

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS
28th September - 5th October 2025

26TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR	<i>Dipton Stanley</i>	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Partnership; Terry Fenwick People of the Partnership; Thomas Hovvels (SVP)
Monday <i>29th September</i>	<i>Dipton</i>	10.00am	For a Sick Person (SVP)
Tuesday <i>30th September</i>	<i>Stanley</i>	<i>9.30am</i> 10.00am	<i>Sacrament of Reconciliation and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 9.55am</i> The Intentions of Rafaello Moscardini (SVP)
NO MASS ON WEDNESDAY			
Thursday <i>2nd October</i>	<i>Stanley</i>	10.00am	Susan Ovington (SVP)
Friday <i>3rd October</i>	<i>Dipton</i>	<i>9.30am</i> 10.00am	<i>Sacrament of Reconciliation and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 9.55am</i> Pauline McCallum (SVP)
Saturday <i>4th October</i>	<i>Stanley</i>	<i>9.30am</i> 10.00am	<i>Sacrament of Reconciliation and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 9.55am</i> For the intentions of a couple on their 60th Wedding Anniversary
27TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR	<i>Dipton Stanley</i>	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Partnership; Terry Hughes People of the Partnership; Jean and Terry Costello

LITURGICAL CALENDAR		PARISHES CALENDAR THIS WEEK	
Monday	Ss Michael, Gabriel & Raphael, Archangels (<i>F</i>)	Monday	Journey in Faith (<i>Stanley</i>)
Tuesday	St Jerome (<i>M</i>)	Thursday	Coffee after Mass (<i>Stanley</i>)
Wednesday	St Thérèse of the Child Jesus (<i>M</i>)	Next Sunday	Coffee after Mass (<i>Dipton</i>)
Thursday	The Guardian Angels (<i>M</i>)		
Friday	Feria		
Saturday	St Francis of Assisi (<i>M</i>)		
<i>M = Memorial F = Feast S = Solemnity</i>			

Finance - 14th Sept 2025	Offertory Total	Standing Order	Catholic Education
STANLEY	£324.48	£197.25	£102.74
DIPTON	£92.33	£172.85	£ 71.90
Future Collections: 5th October - CAFOD Family Fast 12th October - September Quarterly Levy 19th October - World Mission Sunday			

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.

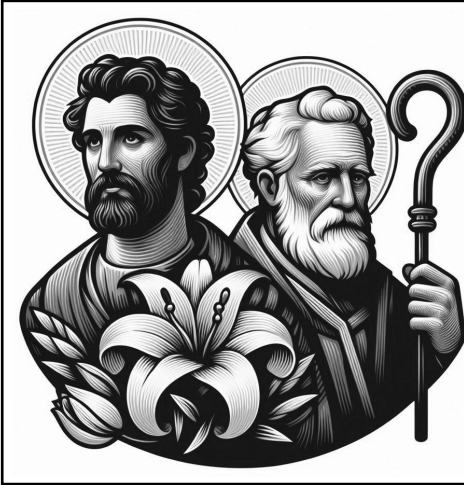
A GENTLE REMINDER...

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

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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

28TH SEPTEMBER 2025 - 26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Amos 6: 1, 4-7 | Psalm 146 | 1 Tomothy 6: 11-16 | Luke 16: 19-31

This week we continue to reflect on our lives and how we should change our ways while we have the time on earth to do so. The world demands that we seek success in this life, above all other considerations, but being successful often means that we pour all our energy into making earthly gains and fail to build for ourselves treasure in heaven, by doing good to those around us.

The Gospel story today may be very familiar. It is the story of the Rich Man and Lazarus. Like all the parables told by Jesus it has a much deeper meaning than at first sight. There is a great danger that we may become complacent about our faith and feel that, as long as we come to church each Sunday, we are safe in the barque of Peter. If you recall the recent Sunday readings, you will have noticed a call to us reconsider our attitude to the pursuit of success and to concentrate on what really matters, care, compassion and love for all God’s creation.

The first reading may be about you and your relaxed attitude to your faith. You may not have an ivory bed, but you may still be very comfortable in the life you have created. Beware, for, as the prophet says, “the revelry of those who stretch themselves out shall pass away”.

The Rich Man (and the Pharisees) are the Gospel’s equivalent of the Old Testament sprawler. They believe they deserve heaven and fail to see the poor man, Lazarus, even though he sits by their gate, a daily reminder that all is not well. Lazarus, with his sores, is an image of Christ, battered and scourged, brought before the power of Rome. Just as Lazarus is treated with contempt; so is Christ. Both represent the poor ignored in their pain.

Perhaps Jesus tells this story to encourage people to change their ways, he understood the human condition and was sad that even this story would not convince the rich to repent and change their ways. With sadness he reflects that “Even if someone should rise from the dead they will not be convinced”. A reminder that the shadow of the cross falls upon each of us and that we must repent and take action to change our ways before it is too late.

A Prayer based on Luke 16: 31

“If they do not hear Moses and the prophets neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead”

Lord,

Each week you speak to me in the readings at Mass.

Each week I fail to hear your message

Give me a disciple’s ear that I may listen and hear you

and then take your message with me as I go out into the world

May my heart be filled with your wisdom

so that I can share your love and compassion with all I meet.

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

Amos 6:1a, 4-7

Thus says the LORD, the God of hosts:

‘Woe to those who are at ease in Sion,
and to those who feel secure on the mountain of Samaria.

‘Woe to those who lie on beds of ivory
and stretch themselves out on their couches,
and eat lambs from the flock
and calves from the midst of the stall,
who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp
and like David invent for themselves instruments of music,
who drink wine in bowls
and anoint themselves with the finest oils,
but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph!
Therefore they shall now be the first of those who go into exile,
and the revelry of those who stretch themselves out shall pass
away.’

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

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

Response: My soul, give praise to the LORD.

It is the LORD who does justice to those who are oppressed.
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,
the LORD who sets prisoners free.

It is the LORD who opens the eyes of the blind,
the LORD who raises up those who are bowed down.
It is the LORD who loves the just,
the LORD who protects the stranger.

The LORD upholds the orphan and the widow,
but thwarts the path of the wicked.
The LORD will reign for ever,
your God, O Sion, from age to age.

Second Reading

1 Timothy 6:11-16

O man of God, pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love,
steadfastness, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith. Take
hold of the eternal life to which you were called and about which
you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.
I charge you in the presence of God, who gives life to all things,
and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate
made the good confession, to keep the commandment unstained
and free from reproach until the appearing of our Lord Jesus
Christ, which he will display at the proper time — he who is the
blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords,
who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light,
whom no one has ever seen or can see. To him be honour and
eternal dominion. Amen.

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.

Gospel

Luke 16:19-31

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 Pharisees, ‘There was a rich man
who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted
sumptuously every day. And at his gate was laid a poor man
named Lazarus, covered with sores, who desired to be fed with
what fell from the rich man’s table. Moreover, even the dogs
came and licked his sores. The poor man died and was carried by
the angels to Abraham’s side. The rich man also died and was
buried, and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes and
saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side. And he called out,
“Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the
end of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in anguish
in this flame.” But Abraham said, “Child, remember that you in
your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like
manner bad things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in
anguish. And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm
has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to
you may not do so, and none may cross from there to us.” And he
said, “Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father’s house —
for I have five brothers — so that he may warn them, lest they
also come into this place of torment.” But Abraham said, “They
have Moses and the Prophets; let them hear them.” And he said,
“No, father Abraham, but if someone goes to them from the dead,
they will repent.” He said to him, “If they do not hear Moses and
the Prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should
rise from the dead.”’

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

QUESTIONS FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION

- ✠ What more am I able and willing to do for one person in need?
- ✠ How can we envisage God’s glory?
- ✠ When was the last time I turned my back on someone who needed my help?

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 **THIS 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.

MAY HE REST IN PEACE

Of your charity, please pray for the repose of the soul of **Terence (Terry) Hughes**, who died suddenly on Monday evening. We remember Terry and all his family in our prayers. Terry’s funeral details will be announced in due course.

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 details 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.

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.*

VISIT OF THE PAPAL NUNCIO

On Tuesday 30 September we welcome the Papal Nuncio, His Excellency Archbishop Miguel Maury Buendía to our Diocese. On that day at 1.00pm he will celebrate Mass at St Mary’s Cathedral. Everyone is welcome to this celebration of Mass.

As Papal Nuncio, Archbishop Buendía is Pope Leo’s Ambassador to our country and so a sign of our communion with the Church of Rome. As well as celebrating Mass he will visit several of our Diocesan institutions as he stays with us.

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.

JOURNEY IN FAITH

Our Journey in Faith sessions will begin this Monday. Are you thinking about becoming a Catholic, or are you a cradle Catholic and want to know more about your faith? Then this is for you! We will be following the Sycamore programme with Father Stephen Wang. It is a series of videos with topics for discussion which helps us to think more about our faith and how we put it into practice. We begin at 6.30pm in St Joseph’s Meeting Room.

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.

AMICI GROUP

The next meeting will be at St Patrick’s Dipton on Thursday 2nd October at 7pm. If you haven’t been before, why not give it a go? You will receive a warm welcome.

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.

SAFEGUARDING SURVEY

The Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (CSSA) is undertaking a thematic inspection on survivor engagement and support. I ask every parish and Religious Group to help us share the survey, inviting everyone engaged with the Catholic Church, including Clergy, Religious (Consecrated Life), Parish Safeguarding Representatives, Employees, Volunteers and Parishioners to contribute their experiences. The aim of this survey is to better understand how the Catholic Church engages with Survivors. The closing date for responses is 6th October 2025 and the survey takes around 15-20 minutes to complete. A link to the survey can be found on the diocesan website, diocesehn.org.uk.

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY

This Family Fast Day (Friday, 3 October) CAFOD is highlighting its work with communities in Ethiopia facing climate challenges, where our donations fund vital water infrastructure projects. This is alongside CAFOD’s continued response to urgent needs in the Holy Land, Ukraine and Sudan through trusted local Church partners. Please encourage your parish and school community to be tangible signs of hope in this Jubilee Year through supporting CAFOD’s appeal. Your support enables us to provide practical assistance for our most vulnerable brothers and sisters worldwide. Further information about the Family Fast Day appeal cafod.org.uk.

NEW GENERAL SECRETARY TO THE CATHOLIC BISHOPS’ CONFERENCE OF ENGLAND AND WALES

Canon William Agley, has been appointed by the Bishops of England and Wales as the General Secretary. Canon Agley is a priest of our Diocese who was Parish Priest of St Bede’s, South Shields. We congratulate Canon Agley as he begins this new ministry in London. Please keep Canon Agley in your prayers.

DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE HARVEST

Today is a day of prayer for the gifts of the harvest. We give thanks for the food we eat and for those who work to provide it. We continue to remember those who go without. Our family of parishes support the local foodbank. Donations can be left in the boxes at the back of our churches.