

Sunday 23rd November, 2025

St. Patrick's R.C. Church

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

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We often speak of Advent as being a season of time in which we prepare for the Lord's coming into our lives. It is also a season of heightened awareness, helping us to look for God already at work in our lives every day. God is always offering Himself to us. Advent is a time to conscientiously, deliberately, and with awareness respond to His offer of Himself to us. We begin our journey through Advent, looking for the coming of the Lord into our lives. Jesus' words about the unexpected hour encourage us to live each day as if it matters eternally, with kindness, forgiveness and love at the forefront.

Bidding Prayers: New Team There will be a brief (15 - 20 minutes) meeting for the new Bidding Prayers Team, after Mass on Sunday 30th November, in the Meeting Room. If you feel you might like to join it, do come along!

The 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.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY NEWS



Carols after Mass - the Children's Liturgy Group will be providing some early Christmas musical entertainment after Mass on Sunday, 7th December, singing some well-known carols in the Church Hall. We'll be practising and rehearsing during the next few Sundays, so the more voices and musical instruments there the better!

Change for CAFOD - the Children's Liturgy Group will be digging into sofas and raiding their piggybanks to collect copper and silver coins for our CAFOD Christmas Appeal. If we are successful, we'll be looking to buy a really great gift, such as a fresh water supply and/or toilet facilities to make a real difference to the lives of people in some of the poorest parts of the world. If any adults would like to contribute, please see Paul who'll be holding the SVP collection box on the way out of Mass.

A Weekly Reflection and Daily Readings for Advent. . . Advent is a time of preparation and to reflect, and hold onto the messages of hope, peace, joy and love which God promised to us in the birth of Christ Jesus. Members of our Diocesan Writing Team offer this Advent resource to help guide a daily space for reading of the Scripture, reflection and prayer. In it you will find a reflection based on the theme of each week of Advent and an easy-to-follow reference to the readings for each day. The reflections will be available to view and download on the homepage of the Diocesan website from Friday 28 November www.diocesehn.org.uk.



St Patrick's Men's Club invite you to their Christmas Dance featuring 'Striking Back' on Saturday 13th December, 8pm-11pm. Dance the night away or sit and enjoy the music. Please bring your own food and drink, contact Ken Marr to book (01642 602336). Tickets £6.

The next SPUC Club Draw will take place on Sunday, 14 December. Could any outstanding monies be given to Christine, Eileen or Maurice as soon as possible. Many thanks.

1 st Sunday of Advent			
30	Sunday	9.00am	Sick Person ~ Marie Joynes
1	Monday	9.15am 5.30pm	Betty Kimmins Medjugorje Rosary
2	Tuesday		
3	Wednesday		
4	Thursday	6.00pm	Divine Mercy & Healing Exposition
5	Friday	9.15am	Dorothy & Michael Wilson and Family
6	Saturday	9.15am	Sick Person
2 nd Sunday of Advent			
7	Sunday	9.00am	Cain & Joynes Family
Anniversaries:		Malcolm Hall, Joseph Hargan, Chris Marwood, Callum McDonagh	
THE WALL WALL WALL WALL WALL WALL WALL WAL		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 7 th December – Catherine Dixon Barker			
Feast Day: 3 rd December: St Francis Xavier			
For Parish Centre bookings please ring Rebecca on 07514 335003			



Mary, Mother of hope, walk with us during this Advent season and teach us to wait with faith, to trust with confidence, and to welcome Jesus with a pure and joyful heart. Amen.

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.

Christmas Masses, Confession and Carol Services

St. Cuthbert's RC Church (Christmas Eve)Carols ~ 6.00pmVigil Mass ~ 6.30pmSt. Mary's RC Church (Christmas Eve)Carols ~ 11.30pmMidnight Mass ~ 12.00

St. Patrick's RC Church (Christmas Day) Mass ~ 10.00am

Sacrament of Confession and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament ~ Tuesday 23rd December from 6pm until 7.30pm. (St. Patrick's RC Church)

Masses on Friday 26th December & Saturday 27th December will be at 10.00am.

Last weekend's main collection came to £433.32 and the second collection for Catholic Youth came to £210.45. Many thanks. The annual collection for the Clergy Training Fund has now closed and the final total came to £677.77. Again, many thanks.

Opera Nova presents: Melodies for Christmas. The Concert is on **Tuesday**, **16**th **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. 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! The Christmas programme will also include items from our big production for summer 2026 – Mozart's The Marriage of Figaro.