

Times of Mass, Intentions and Services
2nd Sunday of Lent Year B – 25th 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 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
Mon 26th	—	—	—	—
Tue 27th	<u>11:30am</u> Stations of the Cross <u>12:00 noon</u> Lenten Lunch	—	<u>9:30am</u> Sick & Deceased of the Parish (MS&EE) <u>10:00am</u> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament <u>7:00pm</u> Stations of the Cross	St Gregory of Narek
Wed 28th	<u>9:30am</u> Edith Bryan RIP <u>2:45pm</u> <u>Funeral Service</u> Jean Gill RIP	—	—	—
Thur 29th	—	<u>9:30am</u> Ronnie Watson RIP (MH) <u>2:00pm – 4:00pm</u> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	—	—
Fri 1st	<u>5:00pm – 6:00pm</u> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament <u>6:00pm</u> Ian & Peter Whitehouse RIP (RW) <u>6:30pm</u> Stations of the Cross	<u>10:00am</u> <u>Funeral Service</u> Elizabeth Pybus RIP	—	St David Patron of Wales
Sat 2nd	<u>6:00pm</u> <u>Sunday Vigil Mass</u> Nicola Holmes RIP	<u>9:30am</u> Alan Bell RIP (LG)	—	—
Sun 3rd	—	<u>10:30am</u> Kostas Moschopoulos RIP (SB)	<u>9:00am</u> Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	3rd Sunday of Lent

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Thursday 29th February
St Joseph's Legion Room
after Mass

Friday 1st March
EMSSPP Confessional
5:00pm – 5:45pm

Saturday 2nd March
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 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 25th February 2024
2nd Sunday of Lent - Year B

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 – Second Sunday of Lent

As the time of the Passion approaches, the foreboding of the disciples grows. Jesus sustains them with this vivid manifestation of himself in glory. On the holy mountain of revelation they see him transformed. It was a real visual experience, though described in symbols familiar from the Bible - brilliant white clothes, and so on.

Moses and Elijah are seen there because they also had experienced the vision of God on the holy mountain: Moses when he had received the Law from God on Mount Sinai; Elijah when he encountered God in the cave on Mount Horeb.

The disciples were frightened, confused and overcome at the awesome experience, and yet, at the same time, comforted in such a way that Peter wanted to prolong it. Their reaction to the presence of the Lord will later be reflected by that of Christian mystics – both a reassuring terror and a frightening homeliness, the awareness of a presence which is awesome yet comforting - an experience which cannot fully be put into words.

The Voice from Heaven is an echo of the Voice heard at Jesus' Baptism. There, however, the Voice was addressed to Jesus, whereas here it is spoken to the disciples, proclaiming Jesus as authorized teacher, the one who speaks with the authority of the Beloved Son.

When and how do you meet Jesus? How do you respond to God? Are you frightened of God, or is God a comfort to you?

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 Margaret Troupe, Elizabeth Pybus, Jean Gill 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.

Mass Intentions: We have received a lot of requests, particularly at St. Joseph's, so if you would like a Mass to be said on a specific date, please give as much notice as possible to avoid disappointment

Red Boxes (St. Bede's and others): The Mission Boxes are now due for collection. Could you please leave the boxes at the back of Church, or ring John Evans on 01642 895739 who will arrange collection.

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.

Young Catholic Adult Network UK ('YouCAN'): YouCAN is a group for practising young Catholic adults between the ages of 18 - 35. YouCAN's mission is simple - to connect all young Catholic adults with one another. No one can practise their Faith on their own! YouCAN members stay connected via Whatsapp groups and in-person events. As well as the national YouCAN group, there is also an active North East group with members from across the region, including Teesside. The North East group meets regularly for days out, social time and retreats. Joining YouCAN is a great opportunity to connect with other practising young Catholic adults, make new friends and strengthen your faith. For more details, visit www.youngcatholicadultnetwork.uk . To join, please email rina@youngcatholicadultnetwork.uk

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

Lenten Day for Families: Catholic Mothers and the Carmelite Friars invite you to a Lenten Family Day at St John Vianney's, West Denton on Saturday 9th March, beginning with 10am Mass and followed by a short talk, opportunity for Confession, a soup lunch, children's activities and social time. All ages and families welcome. For more information email catholicmothersne@gmail.com

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 web link: 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.

LOUDfence. St. Mary's Cathedral and Newcastle Cathedral 3rd-6th March. Welcome to All.

Together with the Diocese of Newcastle, our diocesan family is privileged to be hosting a LOUDfence at St. Marys' Cathedral and at Newcastle Cathedral. It will begin at the 11.30 Sunday Mass on the 3rd March at St. Mary's Cathedral and end with a Service of the Word at Newcastle Cathedral on the 6th March at 7pm. Everyone is welcome to these liturgies and to visit both Cathedrals during the days to offer their prayers and support for all who have suffered abuse within church communities and all contexts. We are invited to leave prayers and messages together with provided items like the prayer ribbons presented to Bishop Stephen at his Installation Mass, which are still tied to his Bishop's Chair. People can leave their prayers and messages within or outside of the Cathedrals, recognising some people would rather not enter a place of worship. There will be people available for pastoral accompaniment if that is requested. As a diocesan family we pray for all who have suffered abuse and recognise our shared duty to safeguard the vulnerable.

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.milhillmissionaries.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

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).

Readings 2nd Sunday Lent

First Reading Genesis 22:1-2,9-13,15-18

God put Abraham to the test. 'Abraham, Abraham' he called. 'Here I am' he replied. 'Take your son,' God said 'your only child Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him as a burnt offering, on a mountain I will point out to you. 'When they arrived at the place God had pointed out to him, Abraham built an altar there, and arranged the wood. Then he bound his son Isaac and put him on the altar on top of the wood. Abraham stretched out his hand and seized the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven. 'Abraham, Abraham' he said. 'I am here' he replied. 'Do not raise your hand against the boy' the angel said. 'Do not harm him, for now I know you fear God. You have not refused me your son, your only son.' Then looking up, Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham took the ram and offered it as a burnt-offering in place of his son. The angel of the Lord called Abraham a second time from heaven. 'I swear by my own self – it is the Lord who speaks – because you have done this, because you have not refused me your son, your only son, I will shower blessings on you, I will make your descendants as many as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants shall gain possession of the gates of their enemies. All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants, as a reward for your obedience.'

Responsorial Psalm Psalm: 115(116):10,15-19

R: I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

1. I trusted, even when I said: 'I am sorely afflicted,' O precious in the eyes of the Lord is the death of his faithful.	2.Your servant, Lord, your servant am I; you have loosened my bonds. A thanksgiving sacrifice I make; I will call on the Lord's name.	3.My vows to the Lord I will fulfil before all his people, in the courts of the house of the Lord, in your midst, O Jerusalem.
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Second Reading Romans 8:31-34

With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No! He not only died for us – he rose from the dead, and there at God's right hand he stands and pleads for us.

Gospel Mark 9:2-10

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus: 'Rabbi,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say; they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.' Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them any more but only Jesus. As they came down from the mountain he warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what 'rising from the dead' could mean.

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

Thought for the Day

To one who still remains in this world, no repentance is too late. St Cyprian of Carthage