



Sunday 21st December, 2025

St. Patrick's R.C. Church

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



Parish Priest : Canon John Cooper

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Joseph was a man of few words but with decisive and significant actions, his behaviour made a difference. We can learn from the example of Joseph to discern and accept joyfully God's will in our lives. This Sunday's gospel emphasises the importance of trusting God's plan and acting upon divine guidance. It serves as a reminder in the trust of God's timing and the importance of following His will, even when circumstances seem uncertain. The gospel also points to the theme of relationship. Through Mary and Joseph God comes to abide with us, taking our nature and dwelling among us.

4th Sunday of Advent

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21	Sunday	9.00am	Ann Harbron
22	Monday	9.15am	Sick of the Parish Please note ~ no Rosary
23	Tuesday		
24	Wednesday Christmas Vigil Mass		Mass at St. Cuthberts ~ 6.30pm Mass at St. Mary's ~ Midnight
25	Thursday The Nativity of the Lord	10.00am	Roy Crallen and Eddie Southgate
26	Friday	10.00am	Special Intention
27	Saturday	10.00am	Joe and Florence Brannen
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph			
28	Sunday	9.00am	Deceased Members of Harbron, Burke and Norris Families
Anniversaries:		Audrey Gooding, Eddie Southgate, Maureen Binks, Roy Crallon, Norma Robinson, Joseph Brannen, Jean Hemblade	
		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 28 th December – Maurice Ward			
Feast Days: 26 th Dec. St Stephen, First Martyr: 27 th Dec. St John, Apostle and Evangelist			
For Parish Centre bookings please ring Rebecca on 07514 335003			



Lord of everlasting love, as we light the fourth candle let its flame remind us of your boundless compassion. Fill our hearts with kindness, our words with grace and our actions with love, so that we may reflect Your light to the world. Amen.

Holy Father's Prayer Intention for December:

For Christians in areas of conflict ~ Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation and hope.

Christmas Masses, Confession and Carol Services



St. Cuthbert's RC Church (Christmas Eve)	Carols ~ 6.00pm	Vigil Mass ~ 6.30pm
St. Mary's RC Church (Christmas Eve)	Carols ~ 11.30pm	Midnight 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)

Thank You for your donations in memory of John Joynes which amounted to £1024.00 for SVP and SPUC. Thank you for all the love and support shown to John over the past 10 months. Kath and family thank you for the many Masses and sympathy cards. A Holy Mass will be offered for you all.

Last Sunday's collection came to £440.31. Many thanks.

Gwen Gallagher is collecting used stamps for Assistance Dogs and would be grateful if any stamps were left at the back of the porch. Best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to all.

The Year of Jubilee in the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle will officially end in January 2026. Bishop Stephen will close both Holy Doors on Tuesday 6th January, the Feast of the Epiphany. Cathedral Church of St. Mary Newcastle: Mass at 12.05pm. St. Joseph's Church, Hartlepool: Mass at 6.30pm. All very welcome.

Holy Island Term Time Volunteer Opportunity . . . Holy Island SVP Vinnie's Camp are looking for volunteers to help in their kitchen or with caretaking at our centre on Holy Island. Commitment time would vary from a weekend, to half a week, a full week or maybe more if you would like to, and you get to stay in our very comfortable Lindisfarne House accommodation. Applications are open on our website <https://svp.org.uk/microsite/ozanam-camp>. If you are interested or want more information, please email barbart@svp.org.uk

Joy at Christmas



The mystery that never ceases to amaze and move us was renewed this night, the Virgin Mary gave birth to Jesus, the Son of God, wrapped Him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger. That is how the shepherds of Bethlehem, filled with joy, found him, as the angels sang, "Glory to God and peace to men." (Pope Francis)

**Canon Cooper and Deacon Mick would like to wish you
A Holy and Peaceful Christmas**