

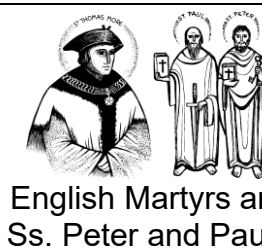
Times of Mass, Intentions and Services
17th Sunday Ordinary Time, Year C – 27th July 2025

| | <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 26th | 6:00pm Vigil Mass Pat Chapman RIP (AC) | 9:30am Jan Jordan RIP & for the people of Gaza (JJ) | — | — |
| Sun 27th | 12:30pm Mass for the Polish Community | 10:30am Sid Gillson RIP (SG) | 9:00am Pro Populo (People of the Parish) | 17th Sunday Ordinary Time |
| Mon 28th | — | — | — | — |
| Tue 29th | — | — | 9:30am Thanksgiving (Alan) (PW) 10:00am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament | Ss Martha, Mary & Lazarus |
| Wed 30th | 9:30am Intentions of Gina H | — | — | St Peter Chrysologus <i>Bishop, Doctor</i> |
| Thur 31st | — | 9:30am Susan Travers RIP (KLG) 2:00pm – 4:00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament | — | St Ignatius of Loyola <i>Priest</i> |
| Fri 1st | 11:00am Funeral Service Jennie Hood RIP 5:00pm – 6:00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 6:00pm Thanksgiving (AA&SS) | — | — | St Alphonsus Mary Ligouri <i>Bishop, Doctor</i> |
| Sat 2nd | 6:00pm Vigil Mass The Ellis Family (BG) | 9:30am Healing Mass Jean Peacock RIP (HW) | — | — |
| Sun 3rd | — | 10:30am Patricia Kearns RIP (CK) | 9:00am Pro Populo (People of the Parish) | 18th Sunday Ordinary Time |

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|---|--|--|
| Thursday 31st July <u>St Joseph's Legion Room</u> <u>after Mass</u> | Sacrament of Reconciliation Friday 1st August <u>EMSSPP Confessional</u> 5:00pm – 5:45pm | Saturday 2nd August <u>St Joseph's Legion Room</u> <u>after 9.30am Healing Mass</u> <u>EMSSPP Confessional</u> 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 27th July 2025
17th Ordinary Time, Year C

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|------------------------|---|
| Clergy | Parish Priest: Fr Mark Millward Assistant Priest: Fr Oliver Keyes Deacon: Paul Hargreaves |
| Parish Office | Contact: Gill Hall Parish office hours: Wednesday & Thursday 9:30am – 3:00pm. Friday 9:30am – 2:30pm Tel. 01642 806469 Email ourladyofwalsingham@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 17th Sunday Ordinary Time, Year C

Luke is the evangelist of prayer. Again and again he shows us Jesus praying. At all the important moments of his life Jesus needs this intimacy with his Father. So he is praying at the baptism; before the choice of the disciples he prays through the night; at the Transfiguration he is praying.

Now the prayer which is so often used by Christians is one he gives us himself. Luke's rendering of the prayer he taught the disciples is slightly shorter than the version in Matthew. It begins with the simple call 'Father' (rather than 'Our Father in heaven') - a noble and affectionate way of speaking to God. 'Thy will be done' is omitted, for it is Matthew who often insists on doing the will of the Father. Instead of 'give us this day our daily bread' Luke presents the insistent 'give us each day', which stresses the continuity of our dependence on God.

After this prayer follows a series of parables and images which underline the importance of persistence in prayer and continual prayer after the model of Jesus himself. Elsewhere Luke will give us other parables about prayer: the Unjust Judge (again teaching perseverance in prayer) and the Pharisee and the Tax-Collector (teaching the importance of humility in prayer). What do Jesus' words in the Gospel teach us about prayer?

Have there been occasions when God has answered your prayers in a way you did not expect?

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 Olive Hepworth, Jennie Hood, Mary Marshall and all those who have died recently. May they rest in peace. Amen.

Stella Maris: Thank you for giving to Sea Sunday. Our parish has raised £246.05 so far. Your generous gifts will ensure that Stella Maris chaplains can continue to be a friend for seafarers and fishers in times of need. To find out more about how your support helps those who live and work at sea, please visit www.stellamaris.org.uk

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.

DBS Volunteers: The Online Update Service – Emails from DBS
The Update Service is a free online subscription service that allows you to keep your enhanced DBS certificates up to date. It enables the Diocese, with your consent, to complete your three yearly DBS check. Your Update Service Subscription requires an annual renewal. When this is due you will receive an email from DBS which will help you to do this. If you do not renew your subscription, it will lapse and subsequently, when your DBS is due for checking, a full application will need to be completed including identity verification. If you need any further information regarding this, please speak to your Parish Safeguarding Representative.

Stockton Hope Larder: St Andrew Church Hardwick: We are open **every Wednesday from 10:30am until 12:30pm** offering 10 items of food for a £2 donation. This service is open to anyone. We also have a warm space serving free tea or coffee and a friendly chat. A Big THANK YOU for your cash donations all your continuing food donations every week which keeps our Larder stocked up. We are overwhelmed by your generosity and the money donations will be very welcome to buy in more food for the larder and keep things running. In these times of rising costs we hope that in a small way we have helped families to get by, and your donations have certainly contributed to that. Blessings to you all. Thank you from Stockton Hope Trustees and Volunteers.

SVP Summer Raffle
Tickets for the SVP Summer Raffle will be available after all three masses on 26th & 27th July. Tickets cost £1 each or £5 for a book. There are various cash prizes, including a first prize of £5000, and the money raised goes to help those in need. Thank you for your continued support.

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 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 and young women. Any donations please contact Karen Dick on 07759 984586. 'RASPS' would like to send their gratitude and heartfelt thanks to all those in the parish of Our Lady of Walsingham for their financial donations over the last 2 years. You have helped us stay open for another year, allowing us to welcome and serve our Asylum Seekers and Refugees in the area.

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 or ring 0800389380

March for Life UK: Join March for Life UK on 6th September in London. The right to life underpins every other right we have and without it every other right is rendered meaningless. Abortion denies the most vulnerable in our society of their most basic right which is why this year's theme is "Human Rights for All Humans." Unite with thousands of others at this family friendly event where we recognise the value of life from conception and stand up for all those who have been impacted by abortion. Find out more at <https://www.marchforlife.co.uk/> or email info@marchforlife.co.uk



CFC WIN!
Representatives from North East Couples for Christ won the trophy at the International Championships in Birmingham last weekend. Competing against entries from other UK areas and Northern European countries, their performance was set in the 1920's after World War I and depicted the rebuilding of the church and the faith of the people at that time.
Congratulations to all who took part!

PARISH FINANCES

FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED MARCH 2025:
A summary of the parish income and expenditure for the year to March 2025, and a comparison with the previous financial year has been posted on each church notice board. The figures show a loss of £30,686; however this is after paying for some unavoidable building repair and maintenance works which were around £50,000 in total. These works had to be completed to ensure the ongoing safety and reliability of our churches. Sincere thanks to all who have contributed to the work of our parish and for all of your fundraising efforts. I know that these are difficult times, but if you can afford to increase your contributions, it will be most appreciated. If you are a taxpayer, please consider signing up to the Gift Aid scheme - this is a vital additional source of income for the parish as we can claim an extra 25% of your donation direct from the Government. Fr Mark

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.

Contact Gill in the parish office for Gift Aid details and forms. Thank you.

Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies (CCRS) 2025-2026 The Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies is managed and awarded by the Board of Religious Studies on behalf of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. The programme seeks to ensure that participants have a basic understanding of the central beliefs of the Catholic faith. This programme is available for catechists, lay leaders and other adults wishing to deepen their understanding of the Catholic faith and Catholic education, serving teachers in Catholic and other schools, and teachers in training preparing to take up posts in Catholic schools. The 2025-2026 CCRS course programme is now available on the Diocesan website: <https://diocesehn.org.uk/education/professional-development-and-formation/#ccrs>
If anyone would like further information, they can contact the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle, Department for Education on 0191 243 3313 or email education@diocesehn.org.uk

Prayer and Liturgy News

Pope Leo XIV's Monthly Intentions – July: For formation in discernment
Let us pray that we might again learn how to discern, to know how to choose paths of life, and reject everything that leads us away from Christ and the Gospel.

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 17th Sunday Ordinary Time, Year C
First reading Genesis 18:20-32
In those days: The Lord said, 'Because the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is great and their sin is very grave, I will go down to see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me. And if not, I will know.' So the men turned from there and went towards Sodom, but Abraham still stood before the Lord. Then Abraham drew near and said, 'Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city. Will you then sweep away the place and not spare it for the fifty righteous who are in it? Far be it from you to do such a thing, to put the righteous to death with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?' And the Lord said, 'If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will spare the whole place for their sake.' Abraham answered and said, 'Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking. Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?' And he said, 'I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there.' Again he spoke to him and said, 'Suppose forty are found there.' He answered, 'For the sake of forty I will not do it.' Then he said, 'Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak. Suppose thirty are found there.' He answered, 'I will not do it, if I find thirty there.' He said, 'Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there.' He answered, 'For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it.' Then he said, 'Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak again but this once. Suppose ten are found there.' He answered, 'For the sake of ten I will not destroy it.'

Responsorial Psalm Ps 138(137):1-2a. 2bc, 3. 6-7b. 7c-8. ±3a
R: On the day I called, you answered me, O Lord.
1.I thank you, Lord, with all my heart;
you have heard the words of my mouth.
In the presence of the angels I praise you.
I bow down towards your holy Temple.
2.I give thanks to your name
for your merciful love and your faithfulness.
On the day I called, you answered me;
you increased the strength of my soul.
3.The Lord is high, yet he looks on the lowly,
and the haughty he knows from afar.
You give me life though I walk amid affliction;
you stretch out your hand against the anger of my foes.
4.With your right hand you save me;
the Lord will accomplish this for me.
O Lord, your merciful love is eternal;
discard not the work of your hands.

Second reading Colossians 2:12-14
Brothers and Sisters: You have been buried with Christ in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God who raised him from the dead. And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by cancelling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.

Gospel Luke 11:1-13
Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said to him, 'Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.' And he said to them, 'When you pray, say: 'Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation.' And he said to them, 'Which of you who has a friend will go to him at midnight and say to him, "Friend, lend me three loaves, for a friend of mine has arrived on a journey and I have nothing to set before him"; and he will answer from within, "Do not bother me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed. I cannot get up and give you anything"? I tell you, though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his impudence he will rise and give him whatever he needs. And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will instead of a fish give him a serpent; or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!'

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

Thought for the Day

I never did anything worth doing by accident, nor did any of my inventions come about by accident - they came about by hard work.
Thomas Edison