



**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May 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 Sunday's Gospel Jesus is explaining to his disciples that the events that are about to unfold, that is His passion and death, are not a disaster but rather the culmination of his life's work. His faithfulness to his task of revealing God has brought him to this point and so God is glorified in all that will unfold. The commandment that Jesus now gives is so important, the disciples must love one another in the way that Jesus has loved them. This is what his life's work has been, to draw the disciples into the relationship of love that Jesus shares with his Father. Most of us find love in our lasting friendships and our families, those without whom life would be so much the poorer. Real love transforms and opens the heart more and more; love brings God alive in us.

**Pope's Prayer Intention for May . . . For working conditions** ~ Let us pray that through work, each person might find fulfilment, families might be sustained in dignity, and that society might be humanized.

**Prayer for Pilgrimage to Rome . . .** Please pray for Canon Cooper and Pilgrims as they travel to Rome next week. May they place all their trust in God's guidance.



**Please join us for a 'Bake Sale Fundraiser'** in support of Leo's Neonatal Charity on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May, 2-4pm in St. Patrick's Church Hall. There will be tea, coffee, cakes and a craft stall. Everyone very welcome.

**St Patrick's RC School would welcome volunteers to help with the school garden.** Please telephone 01642 589850 if you can help, your time would be greatly appreciated.

**Catholic maritime charity Stella Maris** will hold its annual Pilgrimage to Holy Island, Lindisfarne, on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2025. Now in its 21st year, this year's Pilgrimage is held as part of the charity's activities for the Jubilee Year of Hope and will include special prayers for seafarers and fishers who find themselves trapped in modern slavery. As with previous years, the Pilgrimage will begin with Prayers on the Green at 12.00 noon followed by a buffet lunch. Mass will be celebrated at 2.00pm, led by Bishop Paul Mason, Stella Maris Bishop Promoter and Bishop of the Forces. All are welcome to join in. For more information, please contact Stella Maris regional chaplains, Steve Willows on 07793 488971 or Peter Barrigan on 07713 924504. This is a free event.

**Prayer for children preparing for their First Holy Communion . . .** Loving God, we thank you for the gift of children who bring so much light and love into the world. We thank you for this opportunity to think about how to help them grow in faith. May we support the children of St. Patrick's, and their families, by our prayers as they journey towards their First Holy Communion. Amen.



5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter			
18	Sunday	9.00am	Paul Joynes
19	Monday	5.30pm	No Mass Medjugorje Rosary
20	Tuesday		
21	Wednesday		
22	Thursday	6.00pm	SVP Rosary & Healing Exposition
23	Friday		No Mass
24	Saturday	9.15am	Nicola Holmes
6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter			
25	Sunday	9.00am	People of our Parish
<b>Anniversaries:</b>			
		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, Chris Bostock	
Reader for Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> May – Hilary Boyce			
For Parish Centre bookings please ring Rebecca on 07514 335003			



Lord, you willed that your church be built upon blessed Peter. Look with favour, we pray, on Pope Leo XIV and grant that he, whom you have made Peter's successor, may be for your people a visible source and foundation of unity in faith and of communion. Amen.

**The Parish shop** has new stock of communion cards and gifts. Please pay us a visit.

**Laudato Si' Mass . . .** Mass at 10.00am at St Mary's Cathedral on Saturday 24th May to celebrate ten years since the publication of Pope Francis' encyclical, *Laudato Si'*. This Mass marks the start of *Laudato Si'* week. Celebrant will be Bishop Stephen, everyone welcome.

**Science and Faith: An Invitation to Conversation . . .** Rev Prof David Wilkinson and the Youth Ministry Trust (YMT) warmly invite anyone interested in the conversation between science and faith to an open meeting on **Wednesday, 28th May**, at the **Emmaus Youth Village, 5:30–6:45 pm**. We want to connect with those involved in science, technology, engineering, healthcare and education, recognising, as Rev Prof David Wilkinson explains, that: *"At ECLAS and YMT we value the work and vocation of those who work in science, technology and engineering; we value this as a gift from God and as an opportunity for the mission and ministry of the church. We would like to talk with those who are involved in science at whatever level in university, industry, schools, or the health service about the possibility of doing work in local churches in the diocese."* This is an open invitation to begin a conversation and explore how these gifts can enrich the life and mission of our parishes. All are welcome! For more information, please contact [phillipsalkeld@ymt.org](mailto:phillipsalkeld@ymt.org) or 01207592244

**Bella Canta Ladies Choir presents**, as part of dementia awareness week, an evening of fabulous musical entertainment on Saturday 24th May, 7.30pm at Greens Lane Methodist Church, Hartburn, TS18 5HP. Free entry - just pay what you think we are worth on the way out and go home with a song in your heart. All proceeds will go to the Alzheimer's Society.

**Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle Vacancy** ~ Communications Manager, permanent, full time. Deadline for applications is 27<sup>th</sup> May 2025. Salary £43,816. Please visit Diocesan Website for more information.