



**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2025**

**St. Patrick's R.C. Church**

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

**Parish Priest : Canon John Cooper**  
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In this weekend's gospel Jesus offers us the Beatitudes and shows us how to turn negatives such as poverty, hunger and hatred into opportunities to show the special love that God has for those who suffer and feel left behind. There is a peace from God in doing good and doing the right thing. Jesus knew it was the best gift he could give, it comes from love.

**This Sunday is Racial Justice Sunday**, the theme of *'Pilgrims of Hope: Our Journey Together Towards Racial Justice'*, invites Catholics across England and Wales to reflect on the collective journey towards racial justice in our schools, parishes and the wider society. Bishop Paul McAleenan, Bishop for Racial Justice, said, "2025 is a very special year. It marks both a Year of Jubilee and the 30th anniversary of Racial Justice Sunday. "This year, we invite the Catholic community to reflect on the journey towards racial justice, past, present and future, by asking: 'How far have we come, where are we now and what remains to be achieved?' Just as pilgrims must prepare for their journey and be properly equipped, we too need all that is necessary to propel us towards racial justice - the mind of Christ; examination of our progress and of the challenges that remain; a willingness to learn from one another and prayers for and on the journey."

**Diary Date** . . . On Monday, 17th March 2025, it will be exactly fifty years since St. Patrick's Church was opened. To celebrate the occasion, there will be a concelebrated Mass that evening, followed by a light buffet reception in the church hall. We are looking to create a display of photographs to trace the history of the church over the last half-century. Do you have any photos that you think may be of interest? There'll be large envelopes available in the church hall after Sunday Mass to collect items, which will be labelled, safely stored and returned to the owners after the event. Also, would you be interested in singing in a parish choir as part of the concelebrated Mass? If so, please contact Karen Dick on 07759 984586.


**Liz Reid is currently running the Mums & Tots Classes in the Parish Hall** on a Tuesday morning in term times. She would prefer either to hand the classes over to someone else to run, or to share running the classes together with another person. We regard the Mums & Tots classes as a good way to get the children used to using the Church facilities and are, therefore, keen to keep the classes running. If you feel you can help please contact Martin Driffield on 07854 056391, or by email to: [driffieldmartin@gmail.com](mailto:driffieldmartin@gmail.com)

**There will be a meeting of the PVSG Group** (Parish Volunteer Support Group) to discuss the 50<sup>th</sup> Celebration of the church in March. The meeting will be on Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> February, at 7.15pm in the Crèche. All members of the group are asked to attend, any parishioner who is interested is also very welcome.

**The Cleveland Newman Circle:** A Talk by Prof. Karen Kilby, "The Blessed Trinity Mystery and the Search for Understanding" Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> February at St Mary's Cathedral Hall, Coulby Newham, Middlesbrough TS8 0TW at 7.45pm, Refreshments 7.30pm. All welcome.

*Congratulations* to Brian and Pat Kennedy as they celebrate their 60<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary. May God bless and protect them always.

**Please Note** that future phone calls for St Mary's should be directed to St Cuthbert's Church 01642 674321. The email address remains the same.

6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year			
16	Sunday	9.00am	Alan Taylor
17	Monday	9.15am 5.30pm	Thanksgiving 60 <sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary ~ Brian and Pat Kennedy Medjugorje Rosary for World Peace
18	Tuesday		
19	Wednesday		
20	Thursday	6.00pm	SVP Rosary & Healing Exposition
21	Friday	9.15am	Lawrie Ryan
22	Saturday The Chair of St Peter	9.15am	Sick Person
7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year			
23	Sunday	9.00am	People of our Parish
Anniversaries:		Alan Robert, William Anderson, Lawrence Ryan, Alan Taylor, Sheila Norman	
		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, Joyce Thomas	
Reader for Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March – Terry Egerton			
For Parish Centre bookings please ring Rebecca on 07514 335003			



Father, you created each one of us in your own image. Yours is a world made glorious by its rich diversity. Give us the patience to build on what unites us, to celebrate our differences and to learn from them. Grant us the wisdom to recognise Your Church beyond the walls of a building, reaching out across all communities, countries and cultures. Give us the courage to offer refuge to those in need, to challenge prejudice and seek justice for all. Amen.

**Next Sunday** is a Day of Special Prayer for the Unemployed and World Day of Prayer for the Sick

**There will be a concert by the Apollo Male Voice Choir** in St. Cuthbert's RC Church, Stockton. It will be on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February at 7pm. If you would like to buy a ticket, priced at £10, please see Canon Cooper.

**Lourdes Pilgrimage . . .** Would you like to register as a helper for the Hexham and Newcastle 2025 Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes? The pilgrimage will take place between Friday 25<sup>th</sup> July to Friday 1<sup>st</sup> August 2025. Adult and Youth section volunteer registration forms are now open and live until **31st March 2025**. If you would like any more information about becoming a registered helper on the pilgrimage, please email: [lourdes@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:lourdes@diocesehn.org.uk) or visit our Facebook page: *Hexham and Newcastle Pilgrimage to Lourdes*. Thank you so much for your support and for volunteering to help on our Diocesan Pilgrimage.

**Holy Island SVP Vinnies Camp - Volunteering is a Work of Heart . . .** Holy Island Children's Camp is looking for new volunteers to help in their Holiday Centre on Holy Island. They are in need of young adults to help the children have a great week's holiday on the island in Summer 2025. Full training and support will be given and would suit someone wanting to give back to the Community by helping 9–12-year-olds have fun for a week. They are also keen to attract people who would like to help by volunteering in the Kitchen/Dining room and with caretaking. Term Time Camps need lots of volunteers if they are to survive. If you could find a few days in term time to help out with serving meals, prepping salads and washing dishes they would be truly grateful. By running term time camps, Summer Vinnies Holidays for children can be sustained.

Further information can be found at <https://svp.org.uk/microsite/ozanam-camp> or if you'd like to chat about the role please email [BarbaraT@svp.org.uk](mailto:BarbaraT@svp.org.uk)