Ireland, are matching Ukrainian people displaced by the brutal war with people in the Catholic community willing to host them in their homes for six months. If you have room in your home and in your heart to consider welcoming a stranger displaced by war, then we'd love to hear from you. Please visit <https://sjog-homesforukraine.uk/> for more information.

Invitation to Christmas tea party

Following the success of the January and summer parties **the SVP is holding a tea party for our senior parishioners from all three churches.** It is **on December 9th in Thornton Hall at St. Joseph's at 2pm.** Numbers are limited to 50 so if you would like to attend please **let us know by November 28th** to allow us to book catering. We can arrange transport if it is needed. Please leave completed forms either with an SVP member, at the back of church or contact the SVP members via the numbers on the parish newsletter.

News from Uganda: Fr. Vincent says many people come to him for help with paying school fees for their children as well as for books and study items. Fees have to be paid each term so that children can attend school. Father has bought books and pens to give to the poorest. He says 'Many are so very poor that they cannot even afford a book. All the resources they have are used to feed their families'. *Please pray for Fr. Vincent as he tries to meet the needs of his people.*

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 **Singing**, tea & cakes; 2:30pm - 3:30pm

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.**

Bella Canta Ladies Choir Concert Friday 8th December 7.30pm at St Joseph's: Be superbly entertained with a Christmas programme, including Fr Mark's by special request 'Ave Maria'. Free entry. Donations to the Norton based Headlight Project charity which aims to reduce the number of deaths due to suicide in the Teesside area.

SIGNIFICANCE GRAND DRAW: Significance, the charity founded by Fr Dermott Donnelly, supports the work of the Emmaus Village and provides opportunities for young people to reach their full potential. Thank you to all who have supported the Significance Grand Draw which closes on **Friday 17th November.** All ticket stubs and payment should be returned by this date to Significance, Emmaus Village, Pemberton Road, Allensford, Consett DH8 9BA. Cheques payable to Significance. Payment can also be made by bank transfer: Significance Sort Code: 52-30-44 Account Number: 46107363. Please put your name as reference. The Draw, which will be live streamed, takes place on Youth Sunday 26th November after 11am Mass at St Peter's, Low Fell, Gateshead. Please contact significance316@gmail.com for further information.

Little Sisters of the Poor – Christmas Fayre The Little Sisters of the Poor are having a Christmas Fayre at St Joseph's Home, Westmorland Road, Newcastle at 1pm-4pm on Saturday 25th November. All are welcome to attend.

Roseworth Big Local Advice Service – in partnership with Citizens Advice, Roseworth Big Local has set up a new advice service to give **free specialist and independent advice** on benefits, grants, debts, finances, housing, energy costs, employment problems and much more. This can be arranged locally rather than travelling into town – call 01642 626135 to arrange an appointment. See leaflets in church for more information.

A Night of Live Music and Entertainment at the Billingham Catholic club with the 'Pocket Jazz Orchestra' and guests. **Tuesday 21st November at 7:30pm.** We are raising funds for the SVP to help those in need in our local community. Tickets (£5) from Bill Scott Tel 07757 062798.

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'.

Invitation from the Sacred Heart Sisters in Fenham: The Society of the Sacred Heart has spent the last year giving thanks and celebrating their arrival in England on December 8th, 1842. This year the celebration of our 180 years in this country draws to a close on December 8th, 2023. We, the sisters in Fenham, would like to invite those who have shared our mission of Education in Fenham over the years as students, pupils, staff and friends from the Sacred Heart schools or St Mary's Teacher Training College to join us for Mass in St Robert's Church, Bolbec Rd, Fenham at 6.p.m. on that day. Come along and meet old friends. Bishop Seamus will be the celebrant as he was the College Chaplain for many years.
To have some idea of numbers for the Mass leaflets please RSVP to rscjfenham@yahoo.com by November 30th or leave a message on 0191 422 3840

Worldwide Church News

Pope Francis Monthly Intentions November: For the Pope

We pray for the Holy Father; as he fulfils his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

Prayer and Liturgy News

English Martyrs 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 15th November 2023.** All of the pupils in English Martyrs 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. Mark 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.

2022 / 2023 REMEMBRANCE SERVICE: The Parishes of St. Bede, English Martyrs and Ss Peter & Paul and St. Joseph Remembrance Service for our deceased relatives and friends will be held at **English Martyrs & SS Peter & Paul Church on Tuesday 28th November at 7:00 pm.** Everyone is welcome. Memorial cards are available at the back of Church for you to complete and place in the basket. These will be brought to the altar during the service.

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 - Reading with Care: Perspectives on the Bible: 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, 21st November, at 7.30pm.** We will examine some of the Biblical texts which are used against LGBTQ+ people, considering whether alternative interpretations are possible. Zoom link available, get in touch if interested. This will be followed by our usual social time and bring-and-share refreshments. For more information, phone Isabel on 07858 934457, email proud.catholics@yahoo.com, or visit our website <https://www.proud Catholics.co.uk/>

Readings 32nd Sunday Ordinary Time Year A

First Reading **Wisdom 6:12-16**

Wisdom is bright, and does not grow dim. By those who love her she is readily seen, and found by those who look for her. Quick to anticipate those who desire her, she makes herself known to them. Watch for her early and you will have no trouble; you will find her sitting at your gates. Even to think about her is understanding fully grown; be on the alert for her and anxiety will quickly leave you. She herself walks about looking for those who are worthy of her and graciously shows herself to them as they go, in every thought of theirs coming to meet them.

Responsorial Psalm **Psalm 62(63):2-8**

R: For you my soul is thirsting, O God, my God.

1. O God, you are my God, for you I long;
for you my soul is thirsting.
My body pines for you
like a dry, weary land without water.

3. So I will bless you all my life,
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
my mouth shall praise you with joy.

Second Reading **1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**

We want you to be quite certain, brothers, about those who have died, to make sure that you do not grieve about them, like the other people who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and that it will be the same for those who have died in Jesus: God will bring them with him. We can tell you this from the Lord's own teaching, that any of us who are left alive until the Lord's coming will not have any advantage over those who have died. At the trumpet of God, the voice of the archangel will call out the command and the Lord himself will come down from heaven; those who have died in Christ will be the first to rise, and then those of us who are still alive will be taken up in the clouds, together with them; to meet the Lord in the air. So we shall stay with the Lord for ever. With such thoughts as these you should comfort one another.

Gospel **Matthew 25:1-13**

Jesus told this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven will be like this: Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were sensible: the foolish ones did take their lamps, but they brought no oil, whereas the sensible ones took flasks of oil as well as their lamps. The bridegroom was late, and they all grew drowsy and fell asleep. But at midnight there was a cry, "The bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him." At this, all those bridesmaids woke up and trimmed their lamps, and the foolish ones said to the sensible ones, "Give us some of your oil: our lamps are going out." But they replied, "There may not be enough for us and for you; you had better go to those who sell it and buy some for yourselves." They had gone off to buy it when the bridegroom arrived. Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding hall and the door was closed. The other bridesmaids arrived later. "Lord, Lord," they said "open the door for us." But he replied, "I tell you solemnly, I do not know you." So stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour.'

Thought for the Day

If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together. **African Proverb**