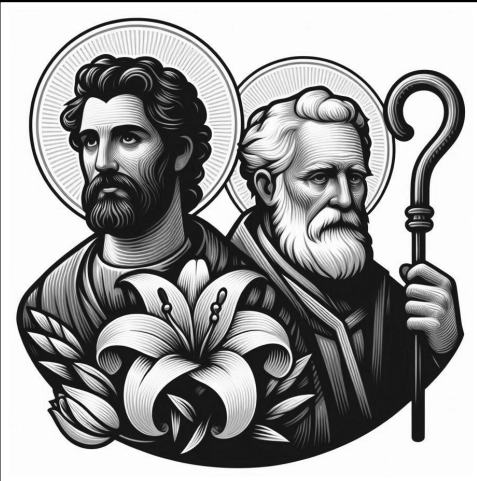


MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS			
16 th - 23 rd March 2025			
2 ND SUNDAY OF LENT	Dipton Stanley Stanley	9.00am 11.00am 4.00pm	People of the Partnership Fr Joe Park Stations of the Cross and Benediction
Monday 17 th March	Dipton	5.30 - 5.55pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Reconciliation Stations of the Cross Intentions of the Parish and School <i>Solemnity of St Patrick</i>
Tuesday 18 th March	Stanley	10.45 - 11.10am 11.15am 12noon	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Reconciliation Stations of the Cross Floro, Bernardina, Leonardo, Geronimo, Mae-Francis and Abel
Wednesday 19 th March	Stanley	9.30am	Intentions of the Parish and School <i>Solemnity of St Joseph</i>
Thursday 20 th March	Stanley	10.00am	Paul Mosley
Friday 21 st March	Dipton Stanley	9.30 - 9.55am 10.00am 2.00pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Reconciliation Maureen Todd Funeral Liturgy for Aileen Bowes
Saturday 22 nd March	Stanley	9.30am - 9.55am 10.00am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Reconciliation Georgina Jean Rogan
3 RD SUNDAY OF LENT	Dipton Stanley Dipton	9.00am 11.00am 4.00pm	People of the Partnership Anton Prochazka Stations of the Cross and Benediction
LITURGICAL CALENDAR THIS WEEK		PARISHES CALENDAR THIS WEEK	
Monday	St Patrick, Bishop (<i>Solemnity in Dipton</i>)		
Tuesday	Weekday of Lent		
Wednesday	St Joseph (<i>Solemnity</i>)		
Thursday	St Cuthbert, Patron of the Diocese (<i>Feast</i>)		
Friday	Weekday of Lent		
Saturday	Weekday of Lent		
Tuesday		Soup Lunch after Mass (<i>Stanley</i>)	
Thursday		Tea and Coffee after Mass (<i>Stanley</i>)	
Friday		RCIA (<i>Stanley</i>)	
		Film Night 7.00pm (<i>Stanley</i>)	
Finance - 9 March 2025		Offertory Total	Standing Order
STANLEY		£493.34	£197.25
DIPTON		£104.66	£172.85
Future Collections: 16 th March - CAFOD Family Fast			
Prayer for the Jubilee Year		PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO NEED HEALING IN OUR FAMILY OF PARISHES...	
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.		Margaret Convey, Maureen Dixon, Doreen Bailes	
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.		GETTING YOUR CHILD BAPTISED	
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		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.	
Franciscans		A GENTLE REMINDER...	
		Please remember to switch off your mobile phone (<i>or put it on silent</i>) 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>	
		St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our defence against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.	



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.

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



LISTEN TO THE WORD
16TH MARCH 2025 - SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
Genesis 15: 5-12, 17-18 | Psalm 27 | Philippians 3: 17- 4:1 | Luke 9: 28-36

Lent is a time of hope; in our modern world there are many who live without hope. The world is in crisis, there are countries where war and disease are endemic. How can we find hope in a world where many are hope less?

Today’s readings are a reminder to us of where hope can be found. In the first reading we hear the story of Abram, a wandering refugee, far from his native land, scratching out an existence in the deserts of the Middle East. Abram finds a God who he can believe in, a God who gives him hope, who promises him that he will be the father of many nations and that his descendants will be as many as the stars in heaven. Abram’s faith brings a covenant of hope between God and his people and from these beginnings a nation is born.

The psalms are the prayers of a people of hope. Today we are reminded that God is our light and our help that if we believe in him then we live without fear of the future for He listens when we call, and we can hold firm and take heart for He is at our side.

Paul’s letter to the Philippians was written from prison; not a place where hope is in abundance. Paul’s message however is about freedom. He reminds us that true freedom comes from serving the Lord and keeping to His way. Home to Paul is heaven; that is the blessed place where we shall be transfigured into copies of Christ’s glorious body. He urges us to not give way to the temptations of the world but stay strong, keep hoping and be faithful to the Lord.

Peter, James and John are symbols of hope to us; they were fishermen plucked from obscurity and given a place, a role in the ministry of Our Lord. They must have wondered at times “What is this life all about?” “Why have we left home and good jobs to wander the land following this man?” The day they spent on Mount Tabor must have sent their hopes soaring in the sky. They witnessed something that no other human person has ever seen. When Jesus was transfigured, before their eyes, they must have hoped that one day they too would be transfigured with Christ and that this would be the hope and destiny of all who followed Him.

A Prayer based on Luke 9: 36
“And when the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone”

Lord, I never think of you as being alone.
I look for the things you can do for me: seldom do I consider what I can do for you.

Yet scripture speaks of those times when you seek peace and how those moments are so often disturbed by yet another cry for your help.
Lord, forgive me for forgetting that you too were human with the same fears and needs that I have.

I can be selfish even in prayer, teach me to keep your needs in mind and then, perhaps, I will be able to come closer to you.
Amen.

David Frank.

LITURGY OF THE WORD
2ND SUNDAY OF LENT (C)

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

First Reading Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18

In those days: God brought Abram outside and said, ‘Look towards heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them.’ Then he said to him, ‘So shall your offspring be.’ And he believed the LORD, and he counted it to him as righteousness.
And he said to him, ‘I am the LORD who brought you out from Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to possess.’ But he said, ‘O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?’ He said to him, ‘Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtle-dove, and a young pigeon.’ And he brought him all these, cut them in half, and laid each half over against the other. But he did not cut the birds in half. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.
As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell on Abram. And behold, dreadful and great darkness fell upon him. When the sun had gone down and it was dark, behold, a smoking firepot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, ‘To your offspring I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.’
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God
Responsorial Psalm Ps 27(26):1. 7-8b. 8c-9c. 13-14. R1a
Response: The Lord is my light and my salvation.
The LORD is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?
The LORD is the stronghold of my life;
whom should I dread?
O LORD, hear my voice when I call;
have mercy and answer me.
Of you my heart has spoken,
‘Seek his face.’
It is your face, O LORD, that I seek;
hide not your face from me.
Dismiss not your servant in anger;
you have been my help.
I believe I shall see the LORD’s goodness
in the land of the living.
Wait for the LORD; be strong;
be stout-hearted, and wait for the LORD!

Second Reading Philippians 3:17-4:1

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us. For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm thus in the Lord, my beloved.
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Verse
From a bright cloud, the Father’s voice was heard:
‘This is my beloved Son, listen to him’.

Gospel Luke 9:28b-36

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: Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up on the mountain to pray. And as he was praying, the appearance of his face was altered, and his clothing became dazzling white. And behold, two men were talking with him, Moses and Elijah, who appeared in glory and spoke of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and those who were with him were heavy with sleep, but when they became fully awake they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. And as the men were parting from him, Peter said to Jesus, ‘Master, it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah’ — not knowing what he said. As he was saying these things, a cloud came and overshadowed them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. And a voice came out of the cloud, saying, ‘This is my Son, my Chosen One; listen to him!’ And when the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and told no one in those days anything of what they had seen.

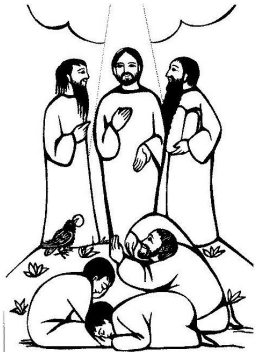
The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

QUESTIONS FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION

- ✠ What do you need to do to fulfil your part of the bargain with God?
- ✠ If you are to live in the world, is it unavoidable to compromise your Christian Standards?
- ✠ Wha do you find the best form of prayer? Can you improve it during Lent?

Taken from the Sunday Word, Henry Wansbrough OSB

During Lent, we shall be using the second form of the penitential Act:
Priest: Have mercy on us, O Lord.
All: For we have sinned against you.
Priest: Show us, O Lord, your mercy.
All: And grant us your salvation.



FUNDRAISING EVENING WITH TAKE THIS

There will be an evening of entertainment with Award Winning Singing Comedy Duo Take This. The evening will take place on Friday 25th April. Doors open from 7.00pm. Dipton Club. This will help us raise money for our Family of Parishes. Tickets are £5.00 and and available at the end of Mass.

SOUP LUNCH

Our Lenten Soup lunch continues this Tuesday after the 12noon Mass. Come along and enjoy a bowl of homemade soup, a hot drink and time with friends. All proceeds will go to the Lenten Alms fund (St Cuthbert’s Care).

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

Of your charity, please pray for the repose of the soul of Aileen Bowes who died on 28th February. Aileen’s Funeral Liturgy will take place in St Joseph’s on Friday 21st March at 2.00pm. Please remember her family in your prayers.

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.

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.

COULD YOU HELP IN LOURDES?

Adult and Youth section volunteer registration forms are now open and live until 31st March 2025

Please register via one of the following links. Thank you very much for registering your help and support.

New Adult Volunteer Registration Form
If you wish to register as a volunteer for 2025, please click here: https://forms.office.com/e/PbtE9Jd6aS

Youth Section Registration Form
The Youth Section of the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes is for those aged 16-21 (on the date of travel) or in full-time education. Please click here to register: https://forms.office.com/e/m1MQrReuZD

If you would like any more information about becoming a registered helper on the pilgrimage, please email: lourdes@diocesehn.org.uk or visit our Facebook page: Hexham and Newcastle Pilgrimage to Lourdes

HOLY ISLAND SVP VINNIES CAMP

Holy Island Children's Camp is looking for new volunteers to help in their Holiday Centre on Holy Island. They are in need of young adults to help the children have a great week's holiday on the island in Summer 2025. Full training and support will be given and would suit someone wanting to give back to the Community by helping 9–12-year-olds have fun for a week

They are also keen to attract people who would like to help by volunteering in the Kitchen/Dining room and with caretaking. Term Time Camps need lots of volunteers if they are to survive. If you could find a few days in term time to help out with serving meals, prepping salads and washing dishes they would be truly grateful. By running term time camps, Summer Vinnies Holidays for children can be sustained.

Further information can be found at https://svp.org.uk/microsite/ozanam-camp or if you'd like to chat about the role please email BarbaraT@svp.org.uk.

WASHING OF THE FEET - HOLY THURSDAY

Volunteers to have their foot washed on Holy Thursday will be greatly appreciated, please sign up after Mass this Sunday.

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY

Please donate to our Family Fast Day parish collection TODAY and be a pilgrim of hope with CAFOD this Jubilee Year. You’ll be supporting communities suffering the impacts of war, poverty and climate change to find solutions and hope.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY AND CAFOD

The St Vincent de Paul Society and CAFOD are working together to offer a week of free residential work experience for 20 young adults in England and Wales. The experience will run from 22nd to 27th June in London. Candidates must be aged have completed their first or second year at university and have a passion for social justice. Applications close on the 20th April. For any queries, please contact KeziaH@svp.org.uk

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.bwcet.com

MILL HILL MISSIONS

Donations are now due for March 2025. Could members please pick up Mission Today books at the back of church. Any boxes or donations please hand in at the piety stall, ensuring they are clearly named. Thank you - Maureen B.

OUTREACH AFTERNOON TEA

The Outreach Afternoon Tea will take place on Wednesday 25th March. If you would like some company, a bit of a natter, with refreshments, then this is for you! The afternoon takes place in St Joseph’s meeting room and promises to be a good time. If you would like to come along or for more information, please contact the parish office. Transport may be able to be arranged for those who need it.

We also need some volunteers to help. Because of illness, some of the volunteers are unable to commit at this time. If you can help with baking and serving, please contact the office.

The Outreach is a vital asset to the people of our community, so please help it continue to serve the community, and be a place of welcome for many years to come.

RAFFLE AND TOMBOLA PRIZES

We are currently looking for prizes for our raffle and tombola at the fundraising evening at Dipton Club. If you have any items you can donate, you might be looking to find a new home for unwanted Christmas presents, please bring them along to Church and leave them in the Church porch. Thank you for your help.

DIOCESAN VACANCY

The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle is looking to appoint to the following vacancy:

Safeguarding Co-ordinator, based at the Diocesan Offices in Newcastle – full-time, permanent contract. Closing date: 25th March at 12.00pm.

Please visit www.diocesehn.org.uk/job-vacancies for full details or contact us on 0191 243 3301.

EASTER EGG RAFFLE

We will be holding an Easter Egg raffle on Easter Sunday after Mass at St Patrick’s. Raffle tickets will be sold each Sunday, at St Patrick’s and St Joseph's during Lent, after Mass, £1 a strip. Money raised will go towards fundraising to send two young adults, Christian and Oliver on the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes. Any donations of Easter eggs and chocolates are greatly appreciated and can be brought to church during Lent.

STELLA MARIS HOLY ISLAND PILGRIMAGE

More details will be given shortly on a pilgrimage to Holy Island on Saturday 31st May. If you want to go, keep your diary free!