

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS
21st - 28th September 2025

25 TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR	Dipton Stanley	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Partnership; John & Bridget Madine People of the Partnership; Bill & Ivy Mulhearn
Monday 22 nd September	Dipton Stanley	10.00am 12.30pm	Iris, Jimmy and Kevin Lee Funeral Liturgy for Susan Ovington
Tuesday 23 rd September	St Mary's School	10.00am	Patricia Elizabeth & Hugh Norman Telford
NO MASS ON WEDNESDAY			
Thursday 25 th September	Stanley	10.00am	Deceased Members of the McAninly Family <i>(Mass in Church)</i>
Friday 26 th September	Lanchester	6.30pm	Induction Mass for Father Vernatius Edih - all welcome
NO MASS ON SATURDAY			
26 TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR	Dipton Stanley	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Partnership; Terry Fenwick People of the Partnership; Thomas Hovvels (SVP)

LITURGICAL CALENDAR		PARISHES CALENDAR THIS WEEK	
Monday	Feria	This Sunday	Coffee after Mass <i>(Stanley)</i>
Tuesday	St Pius of Pietrelcina <i>(M)</i>	Tuesday	Godfellas <i>(Stanley)</i>
Wednesday	Our Lady of Walsingham <i>(F)</i>		
Thursday	Feria		
Friday	Feria		
Saturday	St Vincent de Paul <i>(M)</i>		
<i>M = Memorial F = Feast S = Solemnity</i>			

Finance - 14th Sept 2025	Offertory Total	Standing Order	Catholic Education
STANLEY	£470.51	£197.25	£139.41
DIPTON	£88.65	£172.85	30.35
Future Collections: 21 st September - Evangelii Gaudium 5 th October - 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

Franciscus

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

Margaret Convey, Maureen Dixon, Doreen Bailes, Norman King

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.

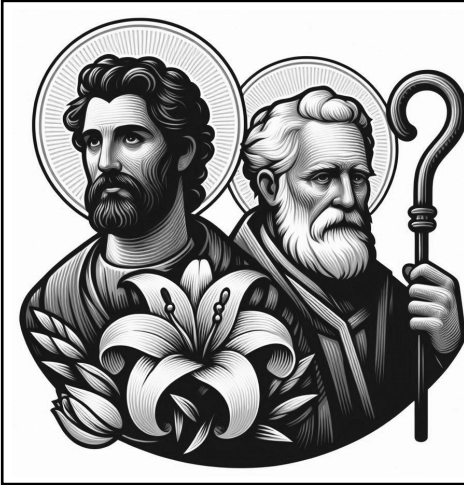
A GENTLE REMINDER...

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

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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
21ST SEPTEMBER 2025 - 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Amos 8: 4-7 | Psalm 113 | 1 Timothy 2: 1-8 | Luke 16: 1-13

Our world is obsessed with money; it seems to be at the root of everything we do. It can make demands on our behaviour and prevents us from being the person that God created. When we have too much, we are bored and indulge in all sorts of foolish behaviour. When we do not have enough, we fight for more and, if we cannot earn more, we resort to borrowing what we cannot repay. Today’s readings are a warning to us of the dangers and unfairness of our obsession with money and are a call to us to change our ways if we are to serve God through the way we live.

We create a world of inequality, of rich and poor. This was certainly true in the time of Amos, the prophet of social justice. Amos speaks for those who have no voice; he reveals to us the God who defends the rights of the poor. Those who “buy the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals” are living among us today. We need to revisit our options for the poor of this world and try again to change this world of haves and have nots. God calls to us in today’s psalm not to forget the poor and makes this promise: “He raises the poor to set them in the company of princes”.

The passage from Paul’s letter to Timothy reminds me of the bidding prayers at Sunday Mass. Paul advises that prayers be offered for everyone; he calls them “supplications, prayers, intercessions and thanksgivings”. The Bidding Prayers were introduced to give the lay people a voice in the Mass, yet how many of us listen, carefully and prayerfully, when they are spoken? We need to understand that the intercessions are a gift to us, and we need to use them wisely.

One of the problems with money is that it changes the way we are and affects the lives of those around us. The steward in today’s gospel is called astute because he uses his power over his master’s money to ensure that he does not become poor. He draws others into his actions by preying on their need for money. We can condemn his actions but also have a grudging respect for him for he has made his power over money serve him in this life. What is the effect of his actions on his eternal life? That is in God’s hands.

A Prayer based on Luke 16: 13
“No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money”

Lord,
Help me to see the inequalities in this world and to find a way to help those who are in need
Open my eyes that I may see the poor
Open my mouth that I may speak for them
Open my hands that I may work for a better world where your bounty is shared by all humanity
Lord, make me a servant of the poor
Amen.

David Frank.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

26TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (C)

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

First Reading

Hear this, you who trample on the needy
and bring the poor of the land to an end,
saying, ‘When will the new moon be over,
that we may sell grain?
And the Sabbath,
that we may offer wheat for sale,
that we may make the ephah small and the shekel great
and deal deceitfully with false balances,
that we may buy the poor for silver,
and the needy for a pair of sandals,
and sell the chaff of the wheat?’

The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob:
‘Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.’

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 146(145): 7. 8-9a. 9b-10. R5a

Response: Praise the LORD, who raises the poor.

Praise, O servants of the LORD,
praise the name of the LORD!
May the name of the LORD be blest
both now and for evermore!

High above all nations is the LORD,
above the heavens his glory.
Who is like the LORD, our God,
who dwells on high,
who lowers himself to look down
upon heaven and earth?

From the dust he lifts up the lowly,
from the ash heap he raises the poor,
to set them in the company of princes,
yes, with the princes of his people.

Second Reading

1 Timothy 6:11-16

Beloved: First of all, I urge that supplications, prayers,
intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings
and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and
quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. This is good, and it is
pleasing in the sight of God our Saviour, who desires all people to
be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is
one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the
man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is
the testimony given at the proper time.

For this I was appointed a preacher and an Apostle — I am
telling the truth, I am not lying — a teacher of the Gentiles in faith
and truth. I desire then that in every place the men should pray,
lifting holy hands without anger or quarrelling.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Verse

Jesus Christ, though he was rich,
yet for your sake he became poor,
so that you by his poverty might become rich.

Amos 8:4-7

Gospel

Luke 16:1-13

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 said to the disciples, ‘There was a rich man
who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this
man was wasting his possessions. And he called him and said to
him, “What is this that I hear about you? Turn in the account of
your management, for you can no longer be manager.” And the
manager said to himself, “What shall I do, since my master is
taking the management away from me? I am not strong enough to
dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do, so that
when I am removed from management, people may receive me
into their houses.” So, summoning his master’s debtors one by
one, he said to the first, “How much do you owe my master?” He
said, “A hundred measures of oil.” He said to him, “Take your
bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.” Then he said to
another, “And how much do you owe?” He said, “A hundred
measures of wheat.” He said to him, “Take your bill and write
eighty.” The master commended the dishonest manager for his
shrewdness. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing
with their own generation than the sons of light.’ And I tell you,
make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so
that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings.

‘One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and
one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. If
then you have not been faithful with the unrighteous wealth, who
will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been
faithful with that which is another’s, who will give you that which
is your own? No servant can serve two masters: for either he will
hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one
and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.’

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

QUESTIONS FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION

- ✠ Can you do anything to prevent exploitation of the poor?
- ✠ How can all people be saved by Christ, even those who do not know him?
- ✠ Do I take more trouble over what I want for myself of what I owe to God?

Taken from The Sunday Word - Henry Wansbrough, OSB.



SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION 2025/26

Application Forms are now available after Sunday Mass for
enrolment for Sacramental Preparation. All Forms need to be
returned by **TUESDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER 2025.**

Anyone who applies after this date will need to wait until the
following Year.

Please note forms will only be given in person, you cannot take
for others.

Those wishing to receive the Sacraments are asked to start
showing their commitment by attending Sunday Mass each week.

PARISH EVENTS - DATES FOR THE DIARY

Saturday 22nd November 12.30pm –3.30pm - Christmas Craft
Fair at St Patrick's in aid of family of parishes funds.

Saturday 14th & Sunday 15th December - Christmas Tree
Festival at St Patrick’s in aid of family of parishes funds. More de-
tails later.

Sunday 15th December - Carol Service at St Patrick’s Church.

Sunday 21st December 3.00pm - Craghead Colliery Band
Christmas Concert in St Joseph’s. Proceeds to family of parishes
funds.

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

Of your charity, please pray for the repose of the soul of **Susan
Ovington.** Susan’s Funeral Liturgy will take place in St Joseph’s
on Monday 22nd September at 12.30pm, followed by interment at
Stanley Cemetery.

FAMILY OF PARISHES RECIPE BOOK

Our last parish recipe book was published in 1986. A new version
is to be printed to boost parish funds and will be on sale later this
year.

Parishioners are invited to contribute to the book by providing
copies of favourite family recipes in any format. It can be a recipe
that’s been handed down to you, a favourite family dinner, the
soup you made for Lenten lunches, the bakes you have made for
coffee mornings or fairs, festive favourites or something you like
to make with the children. Many people now have an Air Fryer or
Slow Cooker, so you might have some recipes for those. Please
put hand written or typed recipes in the boxes provided at the
back of our churches. **The deadline for recipes to be included in
the book is Sunday 28th September.** If you have any questions
please text/call 07969 212 778.

ALIVE IN HOPE: A CHURCH FOR MISSION

Jubilee Day is fast approaching and we hope you have seen the
line-up of guest speakers invited along to share their stories about
being Alive in Hope: A Church for Mission. Ordinary people
doing extraordinary work in our parish communities, diocese and
beyond, they share the joys and struggles of doing mission for the
Church. Perhaps something will resonate with you? Bishop
Stephen invites all of us to come to this day as a diocesan family
in this Holy Year of Jubilee. Full details of the day’s programme
are available online and in the Northern Cross, or please ring Amy
to find out more. Haven’t booked yet? There’s still time to
register at <https://bit.ly/DHNAlive25> where you'll also find all the
information about the Jubilee Day. For enquiries and parish/group
bookings, email Amy at formation.mission@diocesehn.org.uk or
telephone 0191 2433316. Saturday 27th September, from 10 am
to 3 pm, at Cardinal Hume Catholic School in Gateshead.
Registration and refreshments from 9.15am, but please bring a
packed lunch. Ample parking is available and entry is FREE but
please register by Sunday 21st September.

JOURNEY IN FAITH

Our Journey in Faith sessions will begin this week Are you
thinking about becoming a Catholic, or want to know more about
your faith? Then this is for you! For more details please speak to
Father Shaun or Deacon Paul.

GODFELLAS

Will meet this Tuesday at 7.00pm in St Joseph’s meeting Room.
Come along for a drink and chat and to plan the coming months.

TALKING DURING MASS

It is wonderful to have young children at Mass on a Sunday,
showing that our Churches are alive and we are welcoming future
generations. Obviously babies and toddlers might make noise -
don’t see it as a distraction, but as their way of giving thanks to
God. Parents, please never feel embarrassed; you are welcome in
our churches, and we love seeing you!

There are on occasions, however, when adults talk to one another
during Mass, often thinking they are being quiet, when in fact it is
loud and others can hear them, causing those around them
distraction and causing a distraction to Father Shaun when trying
to celebrate Mass.

Please talk to God before and during the celebration of Mass, and
to each other after Mass.

CHILDREN’S LITURGY

Children’s Liturgy of the Word Take place at Mass on a Sunday
(*except 1st Sunday at Dipton and 2nd Sunday at Stanley*). This is
for children aged **3 - 10 years**. The liturgy takes place during the
Liturgy of the Word of the Mass. In Children’s Liturgy, the
children will hear the Gospel in an accessible way and
complete activities based on the Sunday Liturgy. The Children
then return for the Liturgy of the Eucharist. Please note, the
children must be able to attend themselves with the Catechists
who have a DBS. Parents and Carers are unable to attend.

CHRISTMAS CANDLES IN MEMORY OF LOVED ONES

This year we would like to invite parishioners to burn a candle in
memory of loved ones. These red Sanctuary Candles will burn
continuously around our Churches through the Octave of
Christmas for loved ones. If you would like a candle, please pick
up an envelope from the back of the Church. The cost of the
candles are £7.50 or 2 for £12.00. The closing date for orders is
20th December. *Please put your envelopes in the offertory basket
when it comes around on Sunday.*

DIOCESAN VACANCIES

Parish Secretary, Parish of All Saints, Lanchester and St Teresa,
Annfield Plain. 9 hours per week; Tuesday, Thursday and Friday
9am - 12noon. The Applicant Pack can be obtained by contacting
nell.dewhirst@diocesehn.org.uk or
human.resources@diocesehn.org.uk. Closing date: 12.00 noon
25th September 2025.

OUTREACH AFTERNOON TEA

The Outreach Afternoon Tea will take place **THIS
WEDNESDAY 24th September.** 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.

PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY DOOR IN HARTLEPOOL

Father Shaun has booked a visit to the Holy Door at St Joseph’s,
Hartlepool, on **Saturday 1st November.** The plan would be to
arrive in Hartlepool for 1.30pm, gathering outside the Church. We
will enter the Church and have prayers, followed by time to do the
Pilgrim trail. Tea and Coffee will be provided at 2.30pm, followed
by adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and the opportunity for the
Sacrament of Reconciliation. The afternoon will finish with Mass
at 4.00pm.

Sign up sheets are at the back of the Church if you would like to
go, but we do need people willing to drive and offer lifts to those
who wish to go. If you can help please tick the box ‘willing to
offer a lift’ on the sign up sheet.

THANK YOU

St Joseph’s August coffee mornings raised £86.00 for Mary’s
Meals. St Patrick’s September coffee morning raised £92.80 for
parish funds. Thank you to all involved.

OFFICE CLOSURE

The office will be closed this week due to annual leave. If your
query is urgent, please call to leave a voice message. Thank you.