

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS
8th - 15th December 2024

2 ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT	Dipton Stanley	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Partnership Paul Pendleton
Monday 9 th December	Dipton	9.30am School Mass	Iris & Jimmy Lee
Tuesday 10 th December	South Moor	10.00am St Mary's School	Ivy Mulhearn
NO MASS ON WEDNESDAY			
Thursday 12 th December	Stanley	9.30am School Mass	Marie Rostron (SVP)
Friday 13 th December	Dipton	6.00pm - 6.25pm 6.30pm	Adoration (Reconciliation until 6.15pm) Priests Intention
Saturday 14 th December	Stanley	9.30am - 9.55am 10.00am	Adoration (Reconciliation until 9.45am) N.B.F
3 RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT	Dipton Stanley	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Partnership Leslie Liddle

LITURGICAL CALENDAR THIS WEEK		PARISHES CALENDAR THIS WEEK	
Monday	The Immaculate Conception (Solemnity)	This Sunday	Tea and Coffee after Mass (Stanley)
Tuesday	Weekday of Advent	Thursday	Tea and Coffee after Mass (Stanley)
Wednesday	Weekday of Advent	Friday	Free Festive Film - 7.30pm (Stanley)
Thursday	Weekday of Advent	Saturday	Christmas Tree Festival (Dipton)
Friday	St Lucy, Virgin and Martyr	Next Sunday	Christmas Tree Festival (Dipton)
Saturday	St John of the Cross		Carol Service (Dipton)

Finance - 24th November 2024	Offertory Total	Standing Order	Catholic Youth
STANLEY	£332.73	£197.25	£158.56
DIPTON	£95.62	£172.85	£100.95
Future Collections: Advent Alms - 15 th December Christmas offering - 24 th and 25 th December			

DAILY PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Heavenly Father,
in Baptism you called us by name
and made us members of your family,
the Church.

Help all your people to know
their vocation in life,
and to respond by living
a life of holiness.

For your greater glory
and for the service of your people,
raise up dedicated and generous men
who will serve as priests
for the Church
of Hexham and Newcastle.

Send your Spirit to guide
and strengthen our communities,
our seminarians and all
who are discerning their vocation.

Amen.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO NEED HEALING IN
OUR FAMILY OF PARISHES...

Anne Kennedy, Margaret Convey, Maureen Dixon

GETTING YOUR
CHILD BAPTISED

If you or a family member is looking
to have your child baptised, please
collect the leaflet ‘Getting your child
baptised’ from the back of church. This
policy of how we access the
Sacraments of Initiation is applicable
across the Pontop Partnership. Please
read the leaflet carefully before
returning the attached application *in
person* to your parish priest at the end
of Mass.

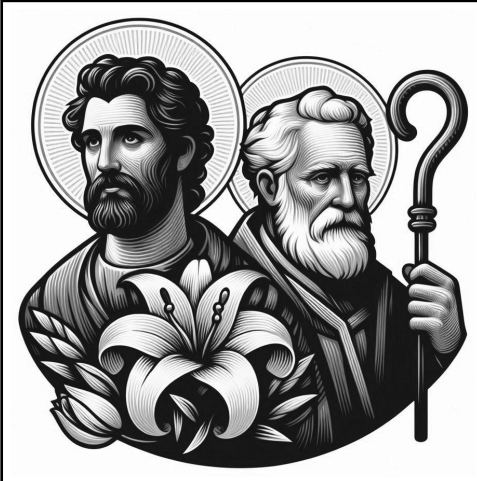


A GENTLE REMINDER...

Please remember to switch off your mobile phone
(or put it on silent) when coming into Church.

We show reverence to Jesus present in the Tabernacle.

Please talk to God before Mass and one another afterwards.



Roman Catholic Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle
a registered charity 1143450

The Parishes of

SAINT JOSEPH, STANLEY

— ✠ —

SAINT PATRICK, DIPTON

St Joseph's Presbytery
Thorneyholme Terrace
Stanley, DH9 0BL

01207 299 012

stjoseph.stanley@diocesehn.org.uk

✠

Father Shaun Purdy
Parish Priest
pp.stjoseph.stanley@diocesehn.org.uk

✠

Reverend Paul Nichol
Parish Deacon
07906 489 152

✠

Melissa Gillespie
Parish Administrator

✠

Office Hours
Tuesday - Friday
9.30am - 3.30pm

✠

Everyone in the Church has a responsibility
to safeguard and promote the wellbeing of
those who worship in our Church or who
join us for any activity facilitated by Church
members. If you are concerned about the
welfare of a child or adult at risk,
information is available on the noticeboards
at the back of our Churches.

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If you would like to receive this newsletter
by email, please contact the office.

LISTEN TO THE WORD
1ST DECEMBER 2024 - 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Jeremiah 33: 14-16 Psalm 25 1 Thessalonians 3: 12-4: 2
Luke 21: 21-25, 34-36

We are at the beginning of a journey through the Gospel of Saint Luke which will
lead us, initially, through the weeks of Advent to the coming of Our Saviour Je-
sus Christ. We will meet people on our journey who will light the way. We are
also on a journey to the revelation of God's plan for humanity, shrouded in mys-
tery, all will be revealed in due time.

God's revelation was made first to the Jewish people and so the first reading of
Advent is from the Book of Jeremiah. Jerimiah speaks to his people promising
them a great future with the coming of the Messiah, “a righteous branch to spring
up from David”, he urges the people to keep faith. But the people fail to respond,
and their fate is deportation to Babylon, leaving Jerusalem in ruins.

Paul begins with a prayer. He prays that their love will grow and that they be
filled with the holiness that comes from God. A new covenant with God is being
established, the message that Paul is taking to all who will listen is that this is a
new time, the old time has gone, the boundaries have been broken, and all, jews
and gentiles, will be reborn into a new creation.

Often, in the Gospels, Jesus uses exaggerated language to raise people's aware-
ness that change is coming. The apostles are moving towards Jerusalem and He
is continually warning them of what is to come but, like the Jews of Jeremiah's
time they are not listening. He is signalling the end of the present time and of the
emergence of a new day when those who are faithful will emerge from captivity
to freedom. But He warns them to “Stay awake and keep praying” for their re-
ward will be “to stand before the Son of Man.

The Year of Prayer is coming to an end on Christmas Eve and soon we will enter
2025 The Year of Jubilee. We complete our journey of prayer in the four weeks
of Advent.

A Prayer based on 1 Thessalonians 3: 12

“May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for
all”

Lord,
I am writing this prayer as hope is coming for a ceasefire in Lebanon.
Your message of love for one another and for all fills me full of hope that this
time of great distress is coming to an end for the people of Lebanon, of Gaza and
of Israel.
Let people of peace on all sides make this a lasting cessation of war.
Pour your grace on our world so that your peace will come to reign among us and
your gift of freedom from want can be made manifest on our earth, our home.

Amen.

David Frank.

LITURGY OF THE WORD
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (C)

THE ORDER OF MASS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 4 OF THE HYMN BOOK

First Reading Baruch 5:1-9

Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem, and put on for ever the beauty of the glory from God. Put on the robe of the righteousness from God; put on your head the crown of the glory of the Everlasting. For God will show your splendour everywhere under heaven. For your name will for ever be called by God: 'Peace of righteousness and glory of godliness'. Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height and look towards the east and see your children gathered from west and east, at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that God has remembered them. For they went forth from you on foot, led away by their enemies; but God will bring them back to you, carried in glory, as on a royal throne. For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made low and the valleys filled up to make level ground, so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God. The woods and every fragrant tree have shaded Israel at God's command. For God will lead Israel with joy in the light of his glory, with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm Ps 126(125):1-2b. 2c-3. 4-5. 6. R3

Response: What great deeds the LORD worked for us! Indeed, we were glad.

When the LORD brought back the exiles of Sion, we thought we were dreaming. Then was our mouth filled with laughter; on our tongues, songs of joy.

Then they said among the nations, 'What great deeds the LORD worked for them!' What great deeds the LORD worked for us! Indeed, we were glad.

Bring back our exiles, O LORD, as streams in the Negeb. Those who are sowing in tears will sing when they reap.

They go out, they go out, full of tears, bearing seed for the sowing; they come back, they come back with a song, bearing their sheaves.

Second Reading Philippians 1:3-6, 8-11

Brothers and sisters: I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all, making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. And I am sure of this,

that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Verse

Prepare the way of the LORD, make his paths straight; all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

Gospel Luke 3:1-6)

The Lord be with you. And with your spirit. A reading from the Holy Gospel according Luke. Glory to you, O Lord.

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness.

And he went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, 'The voice of one crying in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall become straight, and the rough places shall become level ways, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God." '

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

QUESTIONS FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION

- In what sense has the coming of Christ brought peace to the world?
- Which of these three comings of Chris is the most important for us?
- What sort of change in my lifestyle is needed fore me to welcome Jesus at Christmas?

Taken from the Sunday Word, Henry Wansbrough OSB

GENERAL NOTICES

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

The Christmas Mass times will be as follows:

Christmas Eve 4.00pm Dipton 6.30pm Stanley Christmas Day 10.00am Stanley

CHRISTMAS AFTERNOON TEA

St Mary's School, South Moor, invite parishioners from our Family of Parishes to a Christmas Afternoon Tea on Tuesday 17th December at 1.30pm in the School Hall. If you would like to attend, please contact the School Office on 01207 232189 by Tuesday 10th December.

BAMBINELLI SUNDAY

Next Sunday, the 3rd Sunday of Advent is known as Bambinelli Sunday. This beautiful tradition was begun by Pope St John Paul II. He invited children and adults to bring their baby Jesus that would go into the crib to St Peter's Square on 3rd Sunday of Advent, where he would bless the babies. You are invited to bring your baby Jesus to Mass next Sunday, where they will be blessed.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

14th & 15th December - Christmas Tree Festival at St Patrick's Dipton 1pm - 4pm. It is £10 to display a tree. If you would like to book a place please contact Deacon Paul on 07906 489 183 or Aileen Mantle on 07745 943 455.

15th December - Our Family of Parishes Carol Service will take place at 4.00pm at St Patrick's, Dipton.

21st December—An evening of Festive Music with Craghead Colliery Band in St Joseph's at 7.30pm. Tickets £5.00.

CHRISTMAS TOY APPEAL

PACT House Stanley is appealing for Christmas gifts for children up to the age of 16. Should you wish to donate, please bring any items to St Joseph's or St Patrick's Churches and we will pass them on. PACT House also hosts a Christmas Day meal that sees over 200 people provided with dinner and a small gift, which helps a lot of isolated people feel included. Please let the office know if you would like to refer someone for this meal and we can pass this along to PACT House.

LOVE CHRISTMAS

With the help of your generosity we aim to make Christmas a little bit better for those across our community who need a helping hand. Last year we distributed "Love Christmas Dinner" bags, toiletries gift bags for young people living in temporary accommodation, gift bags for adults with learning needs and lastly, helped the mothers of the children in our local Women's Refuge with something extra for Christmas. Your generosity helped to make a big difference to a lot of people. Please be as generous as you can this year.

HYMN BOOKS

There are currently 6 of the new hymn books missing from St Patrick's, Dipton. If you have inadvertently taken one home by mistake, can you please return it. Thank you.

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

On Monday we celebrate the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, the doctrine that Our Blessed Lady was conceived without sin. This is central to our Catholic Faith in understanding the Christmas message, that Mary was chosen by God to be the mother of His Son. Mass will be celebrated at St Patrick's at 9.30am and we will be joined by the children from School. Please do come along and share in this very special solemnity.

CAROLS AROUND THE TREE

On Friday 20th December at 1.30pm, St Joseph's School invite you to join them for Carols around the Tree in Church. Please do come and support our staff and Children.

FREE FESTIVE FILM NIGHTS

During Advent, there will be Free Festive Film Nights in the meeting room at St Joseph's, Stanley. Bring your own alcoholic beverages/Soft drinks and popcorn/sweets.

The films will begin at 7.30pm on the following Fridays:

Friday 13th December The Muppet Christmas Carol U Scrooge, an old miser who dislikes Christmas, is visited by spirits who foretell his future and share secrets from his past and present, which helps change his view on life.

Friday 20th December Nativity! PG An uptight but secretly heartbroken primary school teacher's little white lie about Hollywood coming to see his class' nativity play grows like wildfire in his rag-tag school low on self-esteem.

FLAME 2025

Takes place on Saturday 15th March. The theme is 'UNSTOPPABLE. FAN THE FLAME OF HOPE'. It is open to anyone from school year 9 to University/young adult age. Under 18's must be part of an organised group. Please talk with your school chaplain, catechist or parish priest if you would like to come along. Two years ago, over 700 young people from our Diocese travelled to Wembley Arena for this national Catholic youth gathering. Once again YMT is hoping to take a large number of young people (up to 1,000 including accompanying adults). COST: £45 per person (includes return rail travel, Wembley ticket and London travel card). The cost has been generously subsidised by Significance, the charity founded by Fr Dermott Donnelly. For further information contact mary.hughes@ymt.org

ST JOSEPH'S CHRISTMAS TREE

The Christmas Tree will go up in St Joseph's, Stanley on Thursday 19th December.

Could you spare half an hour/an hour to help put it up? Come and help after the Mass and Coffee Morning. Mass will be at 10.00am.

ST JOSEPH'S BIG CLEAN

On Saturday 21st December from 10.30am, we invite anyone who can help to come and clean St Joseph's Church in preparation for Christmas. If you can help, please turn up - no experience necessary. You will be paid in hot drinks and biscuits!