



Roman Catholic Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle
a registered charity 1143450



The Parishes of ST JOSEPH, STANLEY ✱ ST PATRICK, DIPTON

St Joseph's Presbytery, Thorneyholme Terrace, Stanley, DH9 0BL

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Summer Edition Newsletter

18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 3RD - 10TH AUGUST 2025

18TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR	<i>Dipton Stanley</i>	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Partnership Les March & the Spinks Family	
Monday 4th August	<i>Dipton</i>	6.30pm	Maureen Robson (SVP)	<i>St John Vianney, Priest (M)</i>
Tuesday 5th August	<i>Stanley Mountsett</i>	10.00am 2.00pm	Joseph Rogan Funeral Liturgy for Terry Fenwick	<i>Feria</i>
NO MASS ON WEDNESDAY				
Thursday 7th August	<i>Stanley</i>	10.00am	Mary Keers	<i>Feria</i>
Friday 8th August	<i>Dipton</i>	6.30pm	Bill & Ivy Mulhearn	<i>St Dominic, Priest (M)</i>
Saturday 9th August	<i>Stanley Stanley</i>	10.00am 1.00pm	Floro, Leonardo, Bernardina, Jovie & Geronimo Wedding: Leanne Barber and Stuart Bainbridge	<i>St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (F)</i>
19TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR	<i>Dipton Stanley</i>	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Partnership Anniversary of Helen Davidson	

LISTEN TO THE WORD

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 2:21-23 | Psalm 90 | Colossians 3: 1-5, 9-11 | Luke 12: 13-21

I am often struck by the attitudes of those who seem to have more money than they can spend. When I read about billionaires and then look at the poor people in the world or even at our unemployed young people I cannot but feel anger at the inequality of it all. We often talk about winning the lottery and the good we could do if those euro millions came our way; it never occurs to us that wealth can be a bad thing. As Christians, we can only see the good that it can do.

Today's readings remind us that there have always been rich and poor in this world. The Old Testament reading calls upon the gathering of riches in this world as "Vanity of vanities". Why do we need money we cannot spend or status that we cannot sustain when all we need is to have sufficient and anything else is vanity? Saint Paul calls us to rise above the wealth of the world and set our eyes on heaven. This seems to be an ideal Christian way of life, but to many the gathering of daily necessities - a home, food, a comfortable and peaceful lifestyle - these are the goals they set themselves and struggle to achieve. They cannot dwell on heavenly things when their earthly life lacks the basic family necessities.

In today's gospel the parable reminds us that we should be storing our wealth in heaven and not wasting our lives in accumulating wealth that we cannot take with us. It is so important to maintain a balance in these things. I am sure that Jesus did not want us to give everything away and become homeless poor. Jesus wants us to use our talents to build our communities, not impoverish them. There is nothing gained if we do not use our God given talents for the benefit of our families and our communities. By doing so we are fulfilling the advice that Paul gives to the Colossians: the important thing is to follow Christ and use the wealth that our talent creates to build a fairer world.

David Frank.

Finance - 27 July 2025	Offertory Total	Standing Order	Diocesan Levy
STANLEY	£402.84	£197.25	£65.20
DIPTON	£124.30	£172.85	£60.20

LITURGY OF THE WORD

18TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (C)

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

First Reading

Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23

Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

Sometimes a person who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave everything to be enjoyed by someone who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. What has a man from all the toil and striving of heart with which he toils beneath the sun? For all his days are full of sorrow, and his work is a vexation. Even in the night his heart does not rest. This also is vanity.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm *Ps 138(137):1-2a, 2bc, 3, 6-7b, 7c-8, R3a*

Response: **O Lord, you have been our refuge,
from generation to generation.**

You turn man back to dust,
and say, 'Return, O children of Adam.'
To your eyes a thousand years
are like yesterday, come and gone,
or like a watch in the night.

You sweep them away like a dream,
like grass which is fresh in the morning.
In the morning it sprouts and is fresh;
by evening it withers and fades.

Then teach us to number our days,
that we may gain wisdom of heart.
Turn back, O LORD! How long?
Show pity to your servants.

At dawn, fill us with your merciful love;
we shall exult and rejoice all our days.
Let the favour of the LORD our God be upon us;
give success to the work of our hands.
O give success to the work of our hands.

Second Reading

Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11

Brothers and Sisters: If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death, therefore, what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Verse

Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Gospel

Luke 12:13-21

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

At that time: Someone in the crowd said to Jesus, 'Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.' But he said to him, 'Man, who made me a judge or arbitrator over you?' And he said to them, 'Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of one's possessions.' And he told them a parable, saying, 'The land of a rich man produced plentifully, and he thought to himself, "What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?" And he said, "I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry." ' But God said to him, "Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?" So is the one who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich towards God.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

QUESTIONS FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION

- ☒ Where do you place your security and happiness?
- ☒ If my natural dwelling place is now with Christ 'at the right hand of the Father', what difference does that make to my priorities?
- ☒ Would Jesus approve of my property situation and the use I make of my money?

Taken from The Sunday Word - Henry Wansbrough, OSB.

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

Please pray for the repose of the Souls of **Terry Fenwick** and **Winnie Caulfield**. **Terry's** Funeral Liturgy will take place at Mountsett Crematorium on Tuesday 5th August at 2.00pm. **Winnie's** Funeral Liturgy will take place on at Mountsett Crematorium on Monday 11th August at 10.15am

GROUNDFORCE DAYS

St Patrick's - Saturday 16th August 10.30am - 2pm

St Joseph's - Saturday 30th August 10.30am - 2pm

To tidy church grounds/gardens. Sign up sheet will be at back of church. Volunteers will need to bring gardening equipment with them if possible. Picnic lunch provided for volunteers.

CONGRATULATIONS

We offer prayerful congratulations to Leanne Barber and Stuart Bainbridge who are to be married this coming Saturday.