

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS
25th January - 1st February 2026

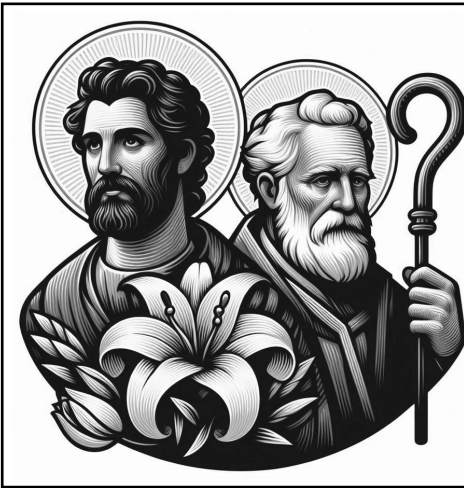
3RD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR	<i>Dipton Stanley</i>	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Partnership; Margaret Connelly People of the Partnership; Edna Moscardini & Dec’d of the Moscardini Family
Monday <i>26th January</i>	<i>Dipton</i>	<i>9.30am</i> 10.00am	<i>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Sacrament of Reconciliation until 9.55am</i> NBF
Tuesday <i>27th January</i>	<i>Stanley</i>	<i>9.30am</i> 10.00am	<i>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Sacrament of Reconciliation until 9.55am</i> Ben Rouse
NO MASS ON WEDNESDAY			
Thursday <i>29th January</i>	<i>Stanley</i>	10.00am	To celebrate a 60th wedding anniversary
Friday <i>30th January</i>	<i>Dipton</i>	<i>9.30am</i> 10.00am	<i>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Sacrament of Reconciliation until 9.55am</i> Muriel, William & Gordon Charlton
NO MASS ON SATURDAY			
4TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR	<i>Dipton Stanley</i>	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Partnership; Richard and Michael Gillespie People of the Partnership; Luke McAndrew

LITURGICAL CALENDAR		PARISHES CALENDAR THIS WEEK	
Monday	Ss Timothy and Titus (<i>M</i>)	Monday	Journey in Faith (<i>Stanley</i>)
Tuesday	Feria	Thursday	Coffee after Mass (<i>Stanley</i>)
Wednesday	St Thomas Aquinas (<i>M</i>)	Friday	Take This (<i>Dipton Club</i>)
Thursday	Feria	Sunday	Coffee after Mass (<i>Dipton</i>)
Friday	Feria		
Saturday	St John Bosco (<i>M</i>)		
<i>M = Memorial F = Feast S = Solemnity</i>			

Finance - 18 th Jan 2026	Offertory Total	Standing Order
STANLEY	£680.76	£197.25
DIPTON	£136.37	£172.85
Future Collections:		

<p>PRAYER BEFORE MASS</p> <p>Almighty and ever-living God, I approach the sacrament of Your only-begotten Son Our Lord Jesus Christ, I come sick to the doctor of life, unclean to the fountain of mercy, blind to the radiance of eternal light, and poor and needy to the Lord of heaven and earth.</p> <p>Lord, in your great generosity, heal my sickness, wash away my defilement, enlighten my blindness, enrich my poverty, and clothe my nakedness.</p> <p>May I receive the bread of angels, the King of kings and Lord of lords, with humble reverence, with the purity and faith, the repentance and love, and the determined purpose that will help to bring me to salvation.</p> <p>May I receive the sacrament of the Lord’s Body and Blood, and its reality and power.</p> <p>Kind God, may I receive the Body of Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, born from the womb of the Virgin Mary, and so be received into His mystical body and numbered among His members.</p> <p>Loving Father, as on my earthly pilgrimage I now receive Your beloved Son under the veil of a sacrament, may I one day see him face to face in glory, who lives and reigns with You for ever. Amen.</p>
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<p>PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO NEED HEALING IN OUR FAMILY OF PARISHES... Margaret Convey, Maureen Dixon, Doreen Bailes, Norman King, Margaret Pendleton</p>
<p>GETTING YOUR CHILD BAPTISED</p> <p>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 <i>in person</i> to your parish priest at the end of Mass.</p>
<p>A GENTLE REMINDER...</p> <p>Please remember to switch off your mobile phone (<i>or put it on silent</i>) when coming into Church.</p> <p>We show reverence to Jesus present in the Tabernacle.</p> <p><i>Please talk to God before Mass and one another afterwards.</i></p>
<p>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.</p>



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

25TH JANUARY 2026 - 3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Isaiah 9: 1-4 | Psalm 27 | 1 Corinthians 1: 10-13, 17 | Matthew 4: 12-23

In his Apostolic Exhortation “Evangelii Gaudium” – “The Joy of the Gospel” - the late Pope Francis urges us to examine the scriptures in a prayerful way and so come to know the joys they contain. In effect he is echoing the words of today’s first reading from Isaiah for the Gospels are a joy and a light for the people of God. Isaiah speaks to us of the effect on the people of the great light which will fill their world, a light which will banish the darkness and the deep shadows which cover their world. The light, that is Christ, will give us cause for gladness, joy and rejoicing for the great weight of sin that we carry will be lifted from our shoulders.

Corinth was a place of contrast; it was filled with many different classes of people and the house churches that Paul established had great difficulty working together. Paul calls for unity in today’s passage from Corinthians. In the early church there were a number of missionaries who spoke about Jesus from their own perspective and this led to a sense of favouritism for one view against another. The early church depended on the testimony of those who had known Jesus or who had been taught by the Apostles. Paul. Peter and Apollos were good men, but their message came from their background and their understanding of the ministry of Jesus. Paul urges us to focus on Christ and follow his example; we are fortunate that we have the Gospels to light our way and the benefit of two thousand years of Christian writers and theologians; the people of the early church walked in darkness compared to our understanding today.

When Jesus began his ministry, he found that he could not work from his home in Nazareth and so he moved to Capernaum and, in this way fulfilled the words of Isaiah. It was at this time that he called the local fishermen; Peter, Andrew, James and John to be his apostles. John The Baptist had been arrested, Jesus had to leave his family home, fishermen were called from their work; each. in their own way, were uprooted and set new tasks. To follow Jesus, we too may be uprooted and given new work to do; it is all in God’s hands and to be done with great joy.

David Frank.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

THIRD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (A)

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

First Reading *Isaiah 9:1b-4*

In the former time the Lord brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone. You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil. For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm *Ps 27(26):1. 4. 13-14. R1a*

Response: **The LORD is my light and my salvation.**

The LORD is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?
The LORD is the stronghold of my life;
whom should I dread?

There is one thing I ask of the LORD,
only this do I seek:
to live in the house of the LORD
all the days of my life,
to gaze on the beauty of the LORD,
to enquire at his temple.

I believe I shall see the LORD's goodness
in the land of the living.
Wait for the LORD; be strong;

Second Reading *1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17*

I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgement. For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarrelling among you, my brothers and sisters. What I mean is that each one of you says, 'I follow Paul', or 'I follow Apollos', or 'I follow Cephas', or 'I follow Christ.' Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptised in the name of Paul? For Christ did not send me to baptise but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Verse

Jesus proclaimed the gospel of the kingdom
and healed every affliction among the people.

Gospel *Matthew 4:12-23*

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

When Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: 'The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles — the people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death, on them a light has dawned.' From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.'

While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. And he said to them, 'Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.' Immediately they left their nets and followed him. And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people.

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

QUESTIONS FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION

- ✠ What is the most important element that would restore our country to God's service?
- ✠ Are there any echoes of disunity in your community?
- ✠ Do I ever follow Jesus' call immediately and unconditionally?

Taken from The Sunday Word - Henry Wansbrough, OSB.



DATES FOR THE DIARY

Friday 30th January 2026 - Take This at Dipton Club
Tuesday 17th February 2026 - Amici Ladies Group vs The Godfellas Quiz Night. 7.00pm (*St Joseph's meeting room*)
Wednesday 18th February 2026 - Ash Wednesday
Sunday 29th March 2026 - Palm Sunday
Thursday 2nd April 2026 - Maundy Thursday
Friday 3rd April 2026 - Good Friday
Saturday 4th April 2026 - Holy Saturday
Sunday 5th April 2026 - Easter Sunday
Saturday 11th July 2026 - Summer Craft Fair
Friday 31st July 2026 - Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes
Sunday 29th November 2026 - First Sunday of Advent

TAKE THIS

The award winning singers and comedy duo are back by popular demand! On Friday 30th January 2026, join us for what will be an entertaining evening in Dipton Working Men's Club. Doors will open at 7pm. Tickets are £5.00 (*you can't pay on the door*) and are available from our Churches or Dipton Club. Get yours before they sell out!

APPEAL FOR LOURDES MEDICAL TEAM

The Diocesan Pilgrimage relies on the generosity of nurses, student nurses, Health Care Assistants, and those working in care to help with the Accueil Pilgrims whilst in Lourdes. If anyone would like further information, they can contact the Lead Nurse, Michele Hall via email at lourdes@diocesehn.org.uk Please leave your contact details, these will be passed on to Michele who will be in touch.

LOURDES PETITIONS

Father Shaun will be in Lourdes from 8th - 12th February planning the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes which takes place in July. If you would like petitions taken to the Shrine, please leave them in the boxes by the Lady Altar in either St Patrick's or St Joseph's by Friday 6th February.

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. Bookings are now open. To book, please go to <https://www.tangney-tours.com/tours-and-pilgrimages/diocese-hexham-newcastle/> or phone 01732 886 666 for more information.

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE MASS

You are invited to a Marriage and Family Life Mass, with Bishop Stephen at St Mary's Cathedral on Saturday 14th February 2026 at 12 noon. All are welcome to this diocesan celebration, in particular engaged couples, married couples, those widowed and bereaved, couples in crisis and children experiencing difficult family relationships.

MAY HE REST IN PEACE

Of your charity, please pray for the repose of the soul of Canon Robert (*Bob*) Spence, who died on Wednesday 7th January. Canon Bob was for many years the Parish Priest of All Saints, Lanchester. Funeral details will be shared when they have been finalised.

USED STAMPS, MEDALS & JEWELLERY

Thank you to everyone who donated items for the Little Sisters of the Poor. The recent collections have raised £250, taking the full amount raised to £29,128. Items – used postage stamps (any country or period), foreign currency (notes and coins from any country), broken or unwanted pieces of gold/ silver jewellery, military medals from any conflict and any old stamp albums – may sent to David and Theresa O'Neill. David can be contacted on telephone 0191 264 5771 or email: david-oneill3@sky.com

HOLY ISLAND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The SVP Vinnies Camp on Holy Island are looking for more volunteers, some during term-time and others during the Summer holidays. If you feel you have the time to give them a hand, follow these leads for information. Applications are now being received on their website: svp.org.uk/microsite/ozanam-camp If you are interested or want more information please email barbart@svp.org.uk

CRIB OFFERINGS

Whilst the Christmas Tress will be taken down this weekend in our churches, our cribs will remain until February 2nd. The baskets will be available for you to make your donations to the Friends of the Holy Land, supporting the Communities suffering because of warfare and conflict. Please keep the people of the Holy Land in your prayers, and if you are able, to support them with a financial contribution.

DIOCESAN VACANCIES

Role: Cleaner
Salary: £3,276.00 per annum
Hours: Part-time 5 hours per week
Location: Sacred Heart, Great North Road, North Gosforth, NE3 5EB
How to apply: Please visit <https://diocesehn.org.uk/vacancy/cleaner-sacred-heart-north-gosforth/>
Closing date: 12:00 pm, Friday, 30th January 2026.

Role: Parish Secretary
Contract: 18 months' fixed term
Salary: £10,537.80 pro rata per annum
Hours: Part-time 15 hours per week
Working Pattern: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday (5 hours per day. Start & finish time to be negotiated during interview).
Location: Our Blessed Lady Immaculate, Village Lane, Washington, Tyne & Wear, NE38 7HS
How to apply: Please visit <https://diocesehn.org.uk/vacancy/parish-secretary-17/>
Closing date: 12:00 pm, Tuesday 3rd February 2026.

THANK YOU

The family of Angie Nichol wish to thank all from our family of parishes who attended the coffee morning on 17th January to fundraise for MND UK. The coffee morning raised a staggering £1300 in Angie's memory.

PARTNERSHIP PILGRIMAGE TO KRAKOW, POLAND

We are announcing this week a five-day partnership pilgrimage to Krakow in Poland between 14th and 18th October 2026. The pilgrimage will comprise of a guided daily itinerary provided by Tangney Tours and return flights from Newcastle Airport. Total cost, including Twin Room and Breakfast, will be £980. This price is based on a maximum of 40 pilgrims attending. Expressions of interest are needed by Friday 6th February at St. Patrick's Consett (01207 502196) and then £410 deposit per person to secure our flights.

PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM 2026

The Partnership Annual Pilgrimage to Walsingham will take place from Friday 31st July – Monday 3rd August 2026. The accommodation options are: Half Board Standard room £77, Half Board Ensuite room £97 per night. To secure your place a deposit of £200 is required. Forms and envelopes are available in local Partnership churches. Cheques to be made out to St. Patrick's RC Church, Consett and to be returned to St Patrick's Presbytery Consett by February 9th.