

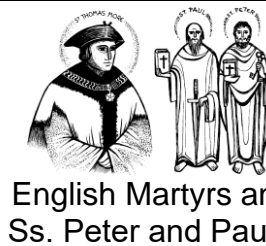
Times of Mass, Intentions and Services
First Sunday of Advent Year C – 1st December 2024

	<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 30th	6:00pm Vigil Mass Peter Shaw RIP (ES)	9:30am Norah, Peter & Paul McPartland RIP (MT)	—	St Andrew, Apostle Patron of Scotland
Sun 1st	—	10:30am Eileen Minto RIP (A&CP)	9:00am Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	1st Sunday of Advent
Mon 2nd	—	—	—	
Tue 3rd	—	—	9:30am Whole School Mass Shelagh Wigham RIP (JB) 10:00am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	St Francis Xavier <i>Priest</i>
Wed 4th	9:30am Intention of Mary McMaster (TW)	—	—	St Osmund <i>Bishop</i> St John Damascene <i>Priest, Doctor</i>
Thur 5th	—	9:30am Matthew Chipchase RIP (MC) 2:00pm – 4:00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	—	—
Fri 6th	5:00pm – 6:00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 6:00pm Marie Simpson & Ann Elliott RIP (St Patrick's Men's Club)	—	—	St Nicholas <i>Bishop</i>
Sat 7th	6:00pm Vigil Mass The Ellis Family (BG)	9:30am Healing Mass Thanksgiving for Prayers Answered (MT)	—	—
Sun 8th	12:30pm Mass for the Polish Community	10:30am Elizabeth Ann Hunter RIP (MH)	9:00am Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	2nd Sunday of Advent

Sacrament of Reconciliation		
Thursday 5th December St Joseph's Legion Room after Mass	Friday 6th December EMSSPP Confessional 5:00pm – 5:45pm	Saturday 7th December St Joseph's Legion Room after 9.30am Healing Mass 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



P A R I S H N E W S L E T T E R

Sunday 1st December 2024
First Sunday of Advent - Year C

Clergy	Parish Priest: Fr Mark Millward Assistant Priest: Fr Oliver Keyes Deacon: Paul Hargreaves
Parish Office	Contact: Gill Hall Hours: Wednesday & Thursday 9.30am till 3:00pm Friday 9:30am till 2:30pm Tel. 01642 806469 Email ourladyofwalsinghamstockton@diocesehn.org.uk
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. The Legion of Mary: meets at St Joseph's Norton; Contact 01642 531263 for information. Safeguarding: The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (CSSA) and Diocese's policies and procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives are David Mackintosh & Joan Rogers or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding Team can be contacted on 0191 2433305 or at safeguarding@diocesehn.org.uk



Reflection First Sunday of Advent – Year C

The word of God, proclaimed in the sacred Scripture, enlightens our minds and hearts. When the Scriptures are read in the liturgical assembly, God speaks to us and calls us to respond in faith and love.


The blessing of new books of sacred Scripture, these new Lectionaries and Book of the Gospels is important to the life of the Church, for they contain within them God's living word. We ask God to bless these books and all of us who will listen to the word of the Lord.

May the word of God proclaimed in this place unfold for us the mystery of Christ and achieve our salvation within the Church.

Fr Mark

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 Eileen Good and all those who have died recently. May they rest in peace. Amen.

PARISH FINANCES

Parish Bank Account Details: Please make cheques **payable to DHN Stockton Our Lady of Walsingham.**

If you would like to make a Bank transfer or set up a standing order, please contact the parish office for the account details. Thank you.

Offertory Envelopes: Please **do not use old Gift Aid envelopes from previous years.** Contact the Parish office if you do not have any current envelopes and would like some, if your address has changed, or if you no longer require a box. Many thanks.

PARKING: When coming to Mass on a Sunday, **please do not park on the pavements outside church** as this prevents those with mobility issues, push chairs, etc. from passing and puts them at risk. Thank you for your understanding and consideration of others. Fr Mark.

Volunteers Census Forms: All volunteers who help in any way in the Parish can you please complete and return your Census Forms ASAP or use the QR code from the poster on the noticeboards. Thank you everyone who has already completed a form.

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.

Our Lady & St Bede Academy Christmas Afternoon Tea

On Thursday 12th December we would love to invite you to join us for our Community Advent Afternoon Tea. This will take place in Our Lady and St. Bede School from 2.20pm - 3.20pm in Hall A. There will be lovely food, quiz and games. We would love you to join us for this special afternoon. Please ring school on 0642704970 to book your places with the office staff or email our school Chaplain at welshe@olsb.bhcet.org.uk we look forward to seeing you soon.

Walsingham Pilgrimage: for anyone who has only paid £10 towards the deposit, please note that the balance of the £50 deposit is now due. Thank you. Also, if anyone is paying their deposit direct to **the parish bank account**, please add the reference 'Walsingham' to your payment. **(please note that the old Walsingham Account has now been closed)** Thank you.

Christmas Concert: Date for your diary, be wonderfully entertained by Bella Canta Ladies Choir on **Friday 6th December at 7.30pm** at St Joseph's with a programme of Christmas music including something for everyone. Free entry with a retiring collection and raffle supporting Church & Choir funds and our charity for the year BloodRun EVS.

SVP Christmas Tea Party the SVP are hosting a Christmas Tea Party for our senior parishioners on **December 7th at 2pm** in Thornton Hall, St. Joseph's. If you would like to attend, please complete a form which you will find at the back of church and return it to us by Friday November 29th. Please hand the completed forms to an SVP member

Oppose Assisted Suicide: Bishops are calling on Catholics in England and Wales to unite in prayer and compassionate action to oppose assisted suicide. On Wednesday, 16 October, the House of Commons will hear the first reading of a new bill on assisted suicide tabled by Kim Leadbeater MP. The proposed legalisation undermines the sanctity and dignity of human life. We are a praying community. Please pray that our lawmakers will act wisely and will value human life. Please contact your local MP to express your views. The charity Right to Life UK has a simple online mechanism to do this with a provided factual letter. It can be found on the Bishops' Conference website together with materials explaining the Church's grave concerns about the proposed legislation at <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/opposing-assisted-suicide/> Thank you for your prayers and action. Bishop Stephen.

Mass Intentions: if you would like a Mass to be said on a specific date, particularly at St Joseph's, **please give as much notice as possible to avoid disappointment.**

Book Sale: There will be books for sale in Thornton Hall, St Joseph's after each Mass.

Foundation Governor: St. Gregory's Catholic Academy are looking to appoint a Foundation Governor, any practising Catholic over the age of 18 can apply and you do not need to have any specific skills. If you think you might make a good Foundation Governor, please contact the school office (01642 672262).

Volunteers Wanted Please: to help at St Gregory's Primary school with the pupils' reading skills. Can you give an hour at your convenience to listen and assist with the pupils reading skills? The pupils really develop with this reading scheme. Please contact the school for further information 01642 672262. You will be required to complete a DBS application which the school will organise. Please help.

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.

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'.

The Refugee and Asylum Seekers Project: are urgently requiring clothing for young men. Any donations please contact Karen Dick on 07759 984586. Sincere thanks.

Stockton Hope Larder: We are very grateful for all donations to the larder, however, as Christmas is approaching we would like to request Christmas donations and new pyjamas for all age groups, especially the older children. Every year we try to make hampers up for all our families and with your kind help I'm sure we'll do the same this year. Many thanks and God Bless you all.

Pope John Paul II Award: we are delighted that Ann Maria and Amelia are going to undertake the award. If any other school-leavers (aged 16+) are interested, please let Fr Mark know. You will be guided through it and be among around 100 young people from the diocese doing the award. Let your light shine- Give it a try!

Proud Catholics - Mass with Advent carols and festive refreshments

Do you identify as LGBTQ+ or are you questioning your sexual or gender identity? We are a support group run by and for LGBTQ+ 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 17th December, at 7.30pm. We will celebrate Mass in St Andrew's RC Church, during which we will sing a selection of Advent carols. This will be followed by festive refreshments in the Chaplaincy Room. Zoom link available. For more information, phone us on 07858 934457, email info@proud Catholics.co.uk or visit our Facebook and Instagram pages @proud Catholicsuk.

Prayer and Liturgy News

Pope Francis Monthly Intentions – December: For pilgrims of hope

We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthens our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

The Legion of Mary December function will take place on **Sunday December the 8th.** at St. Joseph's, Norton beginning at 3pm. Refreshments after the service, all welcome.

Our Lady & St Bede Academy St. Joseph's Form Mass

St. Joseph's form groups from Our Lady and St. Bede RC School would love to invite you all to a very special Mass. The Mass will take place here **in school at 2.20pm on Monday 9th December 2024.**

All of the pupils in St. Joseph's form groups have prepared this Mass. It will include introduction, readings, reflections and bidding prayers. Our school Praise and Worship group will be leading the music and Fr. Ollie will be celebrating the mass.

We would love to see as many of you as possible at this Mass and we thank you for always showing us your care and support.

Readings – 1st Sunday Advent Year C

First reading

Jeremiah 33:14-16

Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will fulfil the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called: 'The Lord is our righteousness.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 25(24):4-5b. 8-9. 10, 14. ± 1b

R: To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

O Lord, make me know your ways.

Teach me your paths.

Guide me in your truth, and teach me;

for you are the God of my salvation.

Good and upright is the Lord;

therefore he shows the way to sinners.

He guides the humble in right judgement;

to the humble he teaches his way

All the Lord's paths are mercy and faithfulness,
for those who keep his covenant and commands.

The Lord's secret is for those who fear him;

to them he reveals his covenant.

Second reading

1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2

Brothers and sisters: May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you, so that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints. Finally, then, brothers and sisters, we ask and urge you in the Lord Jesus, that as you received from us how you ought to walk and to please God, just as you are doing, that you do so more and more. For you know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus.

Gospel

Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples: 'There will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near. 'But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap. For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth. But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.'

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

Thought for the Day

Remember the past with gratitude, live the present with enthusiasm and look forward to the future with confidence.

St John Paul II