



Sunday 16th November, 2025

St. Patrick's R.C. Church

Glenfield Road, Fairfield,
Stockton-on-Tees, TS19 7PJ

Parish Priest : Canon John Cooper
Tel. 01642 674321

e-mail: stpatricks.stockton@diocesehn.org.uk

This Sunday's gospel is a powerful reminder of the importance of patience and endurance in the face of trials and tribulations. It encourages believers to remain steadfast in their faith and to seek refuge in prayer and the reading of Scripture. We do not know what the coming year holds for each of us but we do know that if we keep Christ at our side then we will not lose heart whatever befalls us.

This Sunday is the ninth World Day of Prayer for the Poor, with the theme of 'You are my hope.' In his message for this Sunday, the Holy Father urges us to recognise those experiencing poverty as "witnesses to a strong and steadfast hope, precisely because they embody it in the midst of uncertainty, poverty, instability and marginalisation." The Pope urges us all to "offer new signs of hope" that will bear witness to Christian charity, which "is the greatest social commandment." He draws attention to the many 'quiet signs of hope' – in care homes, community centres, soup kitchens and homeless shelters – that often go unnoticed. We pray for the courage and compassion that we may meet them where they are, see in them the face of Christ and ensure their voices are heard.

Lord God, You came to give honour to the least, those forgotten, overlooked and misjudged. You came to give first place to the last, those left behind, misunderstood and undervalued. You came to give a warm welcome to the lost, those who are orphaned, abandoned and destitute. Help us to be your ears to listen to their cries. Help us to be your voice speaking out love and acceptance and to be your feet walking beside those in need. Amen.

St. Bede's and St. Joseph's form groups from Our Lady and St. Bede Catholic Academy would love to invite you all to a very special Mass. The Mass will take place here in school at 2.30pm in Hall A, on Wednesday, 19th November. All of the pupils in St. Bede's and St. Joseph's form groups have prepared this Mass. It will include introduction, readings, reflections and bidding prayers. Our school Praise and Worship group will be leading the music and Fr. Mark will be celebrating the Mass. We would love to see as many of you as possible at this Mass and we thank you for always showing us your care and support.

There will be a Mass for Deceased Members of the Men's Club on Thursday, 27th November. After Mass there will be a social get together in the hall with a glass of wine and Pie and Peas. Please come along and join us and if you would like the Pie and Peas please contact George Hunton, Bill Douglas or telephone Ken Marr on 01642 602336.

St Patrick's- St Vincent de Paul Society/Welburn House . . . Our parish family are invited to join the residents of Welburn House for coffee and chat on Monday 24th November at 10.15am. We hope you will come along, all welcome. Also, in December, we hope to go along for coffee and carols - date to be confirmed.

St Patrick's SVP Conference are having a Christmas Coffee Morning on Sunday December 7th after Mass. This is a thank you to the Parish for their support throughout the year. However, donations given at the event will go towards the SVP Sudan Appeal. All welcome, look forward to seeing you there. Love and thanks, St Patrick's SVP Conference.

33 rd Sunday of the Year			
16	Sunday	9.00am	SPUC Stockton Branch ~ 40 th Anniversary
17	Monday	9.15am 5.30pm	Dixie Thomas Medjugorje Rosary
18	Tuesday		
19	Wednesday		
20	Thursday	6.00pm	Rosary & Healing Exposition
21	Friday	9.15am	All Souls
22	Saturday	9.15am	Leo McCormack (Men's Club)
Our Lord Jesus Christ the King			
23	Sunday	9.00am	People of Our Parish
Anniversaries:		Margaret Foley, Peter Hemblade, Dixie Thomas, Julia McAndrew	
		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 23 rd November – Terry Egerton			
Feast Days: 17 th November: St Hilda of Whitby, 21 st November: Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, 22 nd November: St Cecilia			
For Parish Centre bookings please ring Rebecca on 07514 335003			

Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Heavenly Father, the Blessed Virgin Mary was dedicated to You by her parents. I ask Mary to pray for the plans You have for my life. Where I have strayed onto a road of my own choosing, give me her hand to guide me back to where You want me. Virgin Mary, pray for me. Amen

Next Sunday is Youth Sunday.

There will be a second collection after Mass for the Youth Mission Team to enable them to offer more opportunities to the young people of the Diocese.

Parish Shop: Christmas Cards, Gifts, and Cards for all occasions, on sale after Mass. Thank you for your support.

SPUC Thanksgiving Mass . . . A Thanksgiving Mass for forty years of SPUC Stockton Branch will be celebrated at 9am this Sunday. You are all invited to join us for Holy Mass, followed by light refreshments in the Parish Hall.

The main collection on 2nd November came to £546.22 and on 9th £387.66. Many thanks.

The Clergy Training Fund currently stands at £402.77. The collection remains open for private and group donations until 23rd November. Pink Gift Aid envelopes are at the back of Church, or use a blank envelope marked 'Clergy Training Fund'. Thank you.

St. Patrick's Men's Club Present: 'An Evening with Paul Tilley.' He is a great musician and entertainer, composer and singer. **Saturday 22nd November, 8pm.** in the Parish Centre. Order your tickets now (£6). Contact Ken Marr, tel. 01642 602336.



A Christmas Concert by the Teesside Apollo Male Voice Choir. St. Cuthbert's RC Church, Stockton, on Friday 12th December. Tickets £10, including refreshments, available by contacting Canon Cooper, 01642 674321 or the Apollo Male Voice Choir, 07729 626449.

Please note the bulletin has an extra page this week.

Steam, Wheels 'n' Rails . . .Coming soon to St Patrick's is this exciting musical play, chronicling the story of the birth of the railways right here in our region over 200 years ago. The S&DR200 Community Players will perform this abridged period costume drama on Friday 28th and Saturday 29th November at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre. Tickets are £10 and are available to reserve from briancoady@hotmail.co.uk. Please leave your selected date and ticket quantity request. Your tickets will be available to collect and pay for at the door on your chosen night.

Opera Nova presents: Melodies for Christmas. We are delighted to present Melodies for Christmas - our first Christmas concert for many years and the first Opera Nova performance in our new rehearsal venue – St Patrick's RC Church Hall, Stockton. The Concert is on **Tuesday, 16th December, 7.30pm in St. Patrick's Church Hall.** Tickets £12, U18s/Students – Free, Earlybird £10 if booked by 30th November [Interval refreshments included] Ticketline Phone/text: 07795 323985 Email: operanova25@gmail.com www.operanova.org.uk.

St Patrick's have made us very welcome and we cordially invite you to come and enjoy our concert. The programme will feature a festive selection of opera favourites; lovely arrangements of Christmas songs and some traditional carols that everyone can join in and have a good sing! Devised and accompanied by our Accompanist, Lauren Gilbert and conducted by our Musical Director Benjamin Noble the Christmas programme will also include items from our big production for summer 2026 – Mozart's The Marriage of Figaro. Opera Nova is an amateur opera group founded in the late 1960s. We have a proud tradition of singing and staging opera and are known for our professional standard of performance. Do you love to sing? If you love to sing and are interested in joining Opera Nova, please contact us. E: secretary@operanova.org.uk M: 07795 323985

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes (Centenary Year). Next year from Friday 31st July – Friday 7th August the Diocese will be celebrating its Centenary Year, 100 years since the first Diocesan Pilgrimage, led by Bishop Joseph Thorman. Our centenary year Pastoral theme is The Annunciation "Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you" This is the year of the welcome, of listening and of the 'Yes' that changed everything.

Being the Centenary, we have had increased interest in people wanting to go to Lourdes in 2026. It would help our Tour Operator (Tangney Tours) greatly if you could fill in the pre-registration form on their website if you are contemplating travelling with them. This will assist in helping with travel arrangements and hotels. Please note, this is pre-registration, it does not mean you have booked your place. Please follow the link. https://www.tangney-tours.com/diocese_pilgrimages/diocese-newcastle-2/ or phone 01732 886 666. The Youth Section is a vital part of our Pilgrimage; the assisted pilgrims and hotel pilgrims rely on your generosity in saying 'yes' to assist them throughout the week. The Youth Section is organised through the Youth Ministry Team (YMT). If you are aged 16 (on the day of travel) to 21, please follow the link for more information. [https:// ymt.org/be-a-youth-helper-at-diocesan-lourdes-pilgrimage 2025/ Assisted Pilgrims](https://ymt.org/be-a-youth-helper-at-diocesan-lourdes-pilgrimage-2025/AssistedPilgrims). The pilgrimage offers a special section for Assisted Pilgrims who need nursing care or some other form of specialised care during the week in Lourdes. We have a team of doctors and nurses who provide for the medical care needed and a large team of young and adult helpers who assist. If you would like to know more about being an assisted pilgrim, please contact the Lead Nurse through the email address lourdes@diocesehn.org.uk. Please include in the email your name and a contact number for the Lead Nurse to contact you directly with more information.

Emmaus Bereavement Listening Service: If you are struggling after the death of a loved one, or suffering any significant loss, and would like to share your story with someone outside your family, then a member of the Emmaus Team may be able to help. We would be privileged to support you in your loss as Jesus did for the travellers on the road to Emmaus. The members of the Emmaus team are trained in bereavement listening skills and are experienced in supporting those who are suffering loss. If you think we could help, please ring the Emmaus Bereavement Support Team on 07732 980740. Please leave your name and number and a member of the team will get in touch with you.