



Sunday 3rd December 2023

St. Patrick's R.C. Church

Glenfield Road, Fairfield,
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We are entering the season of Advent. Advent is a time of waking from darkness to light, from hopelessness to hope, and from hatred to love. In the Gospel Jesus says, "Be vigilant at all times and stay awake, because you do not know the day when your Master is coming." We can stay awake by keeping in touch with those around us and doing our best to live lives of love, compassion, forgiveness and integrity. We keep in touch with God through lives of prayer, and the simplest and deepest prayer is to be aware of the active presence of God in our lives.

The Vicariate for Faith and Mission has produced a booklet of Advent Reflections. Last year's Advent booklet was very well received. As we prepare for Jesus' coming at Christmas, we hope that this year's edition will once again foster prayerful reflection on the Scriptures and a renewed sense of belonging amongst the people of the Diocese. The reflections have been written by a variety of people to express the richness of our diocesan community. Visit <https://bit.ly/DHNAdvent> to access the reflections from the dedicated Advent reflection page on the Diocesan website.

Celebration of Marriage & Family Life Mass . . . Bishop Stephen has kindly agreed to preside at a Celebration of Marriage and Family Life Mass in the Cathedral on Saturday 17th February, 2024 at 12:00pm. All married couples will be invited with particular focus on those celebrating a significant anniversary together with bereaved spouses, separated individuals and families experiencing or having experienced domestic difficulties. In these unprecedented times we remember couples in crisis and individual adults and children experiencing difficulties and abuse in their family relationships. We wish all to know that none is forgotten and that the Sacramental life is very much alive and prayed for. Anyone celebrating a special anniversary can request a certificate by completing a form with their details: <https://bit.ly/DHNMarriageMass> or telephone 0191 243 3316.



St Patrick's Men's Club invite you to their Christmas Dance featuring 'Mosaic' on Saturday 16th December, 8pm-11pm. Dance the night away or sit and enjoy the music. Please bring your own food and drink, contact Ken Marr to book (01642 602336). Tickets £6.

Thank you from Significance . . . The Trustees of Significance thank everyone who supported the Grand Draw and all those who donated prizes. 1,606 tickets were sold which realised £8,030. The funds raised will help Significance to continue to support the Emmaus Village and provide opportunities for young people to recognise their own worth and value. Congratulations to all our winners: Danielle Dowson (St John's Catholic School, Bishop Auckland), Jamie Adams (St Mary's Cathedral), Sr Hilda (Oaklea Convent), Sarah Boyd (Dunston, Gateshead).

Bella Canta Ladies Choir Concert on Friday 8th December 7.30pm at St Joseph's, Norton. Be superbly entertained with a Christmas programme, 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.

1st Sunday of Advent			
3	Sunday	9.00am	Mavis Casey
4	Monday	9.15am 5.30pm	James Sowerby (SVP) Medjugorje Rosary
5	Tuesday		
6	Wednesday		
7	Thursday	6.00pm	Divine Mercy & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
8	Friday	9.15am	Bernadette Mullholland
9	Saturday	9.15am	Nicola Holmes (SVP)
2nd Sunday of Advent			
10	Sunday	9.00am	Paul Joynes
Recently Deceased:		Betty Kimmins ~ May she rest in peace. Amen	
Anniversaries:		Craig Chapman, Mary Hutchinson, Mollie Cawood, Alan Riley	
		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 Brian Wetherell	
Reader for Sunday 10th December ~ Joan Hunton			
Feast Days: 7th Dec. St Ambrose: 8th Dec. The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary			
For Parish Centre bookings please ring Rebecca on 07514 335003			



Father, the image of the Virgin is found in the Church. Mary had a faith that Your Spirit prepared and a love that never knew sin, for you kept her sinless from the moment of her conception. Trace in our actions the lines of her love, in our hearts her readiness of faith. Prepare once again a world for your Son. Amen.

SVP Thank You. The SVP would like to thank you for all your support throughout the year. Please join us this Sunday after Mass for Coffee, Cakes and Mince Pies, all welcome.

Migration & Christian Ethics – A dialogue between the Christian Social Tradition and Government Policy. St. Augustine's Catholic Church, Coniscliffe Road, Darlington on Thursday 7th December at 7pm. For more details please see poster at back of church.

Christmas Tree Festival at Ushaw ~ 2nd December to 3rd January. The festive season is here, and to celebrate we welcome the return of our Christmas Tree Festival. Join us for a collaboration of local artists, businesses, societies, charities, staff, volunteers and benefactors, making Christmas trees which are displayed around the building. There are traditional trees and trees made from all different kinds of materials!



After you've looked around and seen all of our Christmas trees, explore the great indoors of Ushaw with our awe-inspiring Chapels and Exhibitions. When you have finished exploring, head to The Refectory Cafe for Soup, Sandwiches, Cakes and refreshments. Entry to the Christmas Tree Festival is free with admission and included for Annual Pass holders – no pre-booking required.

Job Vacancies: The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle has the following job vacancies: Safeguarding Adviser, Diocesan Offices, Newcastle - full-time, permanent. Closing date: 12th December: IT Manager, Diocesan Offices, Newcastle - full-time, permanent. Closing date 12th December Please visit www.diocesehn.org.uk for full details or contact us on 0191 243 3301.