

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS
26th January - 2nd February 2025

3RD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR	<i>Dipton Stanley</i>	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Partnership Mary & Larry Stoker
Monday <i>27th January</i>	<i>Stanley Dipton</i>	11.00am 6.30pm	Requiem Mass for Ben Rouse N.B.F
Tuesday <i>28th January</i>	<i>Stanley</i>	<i>9.30am</i> 10.00am	<i>Adoration (Reconciliation until 9.45am)</i> Priests Intention
NO MASS ON WEDNESDAY			
Thursday <i>30th January</i>	<i>Stanley</i>	10.00am	Priests Intention
Friday <i>31st January</i>	<i>Stanley</i>	9.30am	Intentions of the Staff and pupils of St Joseph's School <i>(Bishop Stephen is celebrating the Mass in Church, and visiting St Joseph's School)</i>
Saturday <i>1st February</i>	<i>Stanley</i>	<i>9.30am - 9.55am</i> 10.00am	<i>Adoration (Reconciliation until 9.45am)</i> Priests Intention
THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD	<i>Dipton Stanley</i>	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Partnership Intentions of the Youth Ministry Team

LITURGICAL CALENDAR THIS WEEK		PARISHES CALENDAR THIS WEEK	
Monday	Feria	Thursday	Tea and Coffee after Mass <i>(Stanley)</i>
Tuesday	St Thomas Aquinas		RCIA <i>(Stanley)</i>
Wednesday	Feria	Friday	Bishop Stephen visiting St Joseph's School
Thursday	Feria	Next Sunday	Tea and Coffee after Mass <i>(Dipton)</i>
Friday	St John Bosco		
Saturday	Saturday Memorial of Our Lady		

Finance - 19 January 2025	Offertory Total	Standing Order	Crib Collection
STANLEY	£422.88	£197.25	£33.00
DIPTON	£122.20	£172.85	£10.50
Future Collections: 2 nd February - Diocesan Levy 16 th March - CAFOD Family Fast			

Prayer for the Jubilee Year

Father in heaven,
may the faith you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of charity enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed hope
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.
May those seeds transform from within both humanity
and the whole cosmos
in the sure expectation
of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.
May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth.
To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever.
Amen

Franciscans

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 *in person* to your parish priest at the end of Mass.

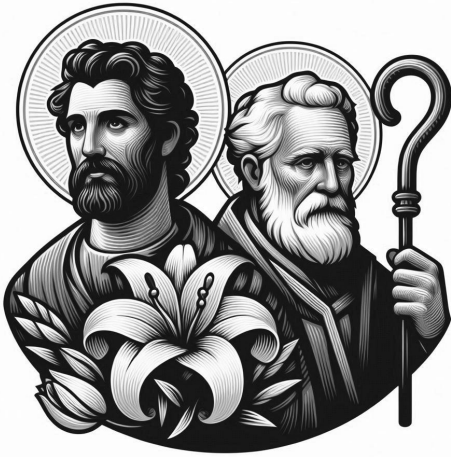


A GENTLE REMINDER...

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

www.stanleycatholic.org

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
26TH JANUARY 2025 - 3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Nehemiah 8: 2-4a, 5-6, 8-10 | Psalm 19 | Corinthians 12: 12-30 | Luke 1: 1-4, 4:14-21

In our Mass we have two liturgies, firstly of the Word and then of the Eucharist. Basically, we have a period of scripture and teaching, the Word and then a shared meal, the Eucharist. We are following, in effect, an ancient tradition as we can see from today's first reading from the prophet Nehemiah. Here we have a ceremony where the people are gathered, and the Jewish Book of the Law is proclaimed. Ezra the scribe was chosen to read, he spoke from an elevated position so that he could be seen. It was important that the people not only heard the word, but they also understood the meaning so, as Ezra paused from time to time, the Levites went among the people and gave the meaning to them. Afterwards they had a feast, and food was distributed to those who could not come to the ceremony.

One of the purposes of the reading of the Book of the Law was to unify the Jewish people with a common purpose. When Paul speaks to the people of Corinth, he is aware of the different factions operating in the city. He needs to bring these diverse groups together and he does so by comparing different parts of the body to show their need to work together for the benefit of all. This unity of purpose is essential in all we do. We cannot survive as a church community if we are divided. We are the body of Christ, one body, blessed by God, formed to be His body on earth. If there are divisions, they must be healed, so that we can walk together on our Pilgrimage of Hope.

In today's Gospel Jesus goes to an elevated position in the synagogue and reads from the Book of Isaiah, He is repeating the actions of Ezra and, following the example of the Levites, He then begins to teach His listeners, giving the meaning to them. The chosen piece of scripture is a proclamation by Jesus of His ministry. The Spirit of the Lord is working in him. He comes to bring good news to the poor, liberty to captives, sight to the blind, to set free the oppressed and proclaim the year of God's favour. He then sits down and begins to speak "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing". Can you imagine the reaction of the people? What is your reaction to the challenge set by Our Lord?

A Prayer based on Luke 4: 18
"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me"

Lord,
In Baptism we received the Gift of the Holy Spirit.
In Confirmation that same Spirit came down on us again.
He is in our lives, but we do not always recognise Him.
Teach us Lord to listen to His wisdom, help us understand how He works within us for your glory.
May we be a sign that the Holy Spirit is alive and active in your world.
Amen.

David Frank.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)

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

First Reading

Nehemiah 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10

In those days: Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could understand what they heard, on the first day of the seventh month. And he read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand. And the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law.

And Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden platform that they had made for the purpose. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was above all the people, and as he opened it, all the people stood. And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, ‘Amen, Amen,’ lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshipped the LORD with their faces to the ground. Ezra and the Levites read from the book, from the Law of God, clearly, and they gave the meaning, so that the people understood the reading.

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, ‘This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep.’ For all the people wept as they heard the words of the Law. Then he said to them, ‘Go on your way. Eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions to anyone who has nothing ready, for this day is holy to our LORD. And do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.’

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 19(18):8. 9. 10. 15. R̥ John 6:63c

Response: **Your words, O LORD, are spirit and life.**

The law of the Lord is perfect;
it revives the soul.
The decrees of the Lord are steadfast;
they give wisdom to the simple.

The precepts of the Lord are right;
they gladden the heart.
The command of the Lord is clear;
it gives light to the eyes.

The fear of the Lord is pure,
abiding for ever.
The judgements of the Lord are true;
they are, all of them, just.

May the spoken words of my mouth,
the thoughts of my heart,
win favour in your sight, O Lord,
my rock and my redeemer!

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 12:12-30

Brothers and Sisters: Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptised into one body — Jews or Greeks, slaves or free — and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

For the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot should say, ‘Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body’, that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear should say, ‘Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body’, that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense

of smell? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, yet one body.

The eye cannot say to the hand, ‘I have no need of you’, nor again the head to the feet, ‘I have no need of you.’ On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and on those parts of the body that we think less honourable we bestow the greater honour, and our unpresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honour to the part that lacked it, that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the Church first Apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, helping, administrating, and various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret?

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Verse

The Lord has sent me to proclaim good news to the poor;
to proclaim liberty to the captives.

Gospel

Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21

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

Inasmuch as many have undertaken to compile a narrative of the things that have been accomplished among us, just as those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word have delivered them to us, it seemed good to me also, having followed all things closely for some time past, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, that you may have certainty concerning the things you have been taught.

At that time: Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, and a report about him went out through all the surrounding country. And he taught in their synagogues, being glorified by all.

And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll, and found the place where it was written, ‘The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour.’

And he rolled up the scroll, and gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. And he began to say to them, ‘Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.’

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

GENERAL NOTICES

VISITATION OF BISHOP STEPHEN TO ST JOSEPH’S SCHOOL

Bishop Stephen will be visiting St Joseph’s School on Friday of this week. The visit will begin with Mass in Church at 9.30am. All are welcome to come along to mass on this day.

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD (CANDLEMAS)

Next Sunday is the feast of the Presentation of the Lord, also known as Candlemas. At our Masses next Sunday we will begin with the blessing of Candles that will be used in our Churches throughout the coming year. You are invited to bring your candles from home that you may also want blessed. Just keep them with you in your bench and these will be blessed along with the Candles used in Church.

COMING SOON...

An evening of Rock ‘n’ Roll in Dipton Club - due to unforeseen circumstances, we need to change the date of the Rock ‘n’ Roll evening. We will let you know the new date and when tickets are on sale as soon as we can..

LENTEN SOUP LUNCH

Lent will soon be upon us. One tradition that often takes place in Lent is a soup lunch with the proceeds raised going to charity. During Lent, Father Shaun would like to set aside Tuesday for Stations of the Cross, Mass and a soup lunch following Mass (Mass would be at 12noon). Would you be able to help in making a simple soup and serving it? A sign up sheet of the dates is available at the back of both Churches. Please put your name next to the date you are able to do.

LOURDES PETITIONS

Father Shaun will be visiting Lourdes in February for the feast day of Our Lady of Lourdes to make preparations for the Diocesan Pilgrimage later this year. If you would like any petitions left at the Grotto, please place them in an envelope marked “Lourdes Petition” and Father Shaun will take them for you. *Please don’t put money in the envelopes.* The last day for sending in your petitions is next Sunday.

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

Some parishioners have booked already and are staying in the Hotel Stella. If you are considering going, it would be nice to stay together as a family of parishes in the same hotel.

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

If you are a baptised Catholic, currently in Year 8 or above, you are invited to consider preparing for Confirmation.

The Sacrament of Confirmation typically takes place in early teenage years, when a young person starts to be seen as an adult member of the Church. This is because they are now considered old enough to renew the promises that were made on their behalf when they were baptised as a baby or an infant.

In the Sacrament of Confirmation, the baptised young person is "sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit" and is strengthened for service. Those who are Confirmed are called to be witnesses of Jesus Christ in their families, neighbourhoods, society, and the world.

To launch the next Confirmation programme in the Pontop Partnership of parishes we are holding a **CONFIRMATION FAMILY DAY** at St. Mary’s Church Hall, Blackhill on Saturday 8th March. This day will include talks and activities aimed at parents and young people, explaining more about Confirmation. Parents, your support and commitment to your sons and daughters is vital. The Family Day marks a very special milestone in your son/daughter’s spiritual journey towards receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation.

All who are interested in Confirmation it is imperative that you attend the Family Day on **Saturday 8th March.**

Arrival will be from 9.30am for a 10am prompt start. The day will end at 4.00pm and lunch will be provided.

If you are interested, please speak to Father Shaun who will give you a booking form that needs to be returned by **Sunday 2nd February.**

COFFEE MORNING

Next Sunday after Mass at St Patrick’s, there will be the monthly Coffee Morning. Prizes for the raffle and baked goods are greatly appreciated, along with your company. Please stay for a cuppa and chat.

PARTNERSHIP PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM

A partnership pilgrimage to Walsingham has been organised by St Patrick’s, Consett. The pilgrimage will take place from 8th - 11th August 2025. The cost is £279 for a single ensuite or £222 for a budget single. Or £558 for a twin/double ensuite or £444 for a budget twin/double, this includes dinner, bed and breakfast. A deposit of £180pp is to be made when booking a place. **Please note, the cost of the coach is yet to be advised.** Envelopes are available at the back of Church and need to be returned to **St Patrick’s, Consett** by Friday 31st January.

BLESSED CARLO ACUTIS

Blessed Carlo Acutis is scheduled to be the first millennial saint when he is canonised in April 2025. A relic of Blessed Carlo will visit our diocese between 26th -30th March 2025. There will be opportunities to attend Mass in the presence of the relic, as well as times of veneration and talks about the life of Blessed Carlo. All are welcome. Further information about the visit and how to book your ticket for an event can be viewed on the following website: CarloAcutis.bwccet.com

NEW PHONE SYSTEM

Our phone system is currently being updated. The first phase of the work took place last Wednesday and the second phase is due to take place this coming week on Thursday and Friday. This is just to forewarn you that there might be minimal disruption to the phone line and to the receiving of emails. We ask that you be patient with us as the transition takes place. We continue to have the same phone number as before, it will just be a new provider.