

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS
2nd - 9th March 2025

8TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR	<i>Dipton</i> <i>Stanley</i>	9.00am 11.00am	Brian Duffy People of the Partnership
NO MASS ON MONDAY			
Tuesday <i>4th March</i>	<i>Stanley</i>	<i>9.30am</i> 10.00am	<i>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament (Reconciliation until 9.45am)</i> Joyce Ridley
ASH WEDNESDAY <i>5th March</i>	<i>Dipton</i> <i>Stanley</i>	9.30am 6.30pm	People of the Partnership Nancy and Patrick Purdy
Thursday <i>6th March</i>	<i>Stanley</i> <i>Dipton</i>	10.00am 1.30pm	An Anniversary Funeral Liturgy for Elizabeth (Liz) Stuart
Friday <i>7th March</i>	<i>Dipton</i>	<i>9.30am</i> 10.00am	<i>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Reconciliation until 9.55am</i> Patricia Jobson (SVP)
Saturday <i>8th March</i>	<i>Stanley</i>	<i>9.30am</i> 10.00am	<i>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Reconciliation until 9.55am</i> Ivy Mulhearn
1ST SUNDAY OF LENT	<i>Dipton</i> <i>Stanley</i>	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Partnership John Dodds

LITURGICAL CALENDAR THIS WEEK		PARISHES CALENDAR THIS WEEK	
Monday	Feria	This Sunday	Coffee after Mass (<i>Dipton</i>)
Tuesday	Feria	Tuesday	Godfellas 7.00pm (<i>Stanley</i>)
Wednesday	Ash Wednesday	Thursday	Tea and Coffee after Mass (<i>Stanley</i>)
Thursday	Weekday of Lent		RCIA (<i>Stanley</i>)
Friday	Weekday of Lent		Amici Group Meeting 7.00pm (<i>Dipton</i>)
Saturday	Weekday of Lent	Friday	Film Night 7.00pm (<i>Stanley</i>)
		Next Sunday	Coffee after Mass (<i>Stanley</i>)

Finance - 23 February 2025	Offertory Total	Standing Order
STANLEY	£361.96	£197.25
DIPTON	£79.80	£172.85
St Joseph's February coffee mornings raised £104.35 for St Cuthbert's Care Future Collections: 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.

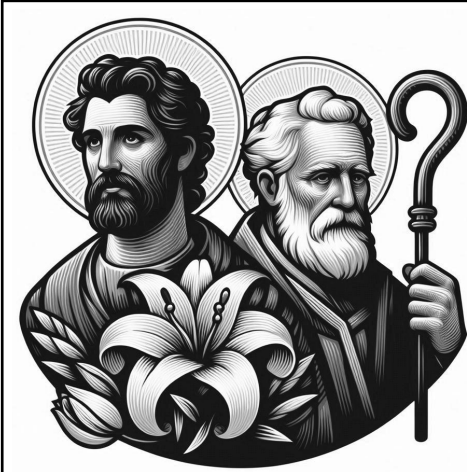


A GENTLE REMINDER...

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.

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



LISTEN TO THE WORD
2ND MARCH 2025 - 8TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Ecclesiasticus 27: 4-7 | Psalm 91 | 1 Corinthians 15: 54-58 |
Luke 6: 39-45

We cannot know the nature of a person unless we hear them speak. What we say and how we say it reveals much of our individual character. When we listen to someone, we catch a glimpse of the real person behind the words. In the passage from Ecclesiasticus the author teaches us to discern a person's goodness from the way he reasons. "The test of a person is in his reasoning", by the way we speak and what we say, we will be judged.

The words of Paul prepare us for the coming season of Lent. Lent leads us to Our Lord's victory over death and we believe that we share that victory for it wins for us that cloak of imperishability, eternal life. Death has no power over us if we live in faithful service to Our Lord and King, Jesus Christ.

Jesus must have been a brilliant speaker. In today's passage from Luke, we hear many examples of his style. He speaks in familiar language, the language of the people, and you can sense the humour behind the words. If the blind lead the blind then both will fall into a ditch, if a student follows his teacher, then both will repeat the errors they make. Jesus speaks of the splinter and the plank. How often do we criticise someone but fail to see that we too are guilty of a similar or greater fault?

The parable of the good fruit and the rotten fruit speaks to what is in our hearts. If we have goodness at the heart of what we do then we will produce good fruit, however, if our actions and words come from a spiteful or wicked thoughts, then we will produce rotten fruit. We cannot think one way and then act in another. We are either grapes or brambles, our nature depends on what is in our hearts. We may find that we are in a struggle within ourselves when we react to a situation but if our reaction comes from the goodness in our hearts then we follow in the footsteps of Christ.

A Prayer based on Luke 6: 45
"For out of abundance of the heart his mouth speaks"

Lord,
Give me the wisdom to think before I speak.
Let my words come from the abundance of your love.
May they be vessels of your healing, comfort for those suffering and consolation for those in distress.
Amen.

David Frank.

LITURGY OF THE WORD
8TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (C)

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

First Reading Sirach 27:4-7

When a sieve is shaken, the refuse appears; so a person’s filth in his thoughts. The kiln tests the potter’s vessels; likewise the test of a person is in his reasoning. The fruit discloses the cultivation of a tree; so the expression of a thought discloses the cultivation of a person’s mind.
Do not praise a man before you hear him reason, for this is the test of people.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm Ps 92(91):2-3. 13-14. 15-16. R cf. 2a

Response: It is good to give thanks to you, O LORD.

It is good to give thanks to the LORD, to make music to your name, O Most High, to proclaim your loving mercy in the morning, and your truth in the watches of the night.
The just one will flourish like the palm tree, and grow like a Lebanon cedar. Planted in the house of the LORD, they will flourish in the courts of our God.
Still bearing fruit when they are old, still full of sap, still green, to proclaim that the LORD is upright. In him, my rock, there is no wrong.

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 15:54-58

Brothers and Sisters: When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written: ‘Death is swallowed up in victory.’ ‘O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?’
The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brothers and sisters, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labour is not in vain.
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Verse
Shine as lights in the world, holding fast to the word of life.

Gospel Luke 6:39-45
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 told his disciples a parable: ‘Can a blind man lead a blind man? Will they not both fall into a pit? A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone when he is fully trained will be like his teacher. Why do you see the speck that is in your brother’s eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? How can you say to your brother, “Brother, let me take out the

speck that is in your eye”, when you yourself do not see the log that is in your own eye? You hypocrite! First take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take out the speck that is in your brother’s eye.
‘For no good tree bears bad fruit, nor again does a bad tree bear good fruit, for each tree is known by its own fruit. For figs are not gathered from thorn bushes, nor are grapes picked from a bramble bush. The good person out of the good treasure of his heart produces good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure produces evil, for out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.’
The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

- QUESTIONS FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION
- Which is the most testing of the criteria given in the first reading?
 - Why does Paul never mention the word ‘hell’ or even consider it, in the second reading?
 - Is it ever helpful to point out other people’s faults?

Taken from the Sunday Word, Henry Wansbrough OSB

Scripture Readings from the English Standard Version of the Bible, Catholic Edition (ESV-CE) © 2017 Crossway. Responsorial Psalm from Abbey Psalms and Canticles © 2018 USCCB.



Almighty and Eternal God, you are the everlasting health of those who believe in you. Hear our prayers for your sick servant Francis for whom we implore the aid of your tender mercy, through Christ our Lord.

Amen.
Our Lady of Lourdes, Health of the Sick, pray for him.

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.

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

Of your charity, please pray for the repose of the soul of

Elizabeth (Liz) Stuart

Liz’s Funeral Liturgy will take place on Thursday 6th March at 1.30pm in St Patrick’s, Dipton, followed by committal at St Patrick’s Graveyard.

Please keep Liz and her family in your prayers at this sad time.

LENTEN SOUP LUNCH

Thank you to those who have signed up so far to help make soup for our Lenten Lunches. If you are able to help, please put your name down on one of the available dates. Thank you.

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.

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.

AMICI GROUP MEETING

The Amici group’s next meeting will take place this coming Thursday, 6th March at 7pm at St Patrick’s Dipton. All are welcome.

GODFELLAS GROUP MEETING

The Godfellas will meet this coming Tuesday at 7.00pm in St Joseph’s meeting room. It will be an evening of pancake making.

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/m1MQfReuZD

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

Thank you so much for your support and for volunteering to help on our Diocesan Pilgrimage.

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

These will be available for collection before Mass on Sunday 2nd March and Sunday 9th March. Please do not use these before April as all numbers have changed.

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.

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

WEBINAR: SEEDS OF HOPE

You are cordially invited to join Bishop Stephen and members of the Diocesan Environmental Group (DEG) in a webinar to find out more about the DEG and what we can all do to reduce our impact on the environment.
Date: Saturday 8 March 2025
Time: 11.00am – 12.30pm
Details, instructions and Zoom link available on the Diocesan website: https://tinyurl.com/mr4cmj99

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

DIOCESAN VACANCY

The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle is looking to appoint to the following vacancy: Parish Secretary, based at Immaculate Heart Church, 1 Church Close, West Monkseaton, Whitley Bay NE25 9PG – 21 hours a week. Closing date: 11th March at 12.00pm. Please visit www.diocesehn.org.uk/job-vacancies for full details or contact us on 0191 243 3301.

A YEAR OF JUBILEE FORMATION OPPORTUNITY

As we journey through this year of Jubilee, we are called to be Pilgrims of Hope. As Catholics our hope is in the Lord who is always at work in our lives. Our new formation programme Adventurous Accompaniment is designed to help us become better at walking with others, supporting them to see God at work. You will explore how to accompany others whether it is informally while out talking with your neighbour or over a sustained relationship with family and friends. The ‘Adventure’ of this formation is that God is the one leading the way. All are welcome to attend.

Dates & Times: Session 1: Saturday 15th March 2025, 10am – 1pm. Session 2: Saturday 12th April 2025, 10am – pm.
Venue: Diocesan Office, West Road, Newcastle NE15 7PY.
Cost: £25.00
For more information and booking details please visit : bit.ly/DHNAdventurousAccompanimentYOJ or email: adminfaith.mission@diocesehn.org.uk.