



Sunday 19th January 2025

St. Patrick's R.C. Church

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

Parish Priest : Canon John Cooper
Tel. 01642 674321

e-mail: stpatricks.stockton@diocesehn.org.uk

In this Sunday's Gospel Jesus performed the first of his miracles at Cana in Galilee. There is powerful symbolism in the event. For most of the people at the wedding wine would have been a rare treat and used mainly on occasions of celebration and so it had come to be a symbol of joy. By turning water into wine Jesus was changing what was plain and ordinary into a new experience of joy and celebration. Jesus came into the world to make a difference, to change people and to make all things new. His presence among us is an invitation to change our ways and is a call to a new way of life. When we do whatever Jesus tells us, when we pause and pray and reflect and consider what Jesus would tell us to do in all kinds of situations we will find ourselves acting in the best way and going in the right direction as Jesus brings the change that gives us joy and fulfilment, contentment and peace.

Pope Francis' World Peace Day Message for this year is rooted in the biblical tradition of the Jubilee. The message tells us that the concepts of hope and forgiveness are at the heart of the Jubilee, a time for conversion that calls us not to condemn, but instead to bring about reconciliation and peace. We are invited to ask for forgiveness as a means of obtaining God's peace.

On this Peace Sunday we pray for all who work, locally and internationally, for peace and justice and for all who will not be silent in the face of injustice or suffering. Christ be our light, for our own homes, our families, our parish community; that the peace of Christ will work in and through us. Amen.

White Flower Appeal : 18 January 2025 . . . The Society for the Protection of Unborn children (SPUC) will be holding its **annual appeal this weekend**. SPUC exists to radically transform culture so that abortion is not only abolished but becomes truly unthinkable. To accomplish this mission, the Society is positioning initiatives in politics, education, legislation and culture. Through these efforts we will restore a respect for the sanctity of human life to our society. This year's appeal postcards call on the Government to adhere to the United Nations' Convention on the Rights of the Child. Please be as generous as you can to help SPUC defend unborn babies and their mothers. Thank you.

Important Note . . . There will be a short ad hoc meeting in the crèche this Thursday the 23rd January at 7.15pm to discuss what preparations we would like in place to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the opening of our church on 17th March 1975. This meeting is open to all parishioners and will give an opportunity for the members of the PVSG who couldn't attend the meeting held last November. Many thanks to all the parishioners who signed up to help at the tea and coffee after Mass last Sunday.

Please Note . . . Due to the re-painting of the Sanctuary there will be no Masses Monday or Friday next week. There will also be no Rosary or Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Joseph Brannen's Requiem Mass is on Thursday, 23rd January, at 10.30am. He will be received into Church on Wednesday evening, 22nd January at 5.00pm.

On the behalf of the Brothers and Sisters of the Saint Vincent de Paul Society, thank you for your continued support to those in need in our area. Please let us know if there is anybody in need of a visit, at home, care home or hospital or any other needs, please do not hesitate to talk to one of the Sisters and Brothers of the SVP or contact John on 01642 581788.

2 nd Sunday of the Year			
19	Sunday	9.00am	People of our Parish
20	Monday		No Mass or Rosary
21	Tuesday		
22	Wednesday	5.00pm	Joseph Brannen will be received into Church
23	Thursday	10.30pm	Requiem Mass ~ Joseph Brannen No Exposition
24	Friday		No Mass
25	Saturday	9.15am	Brian Coyle
3 rd Sunday of the Year			
26	Sunday	9.00am	Andre Tassel
Anniversaries:		Brian Coyle, Margaret Morton, Father Michael Hussey Andre Tassel, Ernest Toulson	
		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 26 th January – Rosanne Delplanque			
Feast Days: 21 st Jan, St Agnes: 24 th Jan. St Frances de Sales: 25 th Jan. The Conversion of St. Paul			
For Parish Centre bookings please ring Rebecca on 07514 335003			



Pope Francis Prayer Intention for January ~

Let us pray for migrants, refugees and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

There is an Ecumenical Service

celebrating the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity taking place at 4.00pm on Saturday 25th Jan. at St Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle resided by Bishop Stephen Wright, the Preacher is Bishop Helen-Ann Hartey.

Date for your Diary.

Women's World Day of Prayer Service, Friday 7th March at 2pm in St. Mary & Romauld RC Church, Yarm.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity - 18th - 25th January 2025. The theme this year is '*Do you believe this?*' This year the ecumenical celebration has been prepared by the community of Bose, an ecumenical monastery of brothers and sisters in northern Italy. In Bose, community life is shaped by the rhythm of regular prayer. As the bells call the sisters, brothers and guests to prayer, they all assemble at the church. As we celebrate 1,700 years since the Council of Nicaea, this worship service has at its heart, the Nicene Creed. Reflecting this, the scripture readings for this year focus on belief.

God of our journeyings, beckon us towards unity. Challenge us to step out of our upper rooms and safe spaces to be bringers of light and peace. Reconcile us to each other and to you. May peace, love and compassion be part of our mission and discipleship. Amen

Mass for the Sacrament of Marriage and Family Life . . . Bishop Stephen will celebrate Mass at St Mary's Cathedral on Saturday 8th February 2025 at 12.00pm to give thanks for the Sacrament of Marriage and Family Life. **Do you have a significant anniversary to celebrate?** Anyone celebrating a significant anniversary in 2025 has the opportunity to be presented by Bishop Stephen with a Certificate of Celebration during the Mass. We are sure that in Pope Francis Jubilee Year of 2025 there will be couples celebrating twenty-five, fifty, sixty years of marriage particularly. Anyone celebrating such a special anniversary can request a certificate by completing the form which can be found on the Diocesan website or by calling the Faith and Mission admin team on 0191 243 3316. If you require any further information, please contact: Deacon Rob Wareing. Diocesan Lead for Marriage & Family Life: Mobile: 07841 530991. Email: rob.wareing@diocesehn.org.uk.