



St. Patrick's R.C. Church

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Sunday 14th January 2024

This Sunday's gospel is the transitional moment from the ministry of John the Baptist to the ministry of Jesus. John commends Jesus as the Lamb of God and then encourages his disciples to follow Jesus. Each of us has heard, in one way or another, the call of Jesus to come to him and see the life he offers us, and because we have heard that call to become disciples we thank the Father for his love in creating us, in caring for us and sending his Son among us.

This Sunday is Peace Sunday and the theme chosen by Pope Francis is 'Artificial Intelligence and Peace'. Whilst this might seem a strangely technical theme, we know that we do need to think about the consequences of the advances in AI for peace and justice. In that light, Pope Francis is raising a highly contemporary theme and one he has spoken on before when he has addressed the risks in the development of technology, not least in *Laudato Si'* and *Laudato Deum*. He has already said it is a theme he will return to on World Communications Day 2024, when he will consider 'Artificial Intelligence and wisdom of the heart for a fully human communication'.

God our creator and sustainer, we thank you for the gifts of creativity you have given us, for the ability to explore science and understand your creation. We ask your forgiveness for the times we have used science for evil and not for good, for war and not for peace. Make us vigilant as we develop technology, that violence and discrimination may not take root, that injustice and inequality will not be fuelled, that the poor and vulnerable will not pay the cost. May all that we create contribute to peace and justice. Amen

The Christmas collection for the CAFOD Israel/Gaza Relief Appeal came to a splendid £888.78. Many thanks on behalf of CAFOD for your generosity.



St Patrick's Men's Club invite you to a dance on Saturday 27th January, 8pm-11pm. Dance to the music of '60's or Thereabouts.' Please bring your own food and drink, contact Ken Marr to book (01642 602336). Tickets £6.

Pope's Prayer Intention for January: *For the Gift of Diversity in the Church* ~ Let us pray that the Holy Spirit helps us recognise the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic Church.

How are these prayer intentions chosen? The faithful from around the world suggest Papal Prayer Intentions in each country to their national office, which selects some of them and sends those to the international office of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network in Vatican City. Through prayerful discernment the international office selects a large number of them and submits them to the Pope to help his discernment. After his prayer and discernment he entrusts to the International Director of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network the official set of monthly prayer intentions, which are then translated into the major world languages and published in print and digital formats.

2nd Sunday of the Year			
14	Sunday	9.00am	Mary Talbot
15	Monday		No Mass
16	Tuesday		
17	Wednesday <i>St Anthony of Egypt</i>		
18	Thursday	6.00pm	SVP Rosary & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
19	Friday	9.15am	Special Intention
20	Saturday	9.15am	90 th Birthday ~ Alfie McAndrew
3rd Sunday of the Year			
21	Sunday	9.00am	Brian Coyle (1 st Anniversary)
Recently Deceased:		Doreen Hill, Ray Chesser ~ May they rest in peace. Amen	
Anniversaries:		Eileen Lyons, Jean Hemblade	
		Margaret Devlin, 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, Sheila Kerr	
Reader for Sunday 21st January ~ Alf McAndrew			
For Parish Centre bookings please ring Rebecca on 07514 335003			



God, teach us what it means to have faith in silence. When we face trials that are beyond our understanding, help us to find peace. Help me be joyful in hope, patient in affliction and faithful in prayer. Remind us to wait patiently and find peace in your plan. Amen.

An Ecumenical Service will be held in the chapels at Ushaw on Sunday 21st January at 3pm. All are very welcome to attend. Refreshments will be served in the parlour after the service. No ticket is required for this event.



Congratulations to Alfie McAndrew as he celebrates his 90th birthday. God Bless and watch over him always.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity ~ 18th – 25th January 2024: The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity has a history of over 100 years, in which Christians around the world have taken part in an octave of prayer for visible Christian unity. Reflections on the story of the Good Samaritan have been prepared by an ecumenical team in Burkina Faso in Africa with the theme “You shall love the Lord your God ... and your neighbour as yourself.” As we renew our commitment to this call, may this love strengthen our unity as Christians.

Glory to you, Father, for you reveal yourself in your creation and call all people to live in your presence. Glory to you, Christ Jesus, for you give yourself entirely to each one of us and invite us to do the same. Glory to you, Holy Spirit, for you gather us together in love and unity. Glory to you, God of Love, in whom we are created and made one. Amen.



Come and See: Priestly Vocation Discernment Evening. This will take place at St. Joseph’s Church, Thorneyholme Terrace, Stanley on Tuesday 6th February. The meeting takes place between 6.00pm and 8.00pm.