

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS
31st August - 7th September 2025

22 ND SUNDAY OF THE YEAR	Dipton Stanley	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Partnership Diamond Wedding Anniversary of Anne & John Mosley
Monday 1 st September	Dipton	6.30pm	For a sick person (SVP)
Tuesday 2 nd September	Stanley	10.00am	James William Walker
NO MASS ON WEDNESDAY			
Thursday 4 th September	Stanley	10.00am	Monica Heaton (SVP)
Friday 5 ^h September	Dipton	10.00am	Bill & Ivy Mulhearn
Saturday 6 th September	Stanley	10.00am	David & Jean Holman
23 RD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR	Dipton Stanley	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Partnership; Kathleen Goldsmith People of the Partnership; Christopher Kennedy

LITURGICAL CALENDAR		PARISHES CALENDAR THIS WEEK
Monday	Feria (<i>Day of prayer for the care of creation</i>)	
Tuesday	Feria	
Wednesday	St Gregory the Great (<i>F</i>)	
Thursday	The Translation of St Cuthbert (<i>M</i>)	
Friday	St Teresa of Calcutta (<i>M</i>)	
Saturday	Saturday Mass of the Blessed Virgin Mary	
<i>M</i> = Memorial <i>F</i> = Feast <i>S</i> = Solemnity		
		Thursday Coffee after Mass (<i>Stanley</i>)
		Friday Free Film Night (<i>Stanley</i>)
		Next Sunday Coffee Morning after Mass (<i>Dipton</i>)

Finance - 24 August 2025	Offertory Total	Standing Order
STANLEY	£421.57	£197.25
DIPTON	£103.05	£172.85
Future Collections: 14 th September - Catholic Education 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.

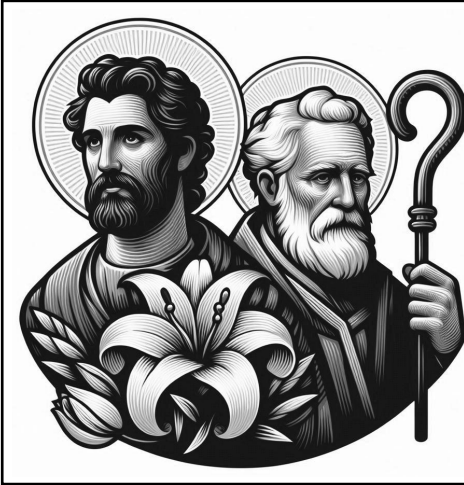
A GENTLE REMINDER...

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

✠

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

31ST AUGUST 2025 - 22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Sirach 3: 17-18, 20, 28-29 | Psalm 67 | Hebrews 12: 18-19, 22-24 | Luke 14: 1, 7-14

Over the last few weeks, the readings have been based on the qualities of those who follow Our Blessed Lord. Today we come to perhaps the most difficult of these qualities: Humility. Today we need to stop and consider just what it is that Christ is calling us to do. The passage from the Book of Sirach calls upon us to be humble. Pride is a malady, a failure to love others more than ourselves. Humility should be at the heart of all we do and speak. The greater we are, the more wealth we possess, the harder it is to be humble.

There is something majestic in the reading from Hebrews. It is a reminder that what we believe in is not small or insignificant but something so huge, so awesome that it passes beyond our understanding, something that may not even be touched. We are “the assembly of first born who are enrolled in heaven”. We are called to the heavenly Jerusalem. If we could only understand that, when we live in the love of Christ, we become the “spirits of the righteous”, then we would begin to recognise what His great gift to us truly means.

The parable in the Gospel reading reminds us that we should not be judged by the way the world looks upon us but by our actions. Jesus is teaching the rich people who are listening about humility. They, and we, may judge a person by his wealth or his looks and reputation; Jesus looks beyond these things into the heart and sees the motives behind the action. He urges us not to seek the highest place at the feast but be satisfied with the low place for then we will be judged as ourselves and not by our presumed status. We can then rise to our proper place and find our seat at the banquet of heaven.

A Prayer based on Luke 14: 10
“For everyone who exalts himself shall be humbled and he who humbles himself shall be exalted”

Lord,
Pride is a sin which is so easy to commit.
We often want to show ourselves to others as being successful or important and so we portray our achievements before us.
But all our accomplishments came from you. Whatever we attain it is ultimately your grace which inspires us.
Remind us Lord to be humble. To do what you wish but quietly, without fuss.
Then we truly serve you and our neighbours. Amen.

David Frank.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

22ND SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (C)

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

First Reading *Sirach 3:17-18, 20, 28-29*

My son, perform your tasks in meekness; then you will be loved by those whom God accepts. The greater you are, the more you must humble yourself; so you will find favour in the sight of the Lord. For great is the might of the Lord; he is glorified by the humble. The affliction of the proud has no healing, for a plant of wickedness has taken root in him. The mind of the intelligent man will ponder a parable, and an attentive ear is the wise man's desire.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm *Ps 68(67):4-5ac. 6-7b. 10-11. R cf. 11b*

Response: **In your goodness, O God,
you provided a home for the poor.**

The upright shall rejoice at the presence of God;
they shall exult with glad rejoicing.
O sing to God; make music to his name.
The LORD is his name.

Father of orphans, defender of widows:
such is God in his holy place.
God gives the desolate a home to dwell in;
he leads the prisoners forth into prosperity.

You poured down, O God, a generous rain;
when your heritage languished, you restored it.
It was there that your flock began to dwell.
In your goodness, O God, you provided for the poor.

Second Reading *Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24a*

Brothers and Sisters: You have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them.

But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Verse

Take my yoke upon you, says the Lord,
and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart.

Gospel *Luke 14:1, 7-14*

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

One Sabbath, when Jesus went to dine at the house of a ruler of the Pharisees, they were watching him carefully.
Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he

noticed how they chose the places of honour, saying to them, 'When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in a place of honour, lest someone more distinguished than you be invited by him, and he who invited you both will come and say to you, "Give your place to this person", and then you, with shame, will take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, "Friend, move up higher." Then you will be honoured in the presence of all who sit at table with you. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.'

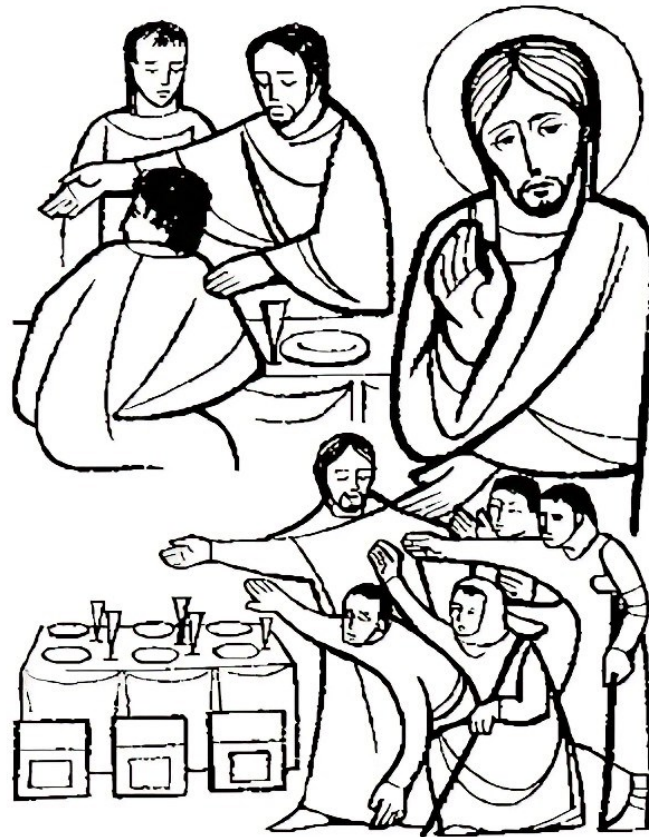
He said also to the man who had invited him, 'When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends, or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbours, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the just.'

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

QUESTIONS FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION

- ✠ Do I ever really convince other people (or even myself) by showing off?
- ✠ Is the Church still on pilgrimage? Do you see it advancing or stationary?
- ✠ 'Of what we cannot speak, it is better to keep silent.' Is this true of God?

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.

PARISH EVENTS - DATES FOR THE DIARY

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

Saturday 13th September 3.00pm - Craghead Colliery Band in St Joseph's. Proceeds to family of parishes funds.

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

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 hand your recipes to Lorraine Murray at St Joseph's Church or to Sharon Walker at St Patrick's Church. If you have any questions please text/call 07969 212 778.

ALIVE IN HOPE: A CHURCH FOR MISSION

A Jubilee Day in the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle

Bishop Stephen invites you to a Jubilee Day on Saturday 27th September, from 10am to 3pm, at Cardinal Hume Catholic School in Gateshead. Everyone is welcome! There'll be guest speakers from the Prisons' Chaplaincy and the Justice & Peace Refugee Project, and a choice of seminars/forums to reawaken and empower us for mission. This is an opportunity to connect with old friends and new, and to celebrate our diocesan family as we explore what a Church in Mission invites us to be and do! There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and a prayer space in the chapel, and praise and worship led by Durham musicians 'Set A Fire'. Take a look around the marketplace where there'll be stands and gifts from some of our Catholic partners and groups. Registration and refreshments from 9.15am, but please bring a packed lunch. Ample parking is available and entry is FREE but please register at <https://bit.ly/DHNAlive25> where you'll also find more information about the seminars you'll be able to join during the day. For enquiries and parish/group bookings, email Amy at: adminfaith.mission@diocesehn.org.uk or telephone 0191 243 3316. For more information or to book, please visit <https://bit.ly/DHNAlive25>

WELCOMERS - ST JOSEPH'S

St Joseph's needs volunteers to help with welcoming at Sunday Mass. The duties involve handing out the Hymn books and Newsletters. If you can help, please speak to someone on the Piety Stall, thank you.

MASS INTENTIONS

Many people have been asking about when their Mass intention will be offered. We currently have a lot of Masses to be celebrated. When someone wants it said in a particular Church, this can also slow the process too. On the Mass intention envelope there are three options: "St Joseph's", "St Patrick's" or "Any". If you're happy to have your Mass celebrated in any Church, please tick the "any" option on the envelope. It helps immensely if you use the envelopes provided in our Churches.

Sunday Masses are also very popular, and depending on when the Mass intention goes in, depends where the Mass will be said. So often one Church might have more People of the partnership than others.

In September, in keeping with the current teachings on Mass intentions, both Sunday Masses will be celebrated for the People of the Partnership *and* one other intention in both churches. This should help in relieving the backlog of Sunday Masses moving forward.

Please remember, offerings for Mass intentions **must never be treated as commercial transactions.**

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION 2025/26

We will shortly beginning the Sacramental programme for 2025/26. We invite parents of children in year 4 or above, who are baptised Catholic, from our family of parishes to an information evening on **Monday 15th September** at **6.30pm** in **St Joseph's Church meeting room**, where information will be given for the process this coming year and how you can register your child.

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

Of your charity, please pray for the repose of the soul of **Joyce (Pauline) McCallum**. Pauline's Funeral Liturgy will take place at Mountsett Crematorium on Friday 19th September at 2.00pm.

AN AFTERNOON OF MUSIC

On Saturday 13th September at 3.00pm in St Joseph's, there will be an afternoon of music with Craghead Colliery Band. Tickets are £5.00, and are available after Mass today.

JOURNEY IN FAITH

Our Journey in Faith sessions will begin in September. 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.

CRAFT DE-STASH

If you have any unwanted crafting materials, e.g. wool, knitting needles, embroidery cottons, craft kits, beads, material, craft paints, brushes etc. for volunteers to sell in aid of parish funds at the craft de-stash sale at Dipton jubilee centre 11am-1pm on 6th September. Please leave any items in the boxes at the back of our churches.

FREE FILM NIGHT

Our next free film night will be this Friday at 7.00pm in the meeting room at St Joseph's. We will be watching the film ***One Life***, starring Anthony Hopkins. (*We were meant to watch it in July, but the DVD wouldn't work!*)

The true story of Sir Nicholas 'Nicky' Winton, a young London broker who, in the months leading up to World War II, rescued 669 predominantly Jewish children from the Nazis. Nicky visited Prague in December 1938 and found families who had fled the rise of the Nazis in Germany and Austria, living in desperate conditions with little or no shelter and food, and under threat of Nazi invasion. He immediately realized it was a race against time. How many children could he and the team rescue before the borders closed? Fifty years later, it's 1988 and Nicky lives haunted by the fate of the children he wasn't able to bring to safety in England; always blaming himself for not doing more. It's not until a live BBC television show, 'That's Life', surprises him by introducing him to some surviving children - now adults - that he finally begins to come to terms with the guilt and grief he had carried for five decades.

The film is suitable for those aged 12 and above.

LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR – PIE & PEA SUPPER

St Joseph's Home in Newcastle are having a Pie & Pea Supper on Wednesday 24th September at 7pm. Bingo, Raffle and Entertainment. Tickets at £8 each, are available by ringing the Little Sisters on 0191 2731279

DIOCESAN VACANCY

Education Operations Manager - Salary £35,000 to £37,323
Closing date 9.00am on 3 September 2025, to discuss the role or for an application pack, contact catherine.craig@diocesehn.org.uk or annie.leaver@diocesehn.org.uk

THANK YOU

A big thank you to all those who have helped with the Ground Force days organised in our family of parishes; you can certainly notice the difference. Thank you to those who have continued the tidy up in the grave yard in Dipton exposing the graves hidden by years of overgrown shrubs, bushes and trees, planted in graves. May the Lord reward you for your work.