

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS
1st - 8th June 2025

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	Dipton Stanley	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Partnership Francis & Wallace Ormston
Monday 2 nd June	Dipton	6.00pm 6.30pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Reconciliation until 6.25pm Tommy & Vera Roddy
Tuesday 3 rd June	Stanley Mountsett	9.30am 10.00am 1.15pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Reconciliation until 9.55am Daniel Bradley Funeral Liturgy for Maureen Robson
NO MASS ON WEDNESDAY			
Thursday 5 th June	Stanley	10.00am	Celebration of the Word and Holy Communion
Friday 6 th June	Dipton	9.30am 10.00am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Reconciliation until 9.55am Sr Mary Aelred
Saturday 7 th June	Stanley	11.00am	First Holy Communion Mass For the intentions of the Children and their Families
PENTECOST SUNDAY	Dipton Stanley	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Partnership Bill & Ivy Mulhearn

LITURGICAL CALENDAR		PARISHES CALENDAR	
Monday	Weekday of Easter	This Sunday	Tea and Coffee after Mass (Dipton)
Tuesday	St Charles Lwanga and Companions	Thursday	Coffee after Mass (Stanley)
Wednesday	Weekday of Easter	Friday	First Holy Communion rehearsal 5pm (Stanley)
Thursday	St Boniface	Next Sunday	Tea and Coffee after Mass (Stanley)
Friday	Weekday of Easter		
Saturday	St Robert of Newminster		

Finance - 25 May 2025	Offertory Total	Standing Order
STANLEY	£363.31	£197.25
DIPTON	£92.90	£172.85
Future Collections: 1 st June - World Communications 8 th 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.

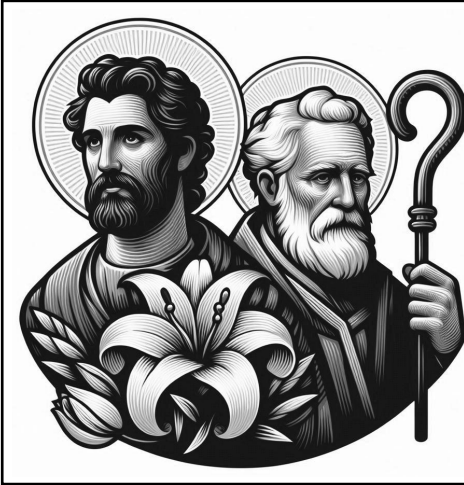
A GENTLE REMINDER...

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

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

1ST JUNE 2025 - SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
Acts 7: 55-60 | Psalm 96 | Revelation 22: 12-14, 16-17, 20 |
John 17: 20-26

One of the sad features of Christianity is the divisions between believers. Whilst understanding that the love of God, within all denominations, is the driving force of our faith, the fact that we cannot fully worship together tends, I believe, to diminish each of us. In the early church any cause of division was subjected to discussion and, through prayer to the Holy Spirit, decisions could be made, based in compromise, that maintained unity across the emerging church. This was illustrated in last week’s readings when a dispute arose over the law of circumcision. It is a pity that this Spirit of compromise seems to have deserted Christianity over the centuries and resulted in the different communities that worship through Christ today.

Stephen, the first martyr, died for the church of God; he was a Jewish convert and his belief in the message of Jesus led him to his death by stoning. This belief was fanned into a flame by the Holy Spirit and gave him the courage to accept his cruel death and to forgive those responsible. This same Spirit has inspired Christians down the ages; many have suffered, and continue today to suffer, because of their love of Christ.

In the final chapter of the Book of Revelation, which is today’s second reading, the vision for the church, as revealed to John, reaches its climax in the call for all those who believe to “let the one who desires take the water of life without price”. The vision is complete with the promise of the second coming: “Surely I am coming soon”. Shall Christ come to a church of many factions, or will He come to a church united in faith and love?

The prayer of Jesus in the Gospel passage is “That they may all be one”. Jesus sees the whole church united with God the Father, Himself and the Holy Spirit as one brotherhood uniting all those who believe. Through the Apostles, this prayer is offered so that the glory of the Son, given by the Father, may pass to the Apostles and all those who come to faith. Our hearts cannot fail to be uplifted by the promise of Jesus, to future generations, about the Father: “I have made known to them your name, and I will continue to make it known, that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.”.

A prayer based on John 17: 23
“Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am”

Lord,
Your words to the Father fill me with so much hope.
They give me the courage to follow you wherever you may lead me.
Because you have made the promise of eternal life and your word is truth.
Amen.

David Frank.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (C)

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

First Reading *Acts 7:55-60*

In those days: Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. And he said, ‘Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.’ But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, ‘Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.’ And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, ‘Lord, do not hold this sin against them.’ And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

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

Response: **The Lord is king, most high above all the earth.**

The Lord is king, let earth rejoice;
let the many islands be glad.
Justice and right are the foundation of his throne.

The skies proclaim his justice;
all peoples see his glory.
All you angels, worship him.

For you indeed are the Lord,
most high above all the earth,
exalted far above all gods.

Second Reading *Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20*

I, John, heard a voice saying to me, ‘Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay each one for what he has done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.’ Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they may have the right to the tree of life and that they may enter the city by the gates.

‘I, Jesus, have sent my angel to testify to you about these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.’

The Spirit and the Bride say, ‘Come.’ And let the one who hears say, ‘Come.’ And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price.

He who testifies to these things says, ‘Surely I am coming soon.’ Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Verse
I will not leave you as orphans, says the Lord.
I am going away and I will come to you,
and your hearts will rejoice.

Gospel *John 17:20-26*

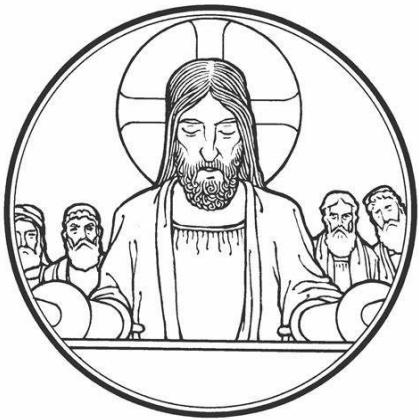
The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.
A reading from the Holy Gospel according John.
Glory to you, O Lord.

At that time: Jesus lifted up his eyes to heaven, and praying said, ‘[Holy Father,] I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me. Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. O righteous Father, even though the world does not know you, I know you, and these know that you have sent me. I made known to them your name, and I will continue to make it known, that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.’

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

QUESTIONS FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION

- ✠ As a follower of Christ, how are you answering Jesus' prayer?
- ✠ What are some of the most important things to ask of God?



*Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful
and kindle in them the fire of your love.
Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created,
and you shall renew the face of the earth.*

*O God, who have taught the hearts of the faithful
by the light of the Holy Spirit,
grant that in the same Spirit we may be truly wise
and ever rejoice in his consolation.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

Of your charity, please pray for the repose of the souls of Maureen Robson and Thomas (Tom) Hovell.
Maureen’s Funeral Liturgy will take place at 1.15pm on Tuesday 3rd June at Mountsett Crematorium.
Tom’s Requiem Mass will take place at St Joseph’s on Tuesday 10th June at 9.45am 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.

‘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 (free) tickets, please visit <https://durhamcathedral.ticketsolve.com/ticketboothshows/1173659458>
Please send any queries to ccs.admin@durham.ac.uk.

A few parishioners have already booked to go, so if you're worried about going on your own, you wont be.

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. 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.

COFFEE MORNINGS

This Sunday there will be the Monthly Coffee Morning after Mass at St Patrick’s.

Next Sunday there will be the monthly Coffee Morning after Mass at St Joseph’s.

Do stay for a cuppa, something to eat and a chat. It’s a good way of getting to know members of our family of parishes, building up strong ties with one another.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASSES

This Saturday and the following Saturday is the celebration of First Holy Communion for some of our Young people of our Family of Parishes. Mass this Saturday will be at 11.00am in St Joseph’s and Mass next Saturday will be at 11.00am in St Patrick’s. All parishioners are invited to celebrate with the families in this great Sacrament Christ left to the Church.

The rehearsal for those making their First Holy Communion this coming Saturday will be at 5.00pm this Friday.

MASS FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

On Saturday 21st June at 12noon, there will be a Mass with the anointing of the sick for the sick and Housebound of our Family of Parishes in St Joseph’s. Letters are being sent out to those on our SVP list, but if you would like to come, you would be more than welcome. Refreshments will be served afterwards in the meeting room. Anyone who could help with providing refreshments, this will be gratefully received on the day. For further information, please contact the office.

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 6th May – 30th 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

DIOCESE VACANCY

The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle is looking to appoint to the following vacancy:
Parish Secretary, St Bede & Ss Peter & Paul, South Shields – 12 hours per week, permanent contract. Closing date: 12th June
Please visit www.diocesehn.org.uk/job-vacancies for full details or contact us on 0191 243 3301.

MILL HILL MISSIONS (MISSIO)

Thank you to all who helped in so many ways. Donations in 2024 totalled £2347.03. Well done everyone.

GODFELLAS

The next meeting of Godfellas will be on **Tuesday 10th June** at 7.00pm in St Joseph’s. This will be a barbecue (*weather permitting*). We ask those who are attending to bring a contribution to go on the Barbie. If you’ve not been before, why not come along? It’s a very relaxed and welcoming group.

WEBELIEVE FESTIVAL

Celebrate the Jubilee at WeBelieve, a festival of Catholic Life gathering the Church to share the hope that we have in Christ. From 25th-28th July, join us for four days of music, keynotes, conversation & worship at St Mary’s College, Oscott, Birmingham. Featuring Dr Gianna Emanuela Molla (daughter of St Gianna Molla), Fr Paul Murray, Msgr Michael Nazir-Ali, AnMari, The Southwell Consort, Fr Toby Lees & many more. Tickets available now at www.webeliefefestival.com