

Times of Mass, Intentions and Services
20th Sunday Ordinary Time, Year C – 17th August 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 16th	<u>6:00pm</u> <u>Vigil Mass</u> Jonathan Peter Wright RIP (TW)	<u>9:30am</u> Flora Love RIP (SV & family)	—	—
Sun 17th	—	<u>10:30am</u> Wynne Logan RIP (MH)	<u>9:00am</u> Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	20 th Sunday Ordinary Time
Mon 18th	—	—	—	—
Tue 19th	—	—	<u>9:30am</u> Kevin O'Shea RIP (KO) <u>10:00am</u> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	St Oswin <i>King, Martyr</i> St John Eudes, <i>Priest</i>
Wed 20th	<u>9:30am</u> In Thanksgiving for Friends	—	—	St Bernard <i>Abbot, Doctor</i>
Thur 21st	—	<u>9:30am</u> Flora Love RIP (KLG) <u>2:00pm – 4:00pm</u> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	—	<i>The Dedication of St Mary's Cathedral</i>
Fri 22nd	<u>5:00pm – 6:00pm</u> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament <u>6:00pm</u> Winnifred Cunningham RIP (MB&M)	—	—	The Queenship of Mary
Sat 23rd	<u>6:00pm</u> <u>Vigil Mass</u> Nertney & Stewart Family RIP (AP)	<u>9:30am</u> Susan Travers RIP (SVP)	—	—
Sun 24th	<u>12:30pm</u> Mass for the Polish Community	<u>10:30am</u> Flora Love RIP (Friendship Group)	<u>9:00am</u> Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	21 st Sunday Ordinary Time

Thursday 21st August
St Joseph's Legion Room
after Mass

Sacrament of Reconciliation


Friday 22nd August
EMSSPP Confessional
5:00pm – 5:45pm

Saturday 23rd August
EMSSPP Confessional
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



St. Joseph's



English Martyrs and
Ss. Peter and Paul's



St. Bede's

PARISH NEWSLETTER

Sunday 17th August 2025

20th Sunday Ordinary Time, Year C

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 20th Sunday Ordinary Time

What is this? Jesus came to bring peace and harmony, to perfect the unity of society and families. How is it then that he can here say exactly the opposite? And without apology! There is no, 'I am afraid there may sometimes be disagreements in the family'. Rather, 'I have come to bring disagreements in the family'. To make things worse, in Judaism the family is the basic unit which sticks together through thick and thin. Any Jew will be thoroughly shocked by this passage.

We have seen repeatedly that Jesus' statements are often fierce and extreme: 'If your hand causes you to fall, cut it off'; 'Let the dead bury their dead'. Elsewhere he says 'It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the Kingdom of Heaven' – and the traditional let-out clause that he is talking about a small gate in Jerusalem is simply wrong; there was no such gate!


Jesus is teaching that the most sacred earthly ties are less important than loyalty to the Lord. He chooses the family as an example deliberately because it is so sacred and important, but even so, following Jesus who leads us into all truth is more important still.

What are the hardest circumstances in which you have to make decisions for or against the demands of Jesus?

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 Eileen Fisher and all those who have died recently. May they rest in peace. Amen.

Friendship Group: The Friendship Group at St. Joseph's will not be meeting through the month of August but will be starting again on Tuesday 2nd September. 12 noon – 2pm.

Holy Hikers: walk on Sunday 17th August is to Snods Edge (afternoon tea). Please contact David Mackintosh for more details 07913 021814.

Notice for Bible Alive Subscribers: with effect from the September–October issue *Bible Alive* will be published as a **double issue**, covering **two months in each edition**. This change is being made to help them continue delivering high-quality content in a more sustainable format. As a result, the price of your order will also be adjusted: **Current Price:** £2 per issue **New Price:** £4 per double issue. Please note, this is not a price increase, as the price remains the same over the same two-month period - just consolidated into one combined issue. We appreciate your continued support and understanding.

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 are available. 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

PARISH FINANCES

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

Thought for the Day

We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give. Winston Churchill

Diocesan Vacancies:
Head of Safeguarding - Salary Scale from £46,000 to £52,000
The closing date for applications is 31 August 2025.
Interested applicants should contact Annie Leaver, Head of HR, on annie.leaver@diocesehn.org.uk for an Applicant Pack.
HR Administrator – Salary Scale from £25,000 to £26,345
The closing date for applications is 09:00 Wednesday 20 August 2025.
Interested applicants should contact Annie Leaver, Head of HR, on annie.leaver@diocesehn.org.uk for an Applicant Pack.
Surveyor - The Property Team are looking for a Surveyor to join their busy team at St Cuthberts House.
You will assist in the care and maintenance of all Diocesan land and property, so as to ensure a high-level of professional support is offered to our parish communities and Diocesan schools. This is a 6 month fixed term contract reporting to the Head of Property.
[For a copy of the Job Description please contact annie.leaver@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:annie.leaver@diocesehn.org.uk)
Education Operations Manager - Salary £35,000 to £37,323
Closing date 9.00am on 3 September 2025, applications received after this time cannot be accepted. If you would like to discuss the role or for an applicant pack, please contact catherine.craig@diocesehn.org.uk or annie.leaver@diocesehn.org.uk

Prayer and Liturgy News

Pope Leo XIV's Monthly Intentions– August: For mutual coexistence:

Let us pray that societies where coexistence seems more difficult might not succumb to the temptation of confrontation for ethnic, political, religious, or ideological reasons.

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 20th Sunday Ordinary Time

First reading

Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10

In those days: The officials said to the king, 'Let this man, Jeremiah, be put to death, for he is weakening the hands of the soldiers who are left in this city, and the hands of all the people, by speaking such words to them. For this man is not seeking the welfare of this people, but their harm.' King Zedekiah said, 'Behold, he is in your hands, for the king can do nothing against you.' So they took Jeremiah and cast him into the cistern of Malchiah, the king's son, which was in the court of the guard, letting Jeremiah down by ropes. And there was no water in the cistern, but only mud, and Jeremiah sank in the mud. Ebed-melech went from the king's house and said to the king, 'My lord the king, these men have done evil in all that they did to Jeremiah the prophet by casting him into the cistern, and he will die there of hunger, for there is no bread left in the city.' Then the king commanded Ebed-melech the Ethiopian, 'Take thirty men with you from here, and lift Jeremiah the prophet out of the cistern before he dies.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 40(39):2. 3. 4. 18. ±14b

R: Lord, make haste to help me!

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|--|--|---|
| 1.I waited, I waited for the Lord,
and he stooped down to me.
He heard my cry. | 2.He drew me from the deadly pit,
from the miry clay.
from the miry clay.
made my footsteps firm. | 3.He put a new song into my mouth,
praise of our God.
Many shall see and fear
and shall trust in the Lord. |
|--|--|---|

4.Wretched and poor though I am,
the Lord is mindful of me.
You are my rescuer, my help;
O my God, do not delay.

Second reading

Hebrews 12:1-4

Brothers and Sisters: Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or faint-hearted. In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood.

Gospel

Luke 12:49-53

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, 'I came to cast fire on the earth, and would that it were already kindled! I have a baptism to be baptised with, and how great is my distress until it is accomplished! Do you think that I have come to give peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. For from now on in one house there will be five divided: three against two and two against three. They will be divided, father against son and son against father; mother against daughter and daughter against mother; mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law, and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.'

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