

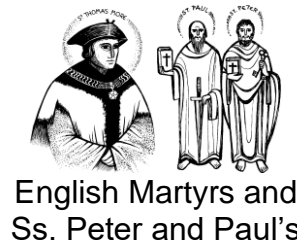
**Times of Mass, Intentions and Services**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent, Year C – 9<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

	<u>English Martyrs and Ss Peter &amp; Paul's</u>	<u>St Joseph's</u>	<u>St Bede's</u>	<u>Feast Days this week</u>
Sat 8th	<b>6:00pm</b> <b>Vigil Mass</b> Anne Brannen RIP (CB)	<b>9:30am</b> Ronald (Ronnie) Woods RIP (the family)	—	—
Sun 9th	<b>12:30pm</b> Mass for the Polish Community	<b>10:30am</b> Thanksgiving (AA&SS)	<b>9:00am</b> Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent</b>
Mon 10th	—	—	—	—
Tue 11th	—	<b>11:30am</b> <b>Funeral Service</b> Barbara Connelly RIP	<b>9:30am</b> <b>Whole School Mass</b> Denis Harrington RIP (GEM) <b>10:00am</b> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	—
Wed 12th	<b>9:30am</b> Priests Intention	—	—	—
Thur 13th	—	<b>10:00am</b> <b>Requiem Mass</b> Maureen Hanson RIP <b>2:00pm – 4:00pm</b> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	—	—
Fri 14th	<b>5:00pm – 6:00pm</b> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament <b>6:00pm</b> Priests Intention	—	—	—
Sat 15th	<b>6:00pm</b> <b>Vigil Mass</b> Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	<b>9:30am</b> Bernard & Jean Roddam RIP (PDR)	—	—
Sun 16th	—	<b>10:30am</b> Brenda Henderson RIP (G)	<b>9:00am</b> Mary Moore RIP (GEM)	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent</b>

<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation</b> <b>Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March</b> <b>EMSSPP Confessional</b> <b>5:00pm – 5:45pm</b>		<b>Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March</b> <b>EMSSPP Confessional</b> <b>5:00pm – 5:45pm</b>	
<b>Or by Appointment – call 01642 806469</b>			

**Bulletin Items:** If you would like a notice included in the next bulletin, please email [parishnewsletterstockton@gmail.com](mailto: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**



**PARISH NEWSLETTER**

**Sunday 9th March 2025**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent Year C**

<b>Clergy</b>	<b>Parish Priest:</b> Fr Mark Millward <b>Assistant Priest:</b> Fr Oliver Keyes <b>Deacon:</b> Paul Hargreaves
<b>Parish Office</b>	<b>Contact:</b> Gill Hall <b>Hours:</b> Wednesday & Thursday - 9.30am till 3:00pm Friday - 9:30am till 2:30pm <b>Tel.</b> 01642 806469 <b>Email</b> <a href="mailto:ourladyofwalsingham@diocesehn.org.uk">ourladyofwalsingham@diocesehn.org.uk</a>
<b>Internet</b>	<b>Parish YouTube:</b> Stockton Parish Family <b>Facebook page:</b> @ParishFamilyStocktonRC <b>Parish website:</b> <a href="http://www.parishfamilystockton.org.uk">www.parishfamilystockton.org.uk</a> <b>Diocesan website:</b> <a href="http://diocesehn.org.uk">diocesehn.org.uk</a>
<b>Parish Contacts</b>	<b>St Vincent De Paul Society:</b> For anything SVP related please speak to one of our members or contact Alan on 07939 912354 or Mary on 07714 327665 or email <a href="mailto:PresidentC211509@svp.org.uk">PresidentC211509@svp.org.uk</a> <b>St. Joseph's Thornton Hall:</b> For any requests to book / hire the Hall please contact Philip and Cath Jackson direct on 01642 284770 Thank you. <b>The Legion of Mary:</b> meets at St Joseph's Norton; Contact 01642 531263 for information. <b>Safeguarding:</b> 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 <a href="mailto:safeguarding@diocesehn.org.uk">safeguarding@diocesehn.org.uk</a>



**Reflection 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent**

To remind us that Lent is a time of testing, the gospel reading of the First Sunday of Lent is always about the testing of Jesus. Through our fasting (or whatever that extra offering we make to the Lord during Lent may be) we enter into solidarity with the hardship undergone by Jesus in his Passion.

Of course Lent is not a matter of testing out how far we can push ourselves (a sort of macho self-torture). Rather it is a period of preparation for the Passion and Resurrection - just like the forty years of Israel in the desert preparing for the Promised Land, or like the prophet Elijah's forty-day preparation before he encounters God on Mount Horeb, or like the forty days during which Christ prepared the apostles between Easter and the Ascension. The point of Jesus' forty-day fast is to give some force in response to the devil's first temptation. To each of the devil's taunts Jesus replies with a word of scripture: if you rely on God's word you are unshakably safe, for God has created and arranged everything. Matthew and Luke have a different order for the second and third temptations: Matthew climaxes with Jesus as the Second Moses, like Moses seeing all the territories from a high mountain. Luke ends the scene as he begins and ends his gospel, at Jerusalem, the turning-point of the gospel - the place where Jesus rises from the dead and ascends to the Father.

We do not live on bread alone. How has the Word of God fed you?

In the solitude of the desert Jesus prayed to his Father. Can you find solitude for prayer?

What can you do during Lent to come closer to the Lord?

*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 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:** Supplies of new envelopes to be used from April onwards will be available shortly. Please 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.

### LENT Activities 2025

**Tuesdays: 11:30am at EMSSPP:** Stations of the Cross followed by Lenten Lunch from Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March  
**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  
**Fridays: 6:30pm at EMSSPP:** Stations of the Cross after Mass

Coming soon 'The Pace of Grace' for Lent 2025 – Lenten retreat and reflection available by this website link: <https://pray-as-you-go.org/series/72-thepaceofgracelent2025> or on the 'Pray as You Go' app.

**Lent Appeal:** As part of the Jubilee year, we are renewing our appeal for support during Lent (and continuing) for Stockton Refugee and Asylum Seekers and Stockton Hope Larder. Thank you.

**Please note** St Mary's – Future phone calls for St Mary's should be directed to **St Cuthbert's Church on 01642 674321**. Thank you.

**Date for your Diary!** On Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> March, St. Patrick's Day itself, it will be exactly fifty years since St. Patrick's Church, Fairfield was opened. To mark the occasion, there will be a concelebrated Mass that evening, followed by a light buffet reception in the St Patrick's Church Hall. All are welcome who may wish to join in the celebrations.

**Friendship group:** This informal group meets on a Tuesday afternoon in the Thornton Hall at St Joseph's, 12.00 until 2.00pm. All are welcome to come along, tea and coffee provided, meet up with other parishioners, great chats and discussions, various activities.

**Stockton Hope Larder:** All volunteers at the would like to thank everyone from all parishes who have donated towards our Christmas hampers. May God bless you all. We are open **every Wednesday from 10:30am until 1pm** offering 10 items of food for £2, also lots of free items including bread, fruit and vegetables. This service is open to anyone. We also have a warm space serving free tea or coffee and a friendly chat. As the weather is so cold, as well as asking for food donations, we are also asking for good quality winter coats for children, men and women. Once again thank you for your generosity. God bless.

**Warm Wednesdays:** Join us from Wed 8th Jan to Wed 16th April, 10.30 to 1.30, The Institute, Grays Road, Grangefield, Stockton TS18 4LN. Free refreshments, free Wi-Fi. Free activities, book swap, bring your knitting & crafts. Warm essentials stall. Ramped access. Supported by Tees Foundation, delivered by Young at Heart ULO C

**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.

**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](mailto: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.

**Webinar: Seeds of Hope** You are cordially invited to join Bishop Stephen and members of the Diocesan Environmental Group (DEG) in a webinar to find out more about the DEG and what we can all do to reduce our impact on the environment.

Date: Saturday 8 March 2025 Time: 11.00am – 12.30pm

Details, instructions and Zoom link available on the Diocesan website: <https://tinyurl.com/mr4cmj99>

**Volunteer Marriage Preparation Course Facilitators** Marriage Care is looking for enthusiastic individuals or couples who have personal experience of marriage and a positive commitment to the values of Christian marriage. to present our "Preparing Together" courses to small groups of engaged couples in a role that is both rewarding and fun.

Full training and support will be provided, and the engaged couples courses normally take place in a one-day workshop.

Find out more at [www.marriagecare.org.uk](http://www.marriagecare.org.uk) or ring Margaret on 01642 552489

**GETTING MARRIED? Plan ahead.....** Take time together to shape the kind of marriage you want. Marriage Care offers facilitator-led marriage preparation courses that can help you to develop a faithful, fruitful, quality relationship that can last a lifetime. The courses are very enjoyable one day group sessions where you can participate and share ideas and experiences with other couples, or not, as you wish. To find out more or to book a session in your local area contact; [info@marriagecare.org](mailto:info@marriagecare.org) or ring 0800 3893801

**Bonhoeffer 12A** is showing at Showcase cinema Teesside Stockton-on-Tees TS17 7BU on Friday 7th - Thurs. 14th March:

Friday at 7.30pm; - Sunday at 4.30pm; - Mon. - Thursday at 4.30pm & 7.30pm. A good box office on the Friday and Sunday would be particularly helpful. For details, trailer and to book go to: [bonhoefferfilm.com](http://bonhoefferfilm.com)

**St Vincent de Paul Society and CAFOD** are working together to offer a week of free residential work experience for 20 young adults in England and Wales. The experience will run from 22<sup>nd</sup> 27<sup>th</sup> June in London. Candidates must have completed their first or second year at university and have a passion for social justice. Applications close on the 20<sup>th</sup> April. For any queries, please contact KeziaH@svp.org.uk

**Join CAFOD's Big Lent Walk in the Jubilee Year** You are invited to join CAFOD's Big Lent Walk and journey together with Catholics in England, Wales and Scotland as Pilgrims of Hope in this Jubilee Year - walking 200km over 40 days during Lent. Journey to one of the churches or shrines designated as places of pilgrimage in our diocese as part of your Big Lent Walk. Every £1 you raise will support communities like Lokho's in Kenya, experiencing the worst impact of the climate crisis, to rebuild their lives in hope. Sign up here: <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/>

**Relaunch of the Diocesan Youth Council** YMT and the Diocese are thrilled to announce the upcoming relaunch of the Diocesan Youth Council, a vital platform for the voices of young people in the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle. This initiative, paused during the COVID-19 pandemic, offers a space for young leaders to develop skills and engage in meaningful dialogue about the future of our Church. The first meeting is scheduled for Sunday 18 May 2025, at St. Mary's Cathedral in Newcastle, from 2:30 pm to 4:00 pm. We are actively seeking motivated students from Year 9 and above to join this transformative council. For more details on the council, how to nominate candidates, and to view the full announcement, visit: <https://diocesehn.org.uk/news/announcing-the-relaunch-of-the-diocesan-youth-council/>

**The Bible, History or Myth? Why it is important to know** -The Newman Association invites you to come and hear Tony Flannery speak about this, in the church hall of Holy Name, Jesmond, on **Tuesday 11 March at 2.30pm – and again at 7.30pm.**

**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)

**Youth Helper for the Lourdes Pilgrimage 2025!** Are you interested in joining our Lourdes Pilgrimage in 2025 as a youth helper? Now is the time to register and secure your spot! By registering, you will receive all necessary forms that need to be completed as soon as possible. Don't miss this incredible opportunity to serve and experience a unique spiritual journey. **Registration Deadline:** End of March 2025 Sign up today at [www.ymt.org](http://www.ymt.org) and be a part of this unforgettable experience. Hurry, spaces are filling fast!

### Prayer and Liturgy News

**Pope Francis Monthly Intentions – March 2025 For families in crisis:** Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.

**World Day of Prayer:** St Andrew's Methodist Church Hardwick TS19 8PH on Friday 7th March at 2pm. This year's theme 'I made you wonderful' has been prepared by Christian women from the Cook Islands. This is an ecumenical worldwide event; everyone is invited and most welcome. There will be light refreshments afterwards.

**Legion of Mary:** ACIES Ceremony will take place on Sunday 23rd March in St Joseph's, Norton. This is the Annual Rededication ceremony and will be followed by refreshments in the the Thornton Hall. All welcome.

**Blessed Carlo Acutis** is scheduled to be the first millennial saint as he will be canonised in April 2025. Because of his devotion to the Eucharist, his youthfulness and his life of deeply commitment Catholic faith in the 21st century, he is a wonderful example to all of us. We are delighted that a relic of Blessed Carlo will visit our diocese between 26-30 March 2025 and there will be opportunities to attend Mass in the presence of the relic, as well as times of veneration and talks about the life of Blessed Carlo, and all are welcome. Further information about the visit and how to book your ticket for an event can be viewed on the following website: [CarloAcutis.bwct.com](http://CarloAcutis.bwct.com) or see the poster in church.

A coach has been booked to take parishioners who would like to go to the Mass in Seaham on 26th March. No charge, but a donation towards the cost from those travelling would be appreciated. **SIGN UP ON THE LIST AT BACK OF CHURCH.**

### The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of the kingdom.

May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.

May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*, a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen

### Readings 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent

**First reading Deuteronomy 26:4-10**

Moses spoke to the people: 'The priest shall take the basket from your hand and set it down before the altar of the Lord your God. And you shall make response before the Lord your God, "A wandering Aramean was my father. And he went down into Egypt and sojourned there, few in number, and there he became a nation, great, mighty, and populous. And the Egyptians treated us harshly and humiliated us and laid on us hard labour. Then we cried to the Lord, the God of our fathers, and the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. And the Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with great deeds of terror, with signs and wonders. And he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. And behold, now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground, which you, O Lord, have given me." And you shall set it down before the Lord your God and worship before the Lord your God.'

**Responsorial Psalm Ps 91(90):1-2. 10-11. 12-13. 14-15. ± cf 15b**

*R: Be with me, O Lord, in my distress.*

1.He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High, and abides in the shade of the Almighty, says to the Lord, 'My refuge, my stronghold, my God in whom I trust!'

3.They shall bear you upon their hands, lest you strike your foot against a stone. On the lion and the viper you will tread, and trample the young lion and the serpent.

**Second reading Romans 10:8-13**

Brothers and Sisters: What does Scripture say? 'The word is near you, in your heart and in your heart' (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. For the Scripture says, 'Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.' For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. For, 'everyone who calls on the name of the Lord

**Gospel Luke 4:1-13**

At that time: Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And he ate nothing during those days. And when they were over, he was hungry. The devil said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread.' And Jesus answered him, 'It is written, "Man shall not live by bread alone." ' And the devil took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, and said to him, 'To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.' And Jesus answered him, 'It is written, "You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve." ' And he took him to Jerusalem and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you, to guard you", and "On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone." ' And Jesus answered him, 'It is said, "You shall not put the Lord your God to the test." ' And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time.

*Readings: ESV - CE © 2024 by Crossway ... Abbey Psalms: © 2018 USCCB*

### Thought for the Day

To the one who still remains in this world no repentance is too late.

*St Cyprian of Carthage*