

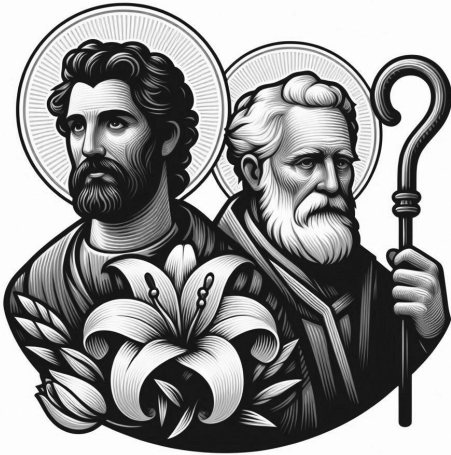
MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS
12th - 19th January 2025

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD	<i>Dipton</i>	9.00am	People of the Partnership
	<i>Stanley</i>	11.00am	Muriel Charlton & Lillian Gillespie
Monday <i>13th January</i>	<i>Dipton</i>	<i>9.30am</i> 10.00am	<i>Adoration (Reconciliation until 9.45am)</i> Deceased Members of the Costello & Boyle Families
Tuesday <i>14th January</i>	<i>Stanley</i>	<i>9.30am</i> 10.00am	<i>Adoration (Reconciliation until 9.45am)</i> Mary Bell (SVP)
NO MASS ON WEDNESDAY			
Thursday <i>16th January</i>	<i>Stanley</i>	10.00am	Ben Rouse (SVP)
Friday <i>17th January</i>	<i>Dipton</i>	<i>6.30pm</i> 6.30pm	<i>Adoration (Reconciliation until 6.15pm)</i> Marie Rostron
Saturday <i>18th January</i>	<i>Stanley</i>	<i>9.30am - 9.55am</i> 10.00am	<i>Adoration (Reconciliation until 9.45am)</i> Lilian Osborne (SVP)
2ND SUNDAY OF THE YEAR	<i>Dipton</i>	9.00am	People of the Partnership
	<i>Stanley</i>	11.00am	Michael B. Tennant

LITURGICAL CALENDAR THIS WEEK		PARISHES CALENDAR THIS WEEK	
Monday	Feria	Sunday	Coffee after Mass (Stanley)
Tuesday	Feria	Thursday	Tea and Coffee after Mass (Stanley)
Wednesday	Feria		
Thursday	Feria		
Friday	St Anthony of Egypt, Abbott		
Saturday	Saturday Memorial of Our Lady		

Finance - 24 & 25 Dec 2024	Offertory Total	Standing Order	Christmas Offering	Crib Collection
STANLEY	£949.60	£197.25	£243.74	£147.14
DIPTON	£373.78	£172.85	£135.80	£47.50
29th December 2024:	SJ: £457.85 / SP: £84.00	As above	-	SJ: £57.00 / SP: £53.20
Future Collections: 2 nd February - Diocesan Levy 16 th March - CAFOD Family Fast				

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, Doreen Bailes 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 <i>in person</i> 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. <i>Please talk to God before Mass and one another afterwards.</i>
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Roman Catholic Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle
a registered charity 1143450

The Parishes of

SAINT JOSEPH, STANLEY
— ✠ —
SAINT PATRICK, DIPTON

St Joseph’s Presbytery
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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.



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



LISTEN TO THE WORD
12TH JANUARY 2025 - BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Isaiah 40: 1-5, 9-11 Psalm 103 Titus 2: 11-14, 3: 4-7 Luke 3: 15-16, 21-22

Baptism is a sacrament; it is a meeting place, a holy place, where we come face to face with God. In Baptism we are named, we are placed into the arms of God and become known to Him in a very special way. We receive a special gift, the Holy Spirit, a companion on our life journey. As we grow, the Spirit, given to us in the sacrament, grows with us and we have the choice whether to use the gift or to let it lie, dormant, until, perhaps on a future day, our hearts are awakened by God’s call.

The people of the Old Testament were forever searching for God. In today’s passage from Isaiah he acknowledges that the search has been long and difficult. He speaks of a time when a highway will be made straight in the desert, when valleys are lifted up, and mountains laid low so that “the glory of the Lord shall be revealed. He speaks of the Lord as a shepherd tenderly caring for his flock and gathering the lambs in his arms.

In Paul’s time Baptism involved a great leap of faith, it was a lifelong commitment, often involving danger and martyrdom. Paul announces that “The grace of God has appeared”, that it is time to renounce our previous faults and begin a new life washed clean by the sacrament and filled by the Holy Spirit “whom he poured on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior”. The way we follow leads to the hope of eternal life.

There was great excitement when John appeared in the wilderness announcing the water of repentance. People flocked to him in the hope that he was the Messiah; but he denied this, promising only that another was among them and that, whilst John baptised with water, he would baptise “with the Holy Spirit and fire”. Luke describes in epic language the descent of the Holy Spirit and the voice of God. Jesus was at prayer; he would have been aware of the noises surrounding him as John continued to baptise the people. Did Jesus have a sudden revelation that this was a special moment? From this moment the mission of Our Lord begins, His heart is awakened by the Father’s call, and everything changes. The journey begins.

A Prayer based on Psalm 104

“You send forth your spirit, and they are created, and you renew the face of the earth”

Lord,

Thank you for the gift of Baptism.

When we first come into your presence you bless our name and invite us to be your children.

You wash us with the waters of salvation and anoint us as priest, prophet and king making us great in your sight.

And you set over us your Holy Spirit to guide us through the trials and joys of life until we are welcomed once again into your presence.

For this we give you thanks.

Amen.

David Frank.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD (C)

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

First Reading

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.
Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her
that her warfare is ended,
that her iniquity is pardoned,
that she has received from the LORD's hand
double for all her sins.

A voice cries:
'In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.
And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.'

Go on up to a high mountain,
O Sion, herald of good news;
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good news;
lift it up, fear not;
say to the cities of Judah,
'Behold your God!'
Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;
behold, his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.
He will tend his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms;
he will carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead those that are with young.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm *Ps 104(103):1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30. R1*

Response: **Bless the LORD, O my soul!
My God, how great you are!**

O LORD my God, how great you are,
clothed in majesty and honour,
wrapped in light as with a robe!
You stretch out the heavens like a tent.

On the waters you lay the foundation for your dwelling.
You make the clouds your chariot;
you ride on the wings of the wind.
You make the winds your messengers,
flame and fire your servants.

How many are your works, O LORD!
In wisdom you have made them all.
The earth is full of your creatures.
Vast and wide is the span of the sea,
with its creeping things past counting,
living things great and small.

All of these look to you
to give them their food in due season.
You give it, they gather it up;
you open wide your hand, they are well filled.

You hide your face, they are dismayed;
you take away their breath, they die,
returning to the dust from which they came.
You send forth your spirit, and they are created,
and you renew the face of the earth.

Second Reading

Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7

Beloved: The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness, and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Saviour appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Saviour, so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Verse

He who is mightier than I is coming, said John.
He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire

Gospel

Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

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

At that time: As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, John answered them all, saying, 'I baptise you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire.'

Now when all the people were baptised by John the Baptist and when Jesus also had been baptised and was praying, the heavens were opened, and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, 'You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.'

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

QUESTIONS FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION

- ✠ How is the Spirit active in this particular local community?
- ✠ Is the dove a good symbol of the Spirit?
- ✠ What is your favourite Gospel and why?

Taken from the Sunday Word, Henry Wansbrough OSB



GENERAL NOTICES

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

Of your charity, please pray for the repose of the souls of:
Patricia Ann Kirk, Mary Bell and Ben Rouse

Patricia's Funeral Liturgy will take place on Tuesday 21st January at 12noon in St Patrick's Church, Dipton, followed by burial at Harelaw Cemetery.

Mary's Requiem Mass will take place on Thursday 23rd January at 10.00am in St Joseph's Church, Stanley, followed by burial at Stanley Cemetery.

Ben's Requiem Mass will take place on Monday 27th January at 11.00am in St Joseph's Church, Stanley, followed by cremation at Mountsett Crematorium

We offer the sympathy of our family of parishes to their families at this sad time.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

The annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes takes place from Friday 25th July – Friday 1st August 2025.

The Lourdes pastoral theme for 2025 is: "With Mary, Pilgrims of Hope" The pilgrimage is led by Bishop Stephen Wright.

The Pilgrimage provides a unique opportunity to gather with our Bishop, to pray and journey together in faith. It is a time to stand apart from the rigours of life and seek the peace, healing, and grace which a pilgrimage experience can afford.

Included in the price is:

- Return air fares – From Newcastle to Lourdes
- 1 checked baggage weighing 20kg and 1 piece of hand luggage – final details will be provided 2 weeks prior to departure.
- 7 days in Lourdes
- Hotel transfers
- Travel Insurance
- Full Diocesan pilgrimage programme

To book your place, go to the Tangney Tours website: www.tangney-tours.com/tours-and-pilgrimages/diocese-hexham-newcastle/departures/ or call 01732 886666

VOCATIONS CHAT

16th January, for young people (17 - 30). An online opportunity to find out more about the vocation to religious life and priesthood. There will be some input from different Religious, opportunity to chat with other young people who are asking similar questions, and time for a Q&A session. Register: <https://bit.ly/VocationsChat25>

VOCATIONS WEEKEND FOR WOMEN

21st - 23rd February 2025. Location: Liverpool - In Person. The weekend is organised by the Sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ). If you are wondering if God is calling you to religious life and would like to find out more why not come along? You are welcome to stay for the weekend or just come along on Saturday for the day. There will be opportunity for prayer, reflection and input, chance to ask questions and to meet others who are also wondering where God is calling them. For more information contact Sr Lynne fcJ at fcjvocationeurope@gmail.com or visit www.fcjsisters.org.

THANK YOU

A big thank you to all those who made the Christmas Celebrations such a wonderful experience for parishioners and visitors; there are far too many people to thank individually, but we do appreciate all that you do throughout the year.

Father Shaun and Deacon Paul thank parishioners for their cards and gifts over Christmas. May God bless you all for your generosity.

PILGRIMAGE: HEARTS IN SEARCH OF GOD (WEBINAR)

Why go on Pilgrimage? All are welcome to join us for this online Year of Jubilee formation opportunity based on pilgrimage.

We are delighted to welcome our guest speaker Dr Phil McCarthy, project lead for Hearts in Search of God: Pilgrim Ways, who will share his wisdom and experience based on the history, significance and spirituality of pilgrimage. The session will also explore and consider some of the options and practicalities for embarking on a local pilgrimage during the Year of Jubilee 2025: Pilgrims of Hope.

Date: Wednesday 15 January 2025 | Time: 7.00pm – 8.00pm | Online via Zoom
Please contact adminfaith.mission@diocesehn.org.uk or call 0191 243 3316 to book your place. Booking deadline is Monday 13 January 12 noon.

PROUD CATHOLICS

Do you identify as LGBTQ+ or are you questioning your sexual or gender identity? We are a support group run by and for LGBTQ+ Catholics in the North East. We meet on the third Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm at St Andrew's RC Church, Worswick St. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 21st January, at 7.30pm. We will come together with representatives of other Christian denominations to celebrate the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity and share updates on our experiences of LGBTQ+ inclusion in our churches. Zoom link available. For more information, phone us on 07858 934457, email info@proud catholics.co.uk or visit our Facebook and Instagram pages @proud catholicsuk.

SHARING THE ROSARY

You are very welcome to join us at Holy Name Parish Hall on Towers Avenue, Jesmond for a 4-week course exploring the Rosary, its history and its significance in Catholic prayer traditions. Each one-hour session will include opportunities to learn about the Mysteries of the Rosary, pray a shared Decade, and even make your own set of Rosary beads. The course will run on Saturdays 25 January, 1s^t February, 8th February and 22nd February 2025. Refreshments will be available from 2:00 pm, with sessions finishing at 3:30 pm. We warmly invite participants from other parishes, families, and young people to join us in this Jubilee Holy Year on this journey of faith and community. Whether you're new to the Rosary or have prayed it for years, all are welcome. Rosary beads will be available for anyone who needs them, but feel free to bring your own—especially if they hold a special story you'd like to share. To join the course, please either email welcome@holynamesjesmond.co.uk or telephone (0191) 2810940.

THANK YOU

St Joseph's December coffee mornings raised £86.50 for church funds.