



Sunday 21st April, 2024

St. Patrick's R.C. Church

Glenfield Road, Fairfield,
Stockton-on-Tees, TS19 7PJ

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This Sunday the Church celebrates Good Shepherd Sunday. It is a day for us to pray for vocations for service in the parishes of our Diocesan family. Pope Francis' message for the 61st World Day of Prayer for Vocations urges Christians to welcome our shared vocation to sow the seeds of hope and peace in the world. "Let us be passionate about life," he said, "and commit ourselves to caring lovingly for those around us, in every place where we live." The Pope also urges everyone to pray for vocations to the priesthood and religious life, so that the Lord may "send out labourers into His harvest."

God our Father, You made each of us to use our gifts in the Body of Christ. We ask that You inspire people whom You call to the priesthood and consecrated life to courageously follow Your will. Send workers into Your great harvest so that the Gospel is preached, the poor are served with love, the suffering are comforted and Your people are strengthened by the sacraments We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen.

A second collection for St. Joseph's Home (Little Sisters of the Poor) will be taken this Sunday. If you wish to make a private contribution, you can do so by sending cheques made payable to 'Little Sisters of the Poor' to St Joseph's Home, Westmorland Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE4 7QA. Alternatively, secure online donations can be made by visiting our website at www.littlesistersofthepoor.co.uk/donate-here/. The Little Sisters of the Poor are deeply grateful for your continued support and prayers. Your generosity plays a significant role in enabling them to fulfil their mission of providing safe, affordable and quality care to vulnerable older people in need. Please know that your contribution, no matter the size, will make a difference in the lives of the residents.

St. George's Day . . The story of St. George and the dragon is about facing our fears and trusting in God to help us and give us courage and faith in the face of difficulty. Perhaps the message in the story of St. George is that rather than conquering our fears, anxieties and worries we embrace them so that they can be transformed by the Spirit of God. Whatever our fears, whatever 'dragons' threaten us we have a Saviour who, like St George, will come to our aid and walk with us through the darkness and expel our fears.

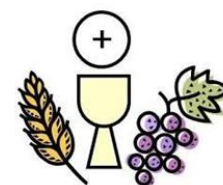
Heavenly Father, give us the bravery of St George to stand up for what we believe. Give us the strength to overcome the dragons in our lives and in the world and where we see people in distress, give us the compassion to help them. Amen.



SPUC Pro-Life Chain . . . Stockton Branch invites you to join them on our annual Pro-Life Chain to commemorate the 56th anniversary of the implementation of the Abortion Act, on **Saturday, 27 April 2024**. This event will be held on Marton Road, Middlesbrough, (opposite James Cook Hospital) from 11am – 12 noon. Please meet in the carpark outside St Thomas More Church, Kirkdale Road, at 10.45 am. We look forward to seeing you. If you would like any further information please contact Christine Pope on 07980 290432.

Parish Shop . . . New stock is now on display in Parish Shop. Cards for all occasions, First Holy Communion Gifts, Statues and more. All welcome.

| 4th Sunday of Easter | | | |
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| 21 | Sunday | 9.00am | People of our Parish |
| 22 | Monday | 9.15am 5.30pm | For Healing Medjugorje Rosary ~ All welcome |
| 23 | Tuesday St George | 5.00pm | Sheila Kerr will be received into Church |
| 24 | Wednesday | 10.30am | Requiem Mass ~ Sheila Kerr |
| 25 | Thursday St Mark | 6.00pm | Rosary & Healing Exposition |
| 26 | Friday | 9.15am | Sheila & Dennis Lindo |
| 27 | Saturday | 9.15am | Nicola Holmes |
| 5th Sunday of Easter | | | |
| 28 | Sunday | 9.00am | Kevin McWilliams |
| Recently Deceased: | | Monsignor Philip Carroll ~ May he rest in peace. Amen | |
| Anniversaries: | | Mavis McQuillan, Cecily Waters | |
|  | | 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, Sheila Kerr, Joyce Thomas | |
| Reader for Sunday 28th April ~ Rosanne Delplanque | | | |
| For Parish Centre bookings please ring Rebecca on 07514 335003 | | | |



A pro-life Holy hour will take place on Thursday 25th April at St Cuthbert Church, prior to Mass 8.30 – 9.30am. This is two days before the 56th Anniversary of the implications of the abortion act. Please come and join us to pray for respect for life from moment of conception to its natural end.

Pope's Prayer Intention for April

Let us pray that the dignity and worth of women be recognized in every culture, and for an end to the discrimination they face in various parts of the world.

Red Box 2023: Thank You! In 2023, St Patrick's, Fairfield, raised **£3,821.45p** through our Red Boxes and donations to Missio and the Mill Hill Missionaries. Thank you! Our missionary community here at St Patrick's is part of a worldwide network of people supporting missionaries overseas through prayer and financial assistance. Your support of Missionary Priests, like Fr Ignatius MHM working with a rural community in Uganda, enables people to come together to celebrate the Eucharist and to work together to improve the lives of the whole community. Visit missio.org.uk to find out more.

If you are interested and would like to become a reader at Mass on Sunday morning then please contact Paul Delplanque by email pauldelp1@yahoo.co.uk, text message or call 07743351674 or simply see me after Mass. Currently our volunteer readers are only required to read once every four months.

St Patrick's Men's Club invite you to a dance on Saturday, 11th May, 8pm-11pm. Dance or sit and listen to the music of '**60's or Thereabouts.**' Please bring your own food and drink, tickets £6 Please contact Ken Marr to book (01642 602336) or George Hunton (07929 924302).

The Cleveland Newman Circle . . . 'Catholic Ecumenical Engagement: a failure of a blessing for our churches?' Fr Tony Curren, Secretary to the International Anglican-Roman Catholic Commission for Unity and Mission. Wednesday 24th April in Middlesbrough Cathedral Hall TS8 OTW at 7.45pm (coffee/tea from 7.30pm). For more details telephone 01642 645732 or p.egerton123@gmail.com. All welcome.