

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS  
5<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> October 2025

|                                        |                   |                   |                                                                                               |
|----------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 27 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY<br>OF THE YEAR | Dipton<br>Stanley | 9.00am<br>11.00am | People of the Partnership; Terry Hughes<br>People of the Partnership; Jean and Terry Costello |
| NO MASS ON MONDAY                      |                   |                   |                                                                                               |
| Tuesday<br>7 <sup>th</sup> September   | Stanley           | 10.00am           | Celebration of Word and Holy Communion                                                        |
| NO MASS ON WEDNESDAY                   |                   |                   |                                                                                               |
| Thursday<br>9 <sup>th</sup> October    | Stanley           | 10.00am           | Celebration of Word and Holy Communion                                                        |
| Friday<br>10 <sup>th</sup> October     | Dipton            | 6.30pm            | Celebration of Word and Holy Communion                                                        |
| NO MASS ON SATURDAY                    |                   |                   |                                                                                               |
| 28 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY<br>OF THE YEAR | Dipton<br>Stanley | 9.00am<br>11.00am | People of the Partnership; John Pinkerton<br>People of the Partnership; Rose Taggart          |

| LITURGICAL CALENDAR                                       |                                     | PARISHES CALENDAR THIS WEEK |                                         |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Monday                                                    | Feria                               | This Sunday                 | Coffee after Mass ( <i>Dipton</i> )     |
| Tuesday                                                   | Our Lady of the Rosary ( <i>M</i> ) | Monday                      | Journey in Faith ( <i>Stanley</i> )     |
| Wednesday                                                 | Feria                               | Thursday                    | Coffee after Service ( <i>Stanley</i> ) |
| Thursday                                                  | St John Henry Newman ( <i>F</i> )   | Next Sunday                 | Coffee after Mass ( <i>Dipton</i> )     |
| Friday                                                    | St Paulinus of York ( <i>M</i> )    |                             |                                         |
| Saturday                                                  | Feria                               |                             |                                         |
| <i>M</i> = Memorial <i>F</i> = Feast <i>S</i> = Solemnity |                                     |                             |                                         |

| Finance - 28 September 2025                                                                                                                                               | Offertory Total | Standing Order |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| STANLEY                                                                                                                                                                   | £396.35         | £197.25        |
| DIPTON                                                                                                                                                                    | £110.50         | £172.85        |
| Future Collections: 5 <sup>th</sup> October - CAFOD Family Fast<br>12 <sup>th</sup> October - September Quarterly Levy<br>19 <sup>th</sup> 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**

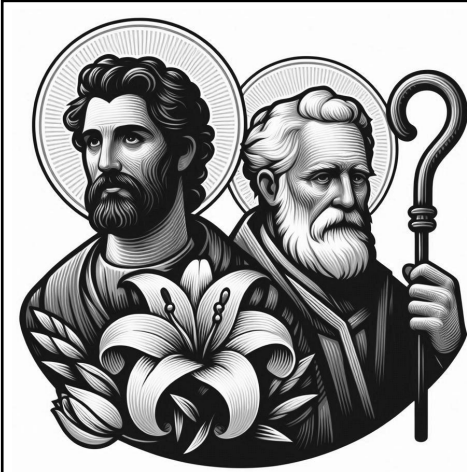
If you or a family member is looking to have your child baptised, please collect the leaflet ‘Getting your child baptised’ from the back of church. This policy of how we access the Sacraments of Initiation is applicable across the Pontop Partnership. Please read the leaflet carefully before returning 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

— ✠ —

SAINT PATRICK, DIPTON

**St Joseph’s Presbytery**  
**Thorneyholme Terrace**  
**Stanley, DH9 0BL**

01207 299 012

[www.stanleycatholic.org](http://www.stanleycatholic.org)  
[stjoseph.stanley@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:stjoseph.stanley@diocesehn.org.uk)

✠

**Father Shaun Purdy**  
*Parish Priest*  
[pp.stjoseph.stanley@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto: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**

**5<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2025 - 27<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**Habakkuk 1: 2-3, 2: 2-4 | Psalm 94 | 2 Tomothy 1: 6-8, 13-14 | Luke 17: 5-10**

There are times when the love of God seems to be far from our lives; times when the daily struggle overwhelms us and we cry out to God in anguish. Today’s first reading from the prophet Habakkuk is a powerful reminder that this feeling of isolation is nothing new. He lived in a time of great despair in Judah; the nation was enslaved by the Babylonians and was without hope. The people had lost faith in God and only a remnant remained faithful and turned to God in their prayer for freedom. Habakkuk receives his answer through a vision, a promise: for redemption will come “if it seems slow, wait for it, it will surely come, it will not delay”, So take heart, God will not fail us, He loves us in our faithfulness.

Paul’s mission was to spread the news of salvation to all the world. He was a very astute man, he understood that faith does not come fully grown, that it must be nurtured, worked upon, for it to grow; and it is fragile like a hot house flower, susceptible to the cold reality of the world. He speaks to us today “I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God which is within you.” Paul reminds us that this gift in not of timidity but of power and love and self-control. His audience would contain a great number of slaves to whom the concept of power would be far from their reality, and he urges them to “share in suffering for the Gospel by the power of God”. This lesson is for us also in today’s world; we may not be slaves in the sense of the first century, but we are enslaved by the pressures of modern life, and we need to be constantly vigilant in protecting the gift of faith given to us by Christ.

Jesus was a very patient man; his apostles always seem to struggle with his teaching, and he leads them slowly to understanding. They have listened to his criticism of the Pharisees, and they seek guidance from him about themselves. He reminds them that they should not act like masters but as servants, always considering others before themselves. We must always be careful that our faith does not become a symbol of superiority, but a sign of God’s love and our duty is to spread that love through our families, friends, neighbours and into the world.

**A Prayer based on Luke 17: 6**

*“If you had faith like a grain of mustard seed you could say to this mulberry tree ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea’ and it would obey you”*

Lord,  
*I want to have faith in you, but I am weak and feeble.  
Give me the strength to put you before any other consideration.  
Help me to understand that if I believe in you then anything is possible.  
Amen.*

David Frank.

# LITURGY OF THE WORD

## 27<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (C)

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

### First Reading

*Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4*

O LORD, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not hear? Or cry to you ‘Violence!’ and you will not save? Why do you make me see iniquity, and why do you idly look at wrong? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise.

And the LORD answered me: ‘Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so he may run who reads it. For still the vision awaits its appointed time; it hastens to the end — it will not lie. If it seems slow, wait for it; it will surely come; it will not delay.

‘Behold, his soul is puffed up; it is not upright within him, but the righteous shall live by his faith.’

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Responsorial Psalm

*Ps 95(94):1-2. 6-7b. 7c-9. R7c, 8a*

**Response: O that today you would listen to his voice!**  
**‘Harden not your hearts.’**

Come, let us ring out our joy to the LORD;  
hail the rock who saves us.

Let us come into his presence, giving thanks;  
let us hail him with a song of praise.

O come; let us bow and bend low.  
Let us kneel before the LORD who made us,  
for he is our God, and we the people,  
the people of his pasture, the flock of his hand.

O that today you would listen to his voice!  
‘Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,  
as on that day at Massah in the desert  
when your forebears put me to the test;  
when they tried me, though they saw my work.’

### Second Reading

*2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14*

Beloved: I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands, for God gave us a spirit not of fear, but of power and love and self-control. Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God,

Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. By the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, guard the good deposit entrusted to you.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Gospel Verse

The word of the Lord remains for ever  
and this word is the good news that was preached to you.

### Gospel

*Luke 17:5-10*

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: The Apostles said to the Lord, ‘Increase our faith!’ And the Lord said, ‘If you had faith like a grain of mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, “Be uprooted and planted in the sea”, and it would obey you.

‘Will any one of you who has a servant ploughing or keeping sheep say to him when he has come in from the field, “Come at once and recline at table”? Will he not rather say to him, “Prepare supper for me, and dress properly, and serve me while I eat and drink, and afterwards you will eat and drink”? Does he thank the servant because he did what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that you were commanded, say, “We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty.”’

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

### QUESTIONS FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION

- ✠ How does Christian hope make life different?
- ✠ Is it sufficient to keep to what we have been taught?
- ✠ Do I really serve anyone? Am I a useless servant?

*Taken from The Sunday Word - Henry Wansbrough, OSB.*

### Hymn at 9.00am Mass:

***Like a flame my hope is burning,  
may my song arise to you:  
Source of life that has no ending,  
on life’s path I trust in you.***

Ev’ry nation, tongue, and people  
find a light within your Word.  
Scattered fragile sons and daughters  
find a home in your dear Son.

God, so tender and so patient,  
dawn of hope, you care for all.  
Heav’n and earth are recreated  
by the Spirit of Life set free.

Raise your eyes, the wind is blowing,  
for our God is born in time.  
Son made man for you and many  
who will find the way in him.



### HOLIDAY

Father Shaun is on his Summer Holiday from after Mass today until Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> October. If you need a priest urgently, please contact one of the Partnership Clergy. Anything non-urgent, please contact Melissa in the office.

### MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

Of your charity, please pray for the repose of the souls of **Terence (Terry) Hughes and John (Jack) Walsh**. We remember their families in our prayers. **Terry’s** Funeral Mass will take place on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October at 11.00am in St Patrick’s, Dipton, followed by burial in St Patrick’s Cemetery. **Jack’s** Funeral Liturgy will take place on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October at 1.00pm in St Joseph’s, Stanley followed by cremation at Mountsett Crematorium.

### PARISH EVENTS - DATES FOR THE DIARY

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

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December** - Christmas Tree Festival at St Patrick’s in aid of family of parishes funds. More details later.

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December** - Carol Service at St Patrick’s Church.

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> 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 **20<sup>th</sup> December**. *Please put your envelopes in the offertory basket when it comes around on Sunday.*

### JOURNEY IN FAITH

Our Journey in Faith sessions continue this Monday at 7.00pm. 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.

### PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY DOOR IN HARTLEPOOL

Father Shaun has booked a visit to the Holy Door at St Joseph’s, Hartlepool, on **Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> 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 6<sup>th</sup> 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](https://diocesehn.org.uk).

### COFFEE MORNING AFTER MASS - DIPTON

The monthly Coffee Morning takes place after Mass in Dipton today. Please do stay and have a cuppa, some food and get to know fellow parishioners, helping build up the community of faith here in St Patrick’s.

### COFFEE MORNING AFTER MASS - STANLEY

Next Sunday the Monthly Coffee Morning will take place after Mass in Stanley. Baked goods and raffle prizes are always gratefully received. Why not stay after Mass next Sunday and meet new friends.

### APPEAL FOR DONATIONS

We are asking for donations of any items suitable for upcoming fundraising events (including raffles and tombolas) such as wine/spirits/soft drinks, toiletries, small toys, games, confectionery, unwanted gifts, etc. Items can be left in the donation boxes at the back of both churches and will be very gratefully received.

### THANK YOU

St Joseph’s September coffee mornings raised £90.00 for the Clergy Training Fund. Thank you for your generosity.

### CHILDREN’S LITURGY

Children’s Liturgy of the Word Take place at Mass on a Sunday (*except 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday at Dipton and 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

### SIGNIFICANCE GRAND DRAW

The late Fr Dermott Donnelly founded the charity ‘Significance’ to enable young people to become all that God has created them to be. Significance supports YMT and the ongoing development of the Emmaus Village and also provides grants for particular projects which provide opportunities to young people. To raise funds, Significance has launched a Grand Draw: First prize is 2 tickets for a ‘Britain’s Got Talent’ live semi-final in 2026, first class LNER travel and overnight stay in a London hotel and there are other exciting prizes. Each ticket costs £5 and the aim is to raise £20,000 by selling 800 books x 5 tickets. The draw will take place on Youth Sunday 23rd November 2025. Please support by buying a ticket or taking a book to sell. Raffle tickets can be sent to you by contacting [significance316@gmail.com](mailto:significance316@gmail.com)

### DIOCESAN VACANCY

A cleaner is required to provide cleaning services throughout the Church, the church halls and the parish house at English Martyrs, 176 Stamfordham Road, Newcastle upon Tyne NE5 3JR. Part-time, 9 hours per week; Some flexibility is available – times to be negotiated at interview. Salary - £5,896.80 per annum Deadline for applications is 12 October 2025 at 12.00 noon. Details can be found at: <https://diocesehn.org.uk/job-vacancies/>

### RITE OF WELCOME - FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Today at our Masses we welcome the children and parents who are journeying towards the Sacrament of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. During Mass there will be a rite of welcome for our children. Please keep our children in your prayers as they take the next step on their faith journey.

### BE STILL AND KNOW THAT I AM GOD

**14th – 17th November 2025**

A three-day retreat led by Fr Roger Dawson, SJ, at Theodore House, Stonyhurst, Lancashire, aiming to help participants find a greater attentiveness and disposition to God’s presence in their lives through a disciplining of the mind and awareness of the present moment. <https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/be-still-and-know-that-i-am-god>.