

## Times of Mass, Intentions and Services

### 33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time Year A – 19<sup>th</sup> November 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>
<b>Sat 18th</b>	<b><u>6:00pm</u></b> <b><u>Sunday Vigil Mass</u></b> Valerie Ellis RIP (BG)	<b><u>9:30am</u></b> Thanksgiving for passing exams (AA&SS)	—	—
<b>Sun 19th</b>	—	<b><u>10:30am</u></b> Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	<b><u>9:00am</u></b> Margaret Webber RIP (TA)	<b>33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time</b>
<b>Mon 20th</b>	—	—	—	St Edmund <i>King, Martyr</i>
<b>Tue 21st</b>	—	—	<b><u>9:30am</u></b> Don & Betty Wallace RIP (AF)  <b><u>10:00am</u></b> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
<b>Wed 22nd</b>	<b><u>9:30am</u></b> Pat Lyle Birthday	—	—	St Cecilia <i>Virgin, Martyr</i>
<b>Thur 23rd</b>	—	<b><u>9:30am</u></b> Maureen Bailey RIP (MH)  <b><u>2:00pm – 4:00pm</u></b> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	—	St Clement I <i>Pope, Martyr</i>  St Columban, <i>Abbot</i>
<b>Fri 24th</b>	<b><u>5:00pm – 6:00pm</u></b> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament  <b><u>6:00pm</u></b> Angela Armstrong RIP (M&A)	—	—	St Andrew Dung-Lac & Companions, <i>Martyrs</i>
<b>Sat 25th</b>	<b><u>6:00pm</u></b> <b><u>Sunday Vigil Mass</u></b> Dennis Jenkins RIP (CJ)	<b><u>9:30am</u></b> Intention of Phyl Morgan (SVP)	—	—
<b>Sun 26th</b>	<b><u>9:00am</u></b> Mass for the Polish Community	<b><u>10:30am</u></b> Deceased Members of St. Joseph's Friendship Group RIP	<b><u>9:00am</u></b> Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	<b>Christ the King</b>

### **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

**Thursday 23rd November**  
**St Joseph's Legion Room**  
**after Mass**

**Friday 24th November**  
**EMSSPP Confessional**  
**5:00pm – 5:45pm**

**Saturday 25th November**  
**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 19<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

**33<sup>rd</sup> 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](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**

**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 33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time**

It is encouraging to think of all the talents which friends and neighbours have and which I don't have. It is all part of the gifts of the Spirit, which Paul sees as making up the whole Body of Christ. Everyone has a special contribution to make.

As for me, it is extraordinary that God created me with all my twists, defects, fears and failures and it is precisely because of those boils, sores, abscesses that God loves me, helps me and guides me to work out my salvation. And it is just possible that there may be friends who can think that God has given me talents which make a tiny contribution to the happiness and goodness of the world.

In the longer version of this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus mentions a man with just one talent who hides it in the ground: the master calls him "wicked and lazy" and has him thrown out. Why is he so severely treated? This is surely someone who resolutely turns his (or her) back on the goodness she (or he) has received and refuses to work with it for the Lord's purposes or for anyone else's. Such a talent goes to waste and merely rusts and corrupts.

If I know anyone like that, it is just worth asking whether, with infinite and patient kindness, I can help that person to release their talent and bring it to blossom.


Just think for a moment: what is your best talent? Is it a gift, skill or humour which brings joy and happiness to those around you? Are you like the man who buried his talent in the ground, or do you use this skill or gift or wisdom to bring joy 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 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.

Fantastic Fairtrade Popup

Thanks to everyone who supported the Fairtrade Popup at St Joseph's. We took £1200. Please do enjoy your purchases and know that you have helped producers to receive a fair price for their work.

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

**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.

**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.

**St Bede’s Christmas Coffee / Bingo Evening:** on **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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.

**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

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.

**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

**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’.

**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](mailto:hollygoodfellow@teeswildlife.org) More volunteers needed in the spring to help with planting vegetables.

**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.

**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.

**St. Joseph’s Catholic Academy have a vacancy** for a Level 3 Teaching Assistant. 30 hours per week, term time only, permanent. Closing date for applications: 9:00 a.m. Wednesday 29th November 2023 Interview Date: W/C 4th December 2023. For full details on how to apply for the position, please see our website <https://stjosephsnorton.bhcet.org.uk/>

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.

**CAFOD Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal:** Donate to CAFOD’s Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal at [cafod.org.uk/ipc](https://cafod.org.uk/ipc) or call 0303 303 3030 to support those affected and get funds to local trusted experts in Gaza and southern Israel who have been working alongside communities helping those most in need. Your donation will help support aid workers providing urgent humanitarian aid including food, water and emergency shelter to those in need. Thank you for your prayers.

Prayer and Liturgy News

**2022 / 2023 REMEMBRANCE SERVICE:** The churches 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.

**Forty Hours devotion** is being held at St John's church, Billingham **23rd-25th November.** 7am-10pm on Thursday and Friday, 7am- 5pm on Saturday. All welcome.

**Our Parish Journey in Faith Programme** is underway – meetings are held on Saturday afternoons, 2pm – 3:15pm in Thornton Hall, St. Joseph’s (until 9<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:proud.catholics@yahoo.com), or visit our website <https://www.proud Catholics.co.uk/>

Readings 33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time Year A

First reading

Proverbs 31:10-13,19-20,30-31

A perfect wife – who can find her? She is far beyond the price of pearls. Her husband’s heart has confidence in her, from her he will derive no little profit. Advantage and not hurt she brings him all the days of her life. She is always busy with wool and with flax, she does her work with eager hands. She sets her hands to the distaff, her fingers grasp the spindle. She holds out her hand to the poor, she opens her arms to the needy. Charm is deceitful, and beauty empty; the woman who is wise is the one to praise. Give her a share in what her hands have worked for, and let her works tell her praises at the city gates.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 127(128):1-5

*R: O blessed are those who fear the Lord.*

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|---|--|---|
| 1.O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways!<br>By the labour of your hands you shall eat.<br>You will be happy and prosper. | 2.Your wife will be like a fruitful vine in the heart of your house;<br>your children like shoots of the olive, around your table. | 3.Indeed thus shall be blessed the man who fears the Lord.<br>May the Lord bless you from Zion all the days of your life! |
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Second reading

1 Thessalonians 5:1-6

You will not be expecting us to write anything to you, brothers, about ‘times and seasons’, since you know very well that the Day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night. It is when people are saying, ‘How quiet and peaceful it is’ that the worst suddenly happens, as suddenly as labour pains come on a pregnant woman; and there will be no way for anybody to evade it. But it is not as if you live in the dark, my brothers, for that Day to overtake you like a thief. No, you are all sons of light and sons of the day: we do not belong to the night or to darkness, so we should not go on sleeping, as everyone else does, but stay wide awake and sober.

Gospel

Matthew 25:14-30

Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples: ‘The kingdom of Heaven is like a man on his way abroad who summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to a third one; each in proportion to his ability. Then he set out. ‘The man who had received the five talents promptly went and traded with them and made five more. The man who had received two made two more in the same way. But the man who had received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. ‘Now a long time after, the master of those servants came back and went through his accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents came forward bringing five more. “Sir,” he said “you entrusted me with five talents; here are five more that I have made.” ‘His master said to him, “Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master’s happiness.” ‘Next the man with the two talents came forward. “Sir,” he said “you entrusted me with two talents; here are two more that I have made.” His master said to him, “Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master’s happiness.” ‘Last came forward the man who had the one talent. “Sir,” said he “I had heard you were a hard man, reaping where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered; so I was afraid, and I went off and hid your talent in the ground. Here it is; it was yours, you have it back.” But his master answered him, “You wicked and lazy servant! So you knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered? Well then, you should have deposited my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have recovered my capital with interest. So now, take the talent from him and give it to the man who has the five talents. For to everyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from the man who has not, even what he has will be taken away. As for this good-for-nothing servant, throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.”

Thought for the Day

One moment of patience may ward off great disaster, while one moment of impatience may ruin a whole life.  
*Chinese Proverb*