

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

23rd - 30th November 2025

OUR LORD JESUS	<i>Dipton</i>	9.00am	People of the Partnership; Marie Rostron
CHRIST THE KING	<i>Stanley</i>	11.00am	People of the Partnership; Harry Pendleton
Monday 24 th November	<i>Dipton</i>	9.30am 10.00am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Sacrament of Reconciliation until 9.55am Florence McLaughlin
Tuesday 25 th November	<i>Stanley</i>	9.30am 10.00am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Sacrament of Reconciliation until 9.55am Bill Madden
NO MASS ON WEDNESDAY			
Thursday 27 th November	<i>Stanley</i>	10.00am	Celebration of the Word and Holy Communion
Friday 28 th November	<i>Stanley</i>	12.30pm	Requiem Mass for Angela Nichol
Saturday 29 th November	<i>Stanley</i>	9.30am 10.00am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Sacrament of Reconciliation until 9.55am Mary Ann Spinks
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT	<i>Dipton</i> <i>Stanley</i>	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Partnership; Tommy Newton People of the Partnership; Tommy Coyle

LITURGICAL CALENDAR	
Monday	St Andrew Dung-Lac and Companions (<i>M</i>)
Tuesday	Feria
Wednesday	Feria
Thursday	Feria
Friday	Feria
Saturday	Saturday Memorial of Our Lady
<i>M = Memorial F = Feast S = Solemnity</i>	

PARISHES CALENDAR THIS WEEK	
Monday	Journey in Faith (<i>Stanley</i>)
Thursday	Coffee after Mass (<i>Stanley</i>)

Finance - 16th Nov 2025	Offertory Total	Standing Order	Clergy Training Fund
STANLEY	£449.51	£197.25	£97.00
DIPTON	£102.61	£172.85	£29.60

Future Collections: 23rd November - Catholic Youth
7th December - Advent Alms
14th December - Christmas Flowers
24th/25th December - Christmas Offering

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

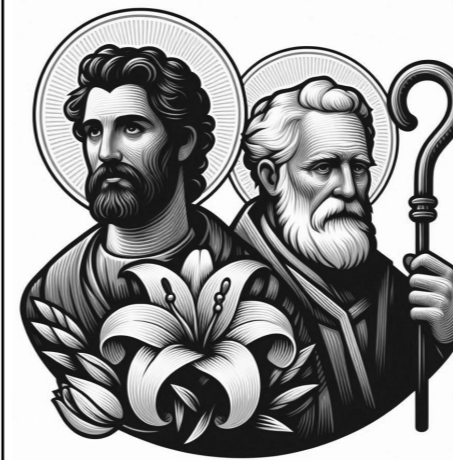
Franciscus

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.



If you would like to receive this newsletter by email, please contact the office.



LISTEN TO THE WORD

23RD NOVEMBER 2025 - CHRIST THE KING

2 Samuel 5: 1-3 | Psalm 121 | Colossians 1: 12-20 | Luke 23: 35-43

Today is the last Sunday in the church year; we have, once again, come full circle and now we prepare to begin again that journey with Jesus from birth, through death to eternal life. We come to this day, every year, changed by the passage of time. but whatever has befallen us in the past twelve months we must not lose sight of what really matters. Today's passage from Luke reminds us of the virtues that will carry us through the coming year: faith, hope and repentance. The cross is a sign of God's love for us, let us hold onto that love as we face the coming year.

Luke brings together, today, a collection of characters to represent the world in miniature. He skilfully blends the unspoken thoughts, the uttered words, and the dialogue between those crucified and those who stand and watch, until we can almost feel the atmosphere and become witnesses, in our time, to the timeless scene on the hill of Calvary.

We stand there, with the people, watching Jesus; we are captured in the scene as silent onlookers, unable to affect the events unfolding before our eyes. We are held between Hell and Heaven; this is our future, our relationship with God, that is being played out before us, and we are powerless to intervene. The rulers mock Him; "He saved others let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the chosen one" they speak for the world; that doubting, sneering, unbelieving world in which we live each day; the voice of hate disguised by the carefully crafted words of insincerity which seem so plausible but twist our faith in God into something which is mistaken, almost pagan.

"The soldiers also mocked him", the power is held in the hands of those who rule, who govern, who seek to impose their will on the people. The Roman Empire represents all those whose misuse of power effects the lives of millions of our brothers and sisters throughout the world. How painful can it be to imagine that Jesus must spend his final moments of life between two criminals; one speaks in the devil's temptation whisper "Save yourself and us", the other echoes our silent prayer "Jesus, Remember me when you come into your kingdom" Jesus speaks, and we hear those final words of love and consolation "Truly I say you, today you will be with me in paradise"

A Prayer based on Luke 23: 42

"Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom"

Lord,

Faith, Hope, Forgiveness and Love

In a simple sentence.

But O the power those words contain.

I believe in you, I hope in you, I constantly seek your forgiveness.

But most of all hold me in your love.

Amen.

David Frank.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST THE KING (C)

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

First Reading

2 Samuel 5:1-3

In those days: All the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron and said, 'Behold, we are your bone and flesh. In times past, when Saul was king over us, it was you who led out and brought in Israel. And the LORD said to you, "You shall be shepherd of my people Israel, and you shall be prince over Israel."' So all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron, and King David made a covenant with them at Hebron before the LORD, and they anointed David king over Israel.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 122(121):1-2. 4-5. Ref.1

Response: Let us go rejoicing to the house of the LORD.

I rejoiced when they said to me,
'Let us go to the house of the LORD.'
And now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem.

It is there that the tribes go up,
the tribes of the LORD.
As it is decreed for Israel,
to give thanks to the name of the LORD.
There were set the thrones for judgement,
the thrones of the house of David.

Second Reading

Colossians 1:12-20

Brothers and Sisters: Let us give thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities — all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the Church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be pre-eminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Verse

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!
Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!

Gospel

Luke 23:35-43

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 rulers scoffed at Jesus, saying, 'He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!' The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour

wine and saying, 'If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!' There was also an inscription over him, 'This is the King of the Jews.'

One of the criminals who were hanged there railed at Jesus, saying, 'Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!' But the other rebuked him, saying, 'Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong.' And he said, 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.' And he said to him, 'Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise.'

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

QUESTIONS FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION

- ✠ What do you consider leadership qualities before God?
- ✠ What sickness in myself is the most frequent cause of falling?
- ✠ What sort of person should a citizen of the kingdom of forgiveness be?

Taken from The Sunday Word - Henry Wansbrough, OSB.



*Loving and Faithful God,
today we lift up the hearts, dreams,
and voices of our young people.*

*Thank You for the energy, creativity,
and hope they bring into our community.*

*Bless them with courage to stand for what is right,
wisdom to make choices that honour You, and compassion
to see the needs of others.*

*May they know they are deeply loved,
not for what they achieve, but for who they are in Your eyes.*

*Guide their steps when the path feels uncertain,
and surround them with mentors, friends, and family
who will encourage their faith and nurture their gifts.*

*Lord, let this day remind us that the future
of the Church is alive in them, and that Your Spirit
is at work in every generation.*

*Through Christ, our Lord.
Amen.*

MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

November is the month of the Holy Souls. As is tradition, a book of the dead is available in both Churches to write the names of your loved ones in. This will be brought up with the offertory at Sunday Mass.

PARISH EVENTS - DATES FOR THE DIARY

Saturday 13th & Sunday 14th December 1pm - 4pm - Christmas Tree Festival at St Patrick's in aid of family of parishes funds.

Sunday 14th December - Carol Service at St Patrick's Church at conclusion of Christmas Tree Festival.

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

Friday 30th January 2026 - Back by popular demand - an evening with Take This at Dipton Club. More details to follow...

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.*

LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 2026

The Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes takes place each year, departing on the last Friday of July for a full week's pilgrimage in Lourdes. Being the Centenary year since the first Diocesan Pilgrimage led by Bishop Joseph Thorman, we have had increased interest in people wanting to go to Lourdes in 2026. It would help our Tour Operator (*Tangney Tours*) greatly if you could fill in the pre-registration form on their website if you are contemplating travelling with them. This will assist in helping with travel arrangements and hotels. Please note, this is pre-registration, it does not mean you have booked your place. Please follow the link. <https://www.tangney-tours.com/diocese-pilgrimages/diocese-newcastle-2/> or alternatively you can phone 01732 886 666

Like last year, if any parishioners sign up, you may wish to book the Stella where we can be together as a parish group.

YOUTH SECTION The Youth Section is a vital part of our Pilgrimage; the assisted pilgrims and hotel pilgrims rely on your generosity in saying 'yes' to assist them throughout the week. The Youth Section is organised through the Youth Ministry Team (YMT). If you are aged 16 (on the day of travel) – 21, please follow the link below for more information: <https://ymt.org/be-a-youth-helper-at-diocesan-lourdes-pilgrimage-2025/>

ASSISTED PILGRIMS The pilgrimage offers a special section for Assisted Pilgrims who need Nursing Care or some other form of specialised care during the week in Lourdes. We have a team of doctors and nurses who provide for the medical care needed and a large team of young and adult helpers who assist. If you would like to know more about being an assisted pilgrim, please contact the Lead Nurse through the email address: lourdes@diocesehn.org.uk

Please include in the email your name and a contact number for the Lead Nurse to contact you directly with more information.

CHRISTMAS MASSES 2025

The Christmas Masses are at the following times this year:

Christmas Vigil	4.00pm	St Joseph's
Christmas Vigil	6.30pm	St Patrick's
Christmas Morning	9.30am	St Joseph's

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

St Patrick Dipton's annual Christmas Tree Festival is Saturday 13th - Sunday 14th December 1pm - 4pm. Anyone wishing to display a tree can contact Aileen on 07745 943 455 or Anne on 07944 094 157. There is a donation of £10 per tree.

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

Of your charity, please pray for the repose of the souls of **Angela (Angie) Nichol** and **Jane Margaret Suddes**. Angela's Requiem Mass will take place in St Joseph's Church Stanley on Friday 28th November at 12.30pm. Margaret's Funeral will take place at Mountsett Crematorium on Friday 5th December at 11.00am.

WORLD YOUTH SUNDAY COLLECTION

THIS WEEKEND we will celebrate World Youth Sunday, when the Church gives thanks for the life and faith of our young people. The retiring collection will support the work of the Youth Ministry Trust (YMT), our Diocesan Youth Service. Gift Aid envelopes are available at the back of church. Please consider taking one home this week and bringing it back for next Sunday's collection. Your generosity helps young people encounter Christ and grow in faith.

CONFIRMATION SOCIAL EVENING

Saturday 29th November at 7pm at St Mary's Church Hall, Blackhill. An evening of warm food, warm chat and entertainment that will warm your heart! Live music, dancing and a quiz. Kyle Scott from Affinity Radio North Tyneside will be DJing. Fundraising events will include a tombola and raffle. We hope that you will be able to join us and encourage our young people on their spiritual journey. There is a poster at the back of church and tickets (£5) will be available at the hall door on the night. We look forward to seeing you!

ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL CHRISTMAS FAIR

St Joseph's School Christmas Fair is taking place **this Friday 28th November** at 3.30pm - 5pm. All welcome.

HOLY ISLAND TERM TIME VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Holy Island SVP Vinnie's Camp are looking for volunteers to help in their Kitchen or with caretaking at our centre on Holy Island. Commitment time would vary from a weekend, to half a week, a full week or maybe more if you would like to, and you get to stay in our very comfortable Lindisfarne House accommodation. Without more term time volunteers our Summer SVP Vinnies Camps would not be possible and many schools in the North East would not have access to reasonably priced residential holidays for their children. Applications open in December on our website:

<https://svp.org.uk/microsite/ozanam-camp> If you are interested or want more information please email barbart@svp.org.uk

LOVE CHRISTMAS

This weekend we launch the 2025 Love Christmas campaign. It is across the whole partnership this year and collection envelopes are available in all our churches. With the help of your generosity we aim to make Christmas a little bit better for those across our community who need a helping hand. Last year we distributed "Love Christmas Dinner" bags, Toiletries gift bags for young people living in temporary accommodation, Gift bags for adults with learning needs and lastly, helped the mothers of the children in our local Women's Refuge with something extra for Christmas. Your generosity helped to make a big difference to a lot of people, please be as generous as you can this year.

OUTREACH AFTERNOON TEA

The Outreach Afternoon Tea will take place **THIS WEDNESDAY 26th November**. 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.

The Outreach is a vital asset to the people of our community, so please help it continue to serve the community and be a place of welcome for many years to come.

THE BUGLE

Fr John Bagnall's new comic The Bugle is now available to buy at the back of church (£5).