

# MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

25<sup>th</sup> May - 1<sup>st</sup> June 2025

<b>SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b>	<i>Dipton</i> <i>Stanley</i>	<b>9.00am</b> <b>11.00am</b>	<b>Diamond Jubilee of Sr Mary Stephen</b> <b>People of the Partnership</b>
<b>Monday</b> <i>26<sup>th</sup> May</i>	<i>Dipton</i>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Deceased Members of the Poole family</b>
<b>Tuesday</b> <i>27<sup>th</sup> May</i>	<i>Stanley</i>	<i>9.30am</i> <b>10.00am</b> <b>12.30pm</b>	<i>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Reconciliation until 9.55am</i> <b>Monica &amp; Joseph McCue</b> <b>Funeral Liturgy for Shirley Conroy</b>
<b>NO MASS ON WEDNSDAY</b>			
<b>ASCENSION THURSDAY</b>	<i>Stanley</i> <i>Dipton</i>	<b>10.00am</b> <b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Robert &amp; Ann Seaward</b> <b>John Bailes (SVP)</b>
<b>Friday</b> <i>30<sup>th</sup> May</i>	<i>Dipton</i>	<i>9.30am</i> <b>10.00am</b>	<i>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Reconciliation until 9.55am</i> <b>Brian Duffy</b>
<i>Saturday</i> <i>31<sup>st</sup> May</i>	<b>NO MASS TODAY - PILGRIMAGE TO HOLY ISLAND</b> <b>Pickup Stanley 8.00am Pickup Dipton 8.15am</b>		
<b>SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b>	<i>Dipton</i> <i>Stanley</i>	<b>9.00am</b> <b>11.00am</b>	<b>People of the Partnership</b> <b>Francis &amp; Wallace Ormston</b>

LITURGICAL CALENDAR	
<b>Monday</b>	Weekday of Easter
<b>Tuesday</b>	Weekday of Easter
<b>Wednesday</b>	Weekday of Easter
<b>Thursday</b>	Weekday of Easter
<b>Friday</b>	Weekday of Easter
<b>Saturday</b>	Weekday of Easter

PARISHES CALENDAR	
<b>Next Sunday</b>	May Procession 3.00pm ( <i>Stanley</i> )
<b>Thursday</b>	Coffee after Mass ( <i>Stanley</i> )

Finance - 18 May 2025	Offertory Total	Standing Order	Little Sisters of the Poor
<b>STANLEY</b>	£468.89	£197.25	£211.50
<b>DIPTON</b>	£110.10	£172.85	£102.80

**Future Collections: 1<sup>st</sup> June - World Communications**  
**8<sup>th</sup> June - Lay Training Fund**

**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

*Franciscus*

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

Margaret Convey, Maureen Dixon, Doreen Bailes

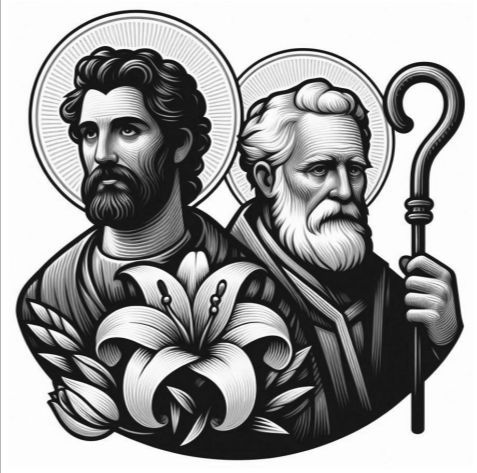
**GETTING YOUR CHILD BAPTISED**

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.*

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](http://www.stanleycatholic.org)  
[stjoseph.stanley@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:stjoseph.stanley@diocesehn.org.uk)

✠

**Father Shaun Purdy**  
*Parish Priest*  
[pp.stjoseph.stanley@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto: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**  
**15<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2025 - SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
**Acts 15: 1-2, 22-29 | Psalm 67 | Revelation 21: 10-14, 22-23 | John 14: 23-29**

Today's Gospel can be split into several separate statements which speak to us plainly of the message of Christ. Firstly, he equates love with faith: "If anyone loves me, he will keep my word". Then Jesus makes us a promise that the Father's love is ours and our faith will create a home which we will share with the Father and the Son, for "we will come to him and make our home with him". However, if we do not keep His word then we turn our backs on the creator God. Jesus then speaks of a helper, the Holy Spirit. He will be a teacher, a guide and an advocate; this Spirit is present in our lives. The Holy Spirit teaches us through scripture, he guides us by our conscience, and he is always ready to stand up for us against the temptations of the world.

God's peace is not man's peace. It is pure gift, it is a lasting peace, the kind of peace we experience in silence, in the wonder of nature, in the calm of a still day and in that gentle acceptance of fate that we witness in those who accept suffering. It is very far from the peace that the world offers: the world's peace is transitory, God's peace is everlasting.

The Apostles must have been frightened by the comments of Jesus when he spoke to them about what would happen in Jerusalem. They loved him; they gave up everything to follow him. They could not believe that he would be betrayed and killed. Jesus tells them "Let not your hearts be troubled neither let them be afraid". These things must happen; he must go back to the Father so that they can go forward and build the Kingdom. They can see no future without his earthly presence, but they will see, as we see, his glory revealed through the works of those he has chosen.

There is no one who is excluded from the love of God and that love is pure and true. All of God's creation is precious to Him and our role here on earth is to help those who are less fortunate than ourselves no matter what religion or culture they belong to. Jesus promises us the gift of peace, but peace can only be achieved when there is no more conflict, and a fair and equal society exists throughout our world – a true New Jerusalem.

A prayer based on John 14: 27  
*"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you"*

Lord,  
In your confusing and demanding world help me to find your peace.  
There is so much despair in our world, so many people crying out for your help.  
Give me the courage to do what I can and help me to accept and place into your hands that which I cannot.  
Amen.

*David Frank.*

# LITURGY OF THE WORD

## SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (C)

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

### First Reading

*Acts 15:1-2, 22-29*

In those days: Some men came down from Judea and were teaching the brothers, ‘Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved.’ And after Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and debate with them, Paul and Barnabas and some of the others were appointed to go up to Jerusalem to the Apostles and the elders about this question.

Then it seemed good to the Apostles and the elders, with the whole Church, to choose men from among them and send them to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas. They sent Judas called Barsabbas, and Silas, leading men among the brothers and sisters, with the following letter: ‘The brothers, both the Apostles and the elders, to the brothers and sisters who are of the Gentiles in Antioch and Syria and Cilicia, greetings. Since we have heard that some persons have gone out from us and troubled you with words, unsettling your minds, although we gave them no instructions, it has seemed good to us, having come to one accord, to choose men and send them to you with our beloved Barnabas and Paul, men who have risked their lives for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. We have therefore sent Judas and Silas, who themselves will tell you the same things by word of mouth. For it has seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us to lay on you no greater burden than these requirements: that you abstain from what has been sacrificed to idols, and from blood, and from what has been strangled, and from sexual immorality. If you keep yourselves from these, you will do well. Farewell.’

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### Responsorial Psalm

*Ps 67(66):2-3, 5, 6, 8. R4*

Response: **Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.**

May God be gracious and bless us  
and let his face shed its light upon us.  
So will your ways be known upon earth  
and all nations learn your salvation.

Let the nations be glad and shout for joy,  
with uprightness you rule the peoples;  
you guide the nations on earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.  
May God still give us his blessing  
that all the ends of the earth may revere him.

### Second Reading

*Revelation 21:10-14, 22-23*

The angel carried me away in the Spirit to a great, high mountain, and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God, having the glory of God, its radiance like a most rare jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal. It had a great, high wall, with twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and on the gates the names of the twelve tribes of the sons of Israel were inscribed — on the east three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the twelve names of the twelve Apostles of the Lamb.

And I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### Gospel Verse

If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, says the Lord,  
and my Father will love him, and we will come to him.

### Gospel

*John 14:23-29*

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

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, ‘If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words. And the word that you hear is not mine but the Father’s who sent me.

‘These things I have spoken to you while I am still with you. But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, “I am going away, and I will come to you.” If you loved me, you would have rejoiced, because I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you before it takes place, so that when it does take place you may believe.’

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

### QUESTIONS FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION

- ☒ Hoe do I get to know God’s will for me? Would it be helpful if I took more part in parish life?
- ☒ If I really lived in the presence of God, what would be the most daunting thing, what the most encouraging thing?
- ☒ For what special task do I most need the Paraclete’s guidance? For what do I most need the Paraclete’s strength?

*Taken from the Sunday Word, Henry Wansbrough OSB*



### HOLY ISLAND PILGRIMAGE

THERE ARE STILL SEATS AVAILABLE FOR THE TRIP On Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> to Holy Island joining in with the Stella Maris annual pilgrimage. We will be leaving Stanley at 8.00am, to then pick up at 8.15am from Dipton. We will leave Holy Island at 4.00pm for a stop in Seahouses. If you would like to go, please contact the office to put your name on the list and whether you are to be picked up at Stanley or Dipton. Spaces are limited, so please get your name down asap. The cost is £20 for adults and £5 for children. *(The cost includes your tip for the driver).* **Monies for the trip need to be paid by next Sunday. Cheques made payable to St Joseph’s.**

### MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

Of your charity, please pray for the repose of the soul of Shirley Conroy. Shirley’s Funeral Liturgy will take place at 12.30pm on Tuesday 27th May in St Joseph’s, followed by committal at Mountsett Crematorium.

### PARISH EVENTS - DATES FOR THE DIARY

**Saturday 5th July, 11-1pm** - Dipton Jubilee, pre-loved children’s clothing sale in aid of parish funds.

**Saturday 12th July 12.30pm - 3.30pm** - Summer Craft Fair, St Patrick’s Church in aid of parish funds.

**Saturday 6th September 11am - 1pm** - Craft De-stash event at Dipton Jubilee Centre, table top sale proceeds in aid of parish funds.

**Saturday 22nd November 11am -1pm** - Christmas Craft Fair at St Patrick’s in aid of parish funds.

### SCIENCE & FAITH

Rev Prof David Wilkinson and the Youth Ministry Trust (YMT) warmly invite anyone interested in the conversation between science and faith to an open meeting on Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> May, at the Emmaus Youth Village, 5:30–6:45 pm. All are welcome! For more information, please contact phillip.salkeld@ymt.org or 01207592244.

### ‘HOPE IN A TIME OF DARKNESS’

**A Lecture by His Eminence Cardinal Timothy Radcliffe OP  
Monday 23rd June 2025; 7:45pm  
Galilee Chapel, Durham Cathedral**

Durham Cathedral Institute is delighted to be hosting this year’s Bishop Dunn Memorial Lecture of the Centre for Catholic Studies at Durham University, hearing from speaker Cardinal Timothy Radcliffe and respondent Prof Anna Rowlands.

Cardinal Radcliffe is a distinguished Catholic priest, theologian, and church leader. Between 1992 and 2001, he served as Master of the Order of Preachers (also known as the Dominican Order). Radcliffe received an honorary Doctorate of Divinity from the University of Oxford in 2003; in 2023, he was appointed preacher to the Catholic Church’s Synod on Synodality, and was made cardinal by Pope Francis in December 2024.

Anna Rowlands (respondent) is St Hilda Professor of Catholic Social Thought and Practice at Durham University. She is a political theologian whose research interests include the ethics of migration and the tradition of Catholic Social Teaching. In 2023, Rowlands took up a two-year secondment at the Vatican, where she contributed to the global synodal process.

For more information and to book tickets, please visit <https://durhamcathedral.ticketsolve.com/ticketbooth/shows/1173659458>  
Please send any queries to [ccs.admin@durham.ac.uk](mailto:ccs.admin@durham.ac.uk).

### ST JOSEPH’S ORGAN

You may notice that the organ in St Joseph’s sounds a little different. This is because it is a new organ! Father Shaun was approached by a generous benefactor who wanted to pay for a new organ. The new organ has a built in hymnal and recorder, so that when our organist isn’t here we can play the organ through a phone, so no more tinny backing tracks. The new organ was blessed last Sunday. Please offer a prayer in thanksgiving for the generous benefactor and for their intentions.

### MEMORIALS AT ST PATRICK’S CHURCHYARD

It has come to our attention that there has been some confusion regarding the installation of new headstones at St Patrick’s Church, Dipton. As a result, we would like to reiterate to any families wishing to install headstones that we require the following **before** any memorial is installed in the churchyard:

- Any and all plans for the memorial are to be forwarded to the church office at [stjoseph.stanley@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:stjoseph.stanley@diocesehn.org.uk). This includes dimensions and any intended inscriptions. This is so that we can ensure the headstone will not encroach onto any nearby plots and that inscriptions are appropriate for the churchyard. Permission will be given to go ahead once the designs have approved.

- Any headstones intended for an ashes plot can not be larger than 18” tall or 14” wide, in line with the smaller headstones already in place. Please contact the office for examples.

### GRAVES AT ST PATRICK’S CHURCHYARD

There are only 18 graves left for burial in St Patrick’s Churchyard. Parishioners are able to pre-purchase a plot if they wish to. Please contact the parish office if you would like to pre-purchase a plot or for further details. Once all the plots are taken, the churchyard will be known as a “Closed” churchyard, and only those with existing graves will be allowed to be buried there. There is still room for cremated remains.

### OUTREACH AFTERNOON TEA

The Outreach Afternoon Tea will take place **THIS WEDNESDAY 28<sup>th</sup> May**. 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.*

### NATIONAL CHURCHES TRUST

The National Churches Trust (NCT) have launched a survey to better understand the challenges that churches face, and to highlight the vital work our churches do. This survey has the support of denominations, faith, and heritage groups across the country and we encourage you to take part. The survey is live from 6 May – 30 June.

Your response will provide essential evidence to build a clearer picture – to tell a stronger, more informed story about your church, and others like it, so that together some of the biggest challenges facing churches can be addressed and help ensure their future.

The survey can be found here: [www.nationalchurchestrust.org/survey](http://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/survey)