

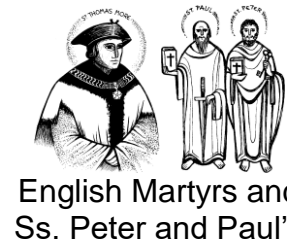
Times of Mass, Intentions and Services
1st Sunday of Lent Year B – 18th February 2024

	<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 17th	<u>6:00pm</u> <u>Sunday Vigil Mass</u> Pat Chapman RIP (AC)	<u>9:30am</u> Intention of Brenda Henderson (SVP)	—	—
Sun 18th	—	<u>10:30am</u> Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	<u>9:00am</u> Ray Chesser RIP	1st Sunday of Lent
Mon 19th	—	—	—	—
Tue 20th	<u>11:30am</u> Stations of the Cross <u>12:00 noon</u> Lenten Lunch	—	<u>9:30am</u> <u>Whole School Mass</u> Patricia Campbell RIP (CJ) <u>10:00am</u> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament <u>7:00pm</u> Stations of the Cross	—
Wed 21st	<u>9:30am</u> Pomelino Palomique RIP (JP)	—	—	—
Thur 22nd	—	<u>9:30am</u> Intention of Mary Marshall (SVP) <u>2:00pm – 4:00pm</u> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	—	The Chair of St Peter, Apostle
Fri 23rd	<u>5:00pm – 6:00pm</u> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament <u>6:00pm</u> Thanksgiving for Prayers Answered (JR) <u>6:30pm</u> Stations of the Cross	<u>11:30am</u> Stations of the Cross	—	St Polycarp <i>Bishop, Martyr</i>
Sat 24th	<u>6:00pm</u> <u>Sunday Vigil Mass</u> Intention of Brenda Elmer	<u>9:30am</u> George Askew RIP (HH)	—	—
Sun 25th	<u>9:00am</u> Mass for the Polish Community	<u>10:30am</u> Mary Wilson RIP (PDR)	<u>9:00am</u> Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	2nd Sunday of Lent

Sacrament of Reconciliation		
<u>Thursday 23rd February</u> <u>St Joseph's Legion Room</u> <u>after Mass</u>	<u>Friday 24th February</u> <u>EMSSPP Confessional</u> <u>5:00pm – 5:45pm</u>	<u>Saturday 25th February</u> <u>EMSSPP Confessional</u> <u>5:00pm – 5:45pm</u>
Or by Appointment – call 01642 806469		

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 OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM, STOCKTON



P A R I S H N E W S L E T T E R
Sunday 18th February 2024
1st Sunday of Lent- Year B

Clergy	<u>Parish Priest:</u> Fr Mark Millward <u>Assistant Priest:</u> Fr Oliver Keyes <u>Deacon:</u> Paul Hargreaves
Parish Office	<u>Hours:</u> Tuesday to Friday 10.00am till 2:00pm <u>Contact:</u> Gill Hall Tel. 01642 806469 <u>Email:</u> parishfamilystockton@outlook.com
Internet	<u>Parish YouTube:</u> Stockton Parish Family <u>Facebook page:</u> @ParishFamilyStocktonRC <u>Parish website:</u> www.parishfamilystockton.org.uk <u>Diocesan website:</u> diocesehn.org.uk
Parish Contacts	<u>St Vincent De Paul Society:</u> For anything SVP related please speak to one of our members or contact Alan on 07939 912354 or Mary on 07714 327665 or email <u>PresidentC211509@svp.org.uk</u> <u>St. Joseph's Thornton Hall:</u> For any requests to book / hire the Hall please contact Philip and Cath Jackson direct on 01642 284770 Thank you

Reflection – First Sunday of Lent

Do you greet Lent with a sigh or even worse despair? May I encourage us all to greet Lent with Joy!

Our readings today remind us that God makes a promise to love us.

The story of the flood reminds us that life is sometimes a challenge, either we spoil it through our sinfulness or are wounded by events outside of our control. Whichever way, Lent reminds us that God does not leave us alone in the universe, he loves us; this season reminds us of his promise to forgive and heal us through the life, death and resurrection of his son – this is the Good News and the cause of our joy.

As we long for the things we've given up we remember our deepest longings for love and for God, as we renew our prayer we grow in our relationship with God and as we give alms we remember our human interdependence and support those less well off than ourselves.

We can be tempted by pessimism and cynicism, Jesus shows us that the response to temptation is to reaffirm our dependence on God; we are to trust in his love for all humanity.

May Lent be joyful as we renew our relationship with God and with each other – enjoy the gift and grace of reconciliation, healing and renewal that Lent offers.

I invite you to give alms in two ways this Lent:

- a monetary donation to the Refugee and Asylum Seeker Project Stockton, RASPS – envelopes available in Church.
- or to do a little extra shopping and donate to Stockton Hope Community Larder – Food bank boxes at the back of each Church.

Thank You!

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 Margaret Troupe, Elizabeth Pybus 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.

SVP Membership Support Officer (MSO): The St Vincent de Paul Society is a Catholic lay organisation whose members seek out and help those in need in the community. It would like to recruit an MSO for the Hexham and Newcastle diocese to support member recruitment and development, provide general support for members and be the link between groups and National Office. This is a part time, home-based role (22.5 hours per week – 3 days equivalent) working as part of the SVP Membership Team. It would suit someone comfortable giving presentations to large audiences as well working on a personal level with individuals and small groups. It requires the ability to travel around the diocese to make recruitment appeals, work with existing groups, attend meetings and meet with interested parties where appropriate. Having your own transport is essential. Travel expenses are paid. For further information and details how to apply contact Lance Philpott, Head of Membership at lancep@svp.org.uk Closing date for applications is Sunday 7th April.

Help Plant a Woodland: Monday 12th & 19th February, 10:30am till noon at Rochester Road near the Blue Bridge, Roseworth. Please see the noticeboard at the back of church for more details.

Roseworth Naturally Creative Arts and Craft Group: Friday mornings 10am-12:30pm at Kiora Hall, Roseworth. Please see the copy of the 2024 Programme on the noticeboard at the back of church.

Journey in Faith: Please pray for all those who are enquiring about our Faith and those who are journeying with them.

Bible Alive Subscription the annual subscription of £30.00 is now due. Could those who receive Bible Alive please hand in to the parish office by the end of February. Thank you.

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 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: The larder is open every Wednesday from 11am to 1pm and is available for everyone. We also have a ' warm space' serving tea/coffee for free or just for a chat. Everyone at the Stockton Hope Community Larder thanks you all for your wonderful generosity.

Little Sisters of the Poor: are fundraising for St Joseph's Home in Newcastle by collecting used postage stamps (any country or period), or foreign currency (again from any time or country). If you have any, please put them in the separate collection envelope at the back of church (**not into the offertory baskets please**) or hand in to the parish office. Thank you. North East.

Holy Hikers – Social Evening Saturday 17th February 7:00pm in St Joseph's Thornton Hall. All welcome.

LENT Activities 2024

Tuesdays: 11.30am at EMSSPP: Stations of the Cross followed by Lenten Lunch from Tuesday 20th Feb
Tuesdays: 7.00pm at St Bede's: Stations of the Cross.
Fridays: 11.30am at St Joseph's: Stations of the Cross followed by Lenten Lunch from Friday 23rd Feb.
Fridays: 6.30pm at EMSSPP: Stations of the Cross after Mass

Sycamore - Online Sessions for Lent 2024: Take some time out with God during this Lenten season and join us online (via Zoom) for a series of Sycamore sessions as we explore how we can live out our 'Ministry of Love'
The sessions will take place on Thursdays throughout Lent from 7.00pm to 8.15pm.
*15 February: "The Existence of God" *22 February: "Who is Jesus?" *29 February: "The Holy Spirit and the Church"
*7 March: "The Gift of Faith" *14 March: "Finding True Freedom" *21 March: "The Meaning of Love"
All are welcome! Each session can stand-alone so there is no obligation to attend all if you can't commit to every week. Some of you may have had experience of Sycamore previously, so we'll be using an alternative set of questions which will give you more opportunities to reflect on your own experiences of faith. Please register your interest to receive the Zoom link. You can do this by completing the [online form](#) or by calling the Diocese admin team on 0191 243 3316

Fr Mark has signed up for CAFOD's Big Lent Walk 2024! and will be walking a total of 200km during Lent. If you can, please support him by donating to his fundraising page using the link below. All money raised will be used by CAFOD to fight poverty around the world. Thank you.

<https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/fr-marks-big-lent-walk-24>

Diocesan Lenten Reflection Booklets the Vicariate for Faith and Mission have produced booklets of Daily Lenten Reflections which are available for viewing, downloading and printing from the Diocesan website, using this weblink: <https://bit.ly/DHNLentReflections>. . . Last year's Lent booklets were very well received. As we prepare to commemorate Jesus' salvific death and resurrection at Easter, we hope that this year's edition will once again foster prayerful reflection on the Scriptures and a renewed sense of purpose and hope amongst the people of the Diocese. The reflections have been written by a variety of people to express the richness of our diocesan community. If you do not have internet access and would like a copy please contact the parish office.

Prayer and Liturgy News

Pope Francis Monthly Intentions February: For the Terminally ill

Let us pray that the sick, who are in the final stages of life, and their families, receive the necessary medical and human care and accompaniment.

World Wide Day of Prayer Friday 1st March 2.00pm hosted at St Mary's Norton Green

This year's service has been prepared by an ecumenical group of Christian women of Palestine. The theme is "I beg you, bear with one another in love" from Ephesians 4:1-7. The women started planning the service three years ago. The theme is particularly appropriate given the current situation in the Middle East. Please come along to be part of this worldwide wave of prayer involving people in over 146 countries. There will also be a Fairtrade Stall of goods from Palestine to buy...
(Please note: no Stations of the Cross at St Joseph's on that day).

The National Novena to St Joseph will take place from 10th -18th March 2024 at **St Joseph Church in Maidenhead**. Every Year, the Mill Hill Missionaries prepare for the feast of St Joseph, their Society Patron, with a special Novena of Masses and prayers to ask for God's blessing on their Society's missionary outreach, and for the intentions of all those who support their work. If you are able and it is possible to attend, Masses are at **10:00am** every day of the Novena **except Sunday, when it is at 11:00am**. These Masses will be available to follow on **Zoom**, via the Mill Hill website: www.millhillmissionaries.com/novena. Also available on Zoom will be the **Evening Prayer** together with the **Novena Prayer at 6:00pm every day** during the Novena. This year a special Novena Prayer Booklet has been prepared, and is available on request for a suggested donation. You are welcome to send in your petitions and/or to request a Novena prayer booklet. Please write to the Novena Director at 6 Colby Gardens, Maidenhead, SL6 7GZ, or email novenamhm@gmail.com

Readings 1st Sunday Lent

First reading **Genesis 9:8-15**
God spoke to Noah and his sons, 'See, I establish my Covenant with you, and with your descendants after you; also with every living creature to be found with you, birds, cattle and every wild beast with you: everything that came out of the ark, everything that lives on the earth. I establish my Covenant with you: no thing of flesh shall be swept away again by the waters of the flood. There shall be no flood to destroy the earth again.' God said, 'Here is the sign of the Covenant I make between myself and you and every living creature with you for all generations: I set my bow in the clouds and it shall be a sign of the Covenant between me and the earth. When I gather the clouds over the earth and the bow appears in the clouds, I will recall the Covenant between myself and you and every living creature of every kind. And so the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all things of flesh.'

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 24(25):4-6,7b-9

R: Your ways, Lord, are faithfulness and love for those who keep your covenant.

1.Lord, make me know your ways.	2.Remember your mercy, Lord,	3.The Lord is good and upright.
Lord, teach me your paths.	and the love you have shown from of old.	He shows the path to those who stray,
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:	In your love remember me,	He guides the humble in the right path,
for you are God my saviour.	because of your goodness, O Lord.	He teaches his way to the poor.

Second reading 1 Peter 3:18-22

Christ himself, innocent though he was, died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life, and, in the spirit, he went to preach to the spirits in prison. Now it was long ago, when Noah was still building that ark which saved only a small group of eight people 'by water', and when God was still waiting patiently, that these spirits refused to believe. That water is a type of the baptism which saves you now, and which is not the washing off of physical dirt but a pledge made to God from a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has entered heaven and is at God's right hand, now that he has made the angels and Dominations and Powers his subjects.

Gospel Mark 1:12-15

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness and he remained there for forty days, and was tempted by Satan. He was with the wild beasts, and the angels looked after him. After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

The Jerusalem Bible © 1966 by Darton Longman & Todd Ltd and Doubleday and Company Ltd

Thought for the Day

The gift of faith is not acquired through books, it is acquired through prayer.

Sr Briega McKenna