

Times of Mass, Intentions and Services
22nd Sunday Ordinary Time, Year C – 31st 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 30th	<u>6:00pm</u> <u>Vigil Mass</u> Alan Atkinson RIP (MM)	<u>9:30am</u> Priest's Intention	—	—
Sun 31st	—	<u>10:30am</u> Intentions of Alan G.	<u>9:00am</u> Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	22 nd Sunday Ordinary Time
Mon 1st	—	—	—	—
Tue 2nd	—	—	<u>9:30am</u> A Special Intention <u>10:00am</u> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	—
Wed 3rd	<u>9:30am</u> <u>Whole School Mass</u> <u>with Bishop Stephen</u> For our schools	—	—	St Gregory the Great <i>Pope, Doctor</i>
Thur 4th	—	<u>9:30am</u> Thanksgiving for Prayers Answered (PDR) <u>1:00pm</u> <u>Requiem Mass</u> Sheila Mary Ross RIP	—	The Translation of St Cuthbert
Fri 5th	<u>5:00pm – 6:00pm</u> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament <u>6:00pm</u> Jack & Rose Matthews RIP (JC)	—	—	St Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa) <i>Religious</i>
Sat 6th	<u>6:00pm</u> <u>Vigil Mass</u> Maurice Millburn RIP (MM)	<u>9:30am</u> <u>Healing Mass</u> Pauline Eastwood (80 th Birthday) (VS)	—	—
Sun 7th	—	<u>10:30am</u> Sheila Lannon RIP (Friendship Group)	<u>9:00am</u> Pro Populo (People of the Parish)	23 rd Sunday Ordinary Time

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Thursday 4th September
St Joseph's Legion Room
after Mass


Friday 5th September
EMSSPP Confessional
5:00pm – 5:45pm

Saturday 6th September
St Joseph's Legion Room
after 9.30am Healing Mass
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

P A R I S H N E W S L E T T E R

Sunday 31st August 2025

22nd Sunday Ordinary Time, Year C

Clergy	<u>Parish Priest:</u> Fr Mark Millward <u>Assistant Priest:</u> Fr Oliver Keyes <u>Deacon:</u> Paul Hargreaves
Parish Office	<u>Contact:</u> 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	<u>Parish YouTube:</u> Stockton Parish Family <u>Facebook page:</u> @ParishFamilyStocktonRC <u>Parish website:</u> www.parishfamilystockton.org.uk <u>Diocesan website:</u> diocesehn.org.uk
Parish Contacts	<u>St Vincent De Paul Society:</u> 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 <u>St. Joseph's Thornton Hall:</u> For any requests to book / hire the Hall please contact Philip and Cath Jackson direct on 01642 284770 Thank you. <u>The Legion of Mary:</u> meets at St Joseph's Norton; Contact 01642 531263 for information. <u>Safeguarding:</u> 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 22nd Sunday Ordinary Time

Two parables in today's Gospel about invitations to table. Both are from Luke's special material, without parallel in the other gospels. Jesus moves in a higher stratum of society than he does in Mark and Matthew, and often has in mind the implications of the Gospel in this context. The first parable, however, like several of Luke's parables, seems to be developed from a little Old Testament proverb: 'Do not give yourself airs, do not take a place among the great; better to be invited, "Come up here," than to be humiliated' (Proverbs 25:6-7). At first sight this seems a merely worldly precaution, a false humility engineered to gain attention. But for Luke a banquet is always an image of the heavenly banquet of the Lord. So the message is a moral one too: don't think yourself better than you are. The message is also typical of Luke's open and straightforward approach. One is reminded of the Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax-collector at prayer, where the latter prays only 'God be merciful to me, a sinner'.

The second parable also is typical of Luke: it exemplifies his stress on the inherent danger of wealth, on the need to use wealth well, and on his concern for the poor and neglected in society. What is the message of these two parables?

What does their message say to me about the way I lead my own life?

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 Sheila Ross and all those who have died recently. May they rest in peace. Amen.

Friendship Group: The Friendship Group took a summer break through August but will meet again on a regular basis starting on Tuesday 2nd Sept in the Thornton Hall at St. Joseph's 11-30am - 1-30pm. Everyone is welcome to come along.

Book Sales: There will be books for sale in each Church this weekend. All money collected will go to support Fr Vincent and his mission.

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.

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.

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. Grateful thanks to those who have already done so. 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.

Diocesan Vacancies:

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 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

Little Sisters of the Poor – Pie & Pea Supper St Joseph's Home in Newcastle are having a Pie & Pea Supper on Wednesday 24th September at 7pm. Bingo, Raffle and Entertainment. Tickets at £8 each, are available by ringing the Little Sisters on 0191 2731279

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

Visit of the Statue of Our Lady of Fatima, St Joseph's Church, Hartlepool: On Saturday, 6th September, Holy Family Parish Hartlepool will be welcoming the statue of Our Lady of Fatima and the relics of Ss Francisco and Jacinta Marto to St Joseph's Church before they make their way to St Mary's Cathedral. The day will begin at 10am with a procession with the statue and relics followed by Holy Mass, and end with a Holy Hour of exposition and confessions concluding with Benediction at 3.30pm. There will be various other events in which to participate during the day. A full timetable is available on the parish Facebook page "Holy Family Parish, Hartlepool". Please do join us for the whole day if you can, or for any of the events during the day. There is no need to sign up in advance.

Alive in HOPE: A Church for MISSION. Bishop Stephen invites you to a Jubilee Day on Saturday 27th September, from 10 am to 3 pm, at Cardinal Hume Catholic School in Gateshead. Everyone is welcome! There'll be guest speakers from the Prisons' Chaplaincy and the Justice & Peace Refugee Project, and a choice of seminars/forums to reawaken and empower us for mission. This is an opportunity to connect with old friends and new, and to celebrate our diocesan family as we explore what a Church in Mission invites us to be and do! There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and a prayer space in the chapel, and praise and worship led by Durham musicians 'Set A Fire'. Take a look around the marketplace where there'll be stands and gifts from some of our Catholic partners and groups. Registration and refreshments from 9.15am, but please bring a packed lunch. Ample parking is available and entry is FREE but please register at https://bit.ly/DHNAlive25 where you'll also find more information about the https: For enquiries and parish/group bookings, email Amy at formation.mission@diocesehn.org.uk or telephone 0191 2433316. Search on Facebook, X and Bluesky using the hashtag #DHNAlive25 for the latest information and updates or see the church noticeboards.

CAFOD: Response in Gaza: Your donations to Gaza since the start of the conflict have been a vital lifeline. Right now, CAFOD's partner, Caritas Jerusalem, is delivering essential medical treatment to displaced people and providing medicines to treat chronic illnesses. We have helped 1,400 households with cash to buy supplies in the last month and we are currently feeding 2,000 people with new stocks of flour and rice. Despite the restrictions on aid coming into Gaza, CAFOD's local partners are working tirelessly to help people. And with your ongoing support, they will do all in their power to keep doing so. You can find out more about how you can make a difference in Gaza at cafod.org.uk. Thank you for backing our work through holding collections for our Family Fast Day appeals and for continuing to pray for peace in the Middle East. As Cardinal Pizzaballa (Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem) says, "Christ is not absent from Gaza. He is there - crucified in the wounded, buried under rubble, and yet present in every act of mercy, every candle in the darkness, every hand extended to the suffering."

Prayer and Liturgy News

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

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.

Pope Leo XIV's Monthly Intentions – September: For our relationship with all of creation

Let us pray that, inspired by Saint Francis, we might experience our interdependence with all creatures who are loved by God and worthy of love and respect.

Readings 22nd Sunday Ordinary Time

First reading

Sirach 3:17-18, 20, 28-29

My son, perform your tasks in meekness; then you will be loved by those whom God accepts. The greater you are, the more you must humble yourself; so you will find favour in the sight of the Lord. For great is the might of the Lord; he is glorified by the humble. The affliction of the proud has no healing, for a plant of wickedness has taken root in him. The mind of the intelligent man will ponder a parable, and an attentive ear is the wise man's desire.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 68(67):4-5ac. 6-7b. 10-11. ± cf. 11b

R: In your goodness, O God, you provided a home for the poor.

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| 1.The upright shall rejoice at the presence of God; they shall exult with glad rejoicing.
O sing to God; make music to his name.
The Lord is his name. | 2.Father of orphans, defender of widows:
such is God in his holy place.
God gives the desolate a home to dwell in;
he leads the prisoners forth into prosperity. |
| 3.You poured down, O God, a generous rain;
when your heritage languished, you restored it.
It was there that your flock began to dwell.
In your goodness, O God, you provided for the poor. | |

Second reading

Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24a

Brothers and Sisters: You have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them. But you have come to Mount Sion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant.

Gospel

Luke 14:1, 7-14

One Sabbath, when Jesus went to dine at the house of a ruler of the Pharisees, they were watching him carefully. Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he noticed how they chose the places of honour, saying to them, 'When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in a place of honour, lest someone more distinguished than you be invited by him, and he who invited you both will come and say to you, "Give your place to this person", and then you, with shame, will take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, "Friend, move up higher." Then you will be honoured in the presence of all who sit at table with you. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.' He said also to the man who had invited him, 'When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends, or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbours, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the just.'

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

Thought for the Day

If you judge people, you have no time to love them. St Teresa of Calcutta