

MASSTIMES AND INTENTIONS

1st - 8th March 2026

2ND SUNDAY OF LENT	Dipton Stanley Stanley	9.00am 11.00am 4.00pm	People of the Partnership; Brian Duffy People of the Partnership; John Dodds Stations of the Cross and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
Monday 2nd March	Dipton	9.30am 10.00am	Sacrament of Reconciliation and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 9.55am Nancy and Patrick Purdy
Tuesday 3rd March	Stanley	10.00am 10.45am 11.15am	Sacrament of Reconciliation and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 10.40am Station of the Cross A special intention
NO MASS ON WEDNESDAY			
Thursday 5th March	Stanley Dipton	10.00am 6.00pm	Maureen Henderson Stations of the Cross
Friday 6th March	Dipton	9.30am 10.00am	Sacrament of Reconciliation and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 9.55am Intentions of Pam Turberfield
Saturday 7th March	Stanley	9.30am 10.00am	Sacrament of Reconciliation and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 9.55am Intentions of the Sick and Housebound of our Family of Parishes
3RD SUNDAY OF LENT	Dipton Stanley Dipton	9.00am 11.00am 4.00pm	People of the Partnership; Marie Rostron People of the Partnership; Deceased members of the Dodds & Hughes families Stations of the Cross and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

LITURGICAL CALENDAR	
Monday	Weekday of Lent
Tuesday	Weekday of Lent
Wednesday	Weekday of Lent
Thursday	Weekday of Lent
Friday	Weekday of Lent
Saturday	Weekday of Lent
M = Memorial F = Feast S = Solemnity	

PARISHES CALENDAR THIS WEEK	
This Sunday	Coffee after Mass (Dipton)
Monday	Journey in Faith (Stanley)
Tuesday	Soup lunch after Mass (Stanley)
Friday	Free Film Night - 7.00pm (Stanley)
Saturday	First Holy Communion Preparation (Stanley)
Next Sunday	Coffee after mass (Stanley)

Finance - 22 February 2026	Offertory Total	Standing Order
STANLEY	£546.65	£197.25
DIPTON	£134.80	£172.85
Future Collections: Sunday 1 st March - CAFOD Family Fast Sunday 15 th March - Easter Flowers		

PRAYER BEFORE MASS

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.

Lord, in your great generosity, heal my sickness,
wash away my defilement,
enlighten my blindness, enrich my poverty,
and clothe my nakedness.

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.

May I receive the sacrament of the Lord's Body and Blood,
and its reality and power.

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.

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.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO NEED HEALING
IN OUR FAMILY OF PARISHES...**

Margaret Convey, Maureen Dixon, Doreen Bailes, Margaret Pendleton,
Gerry Cassidy

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.

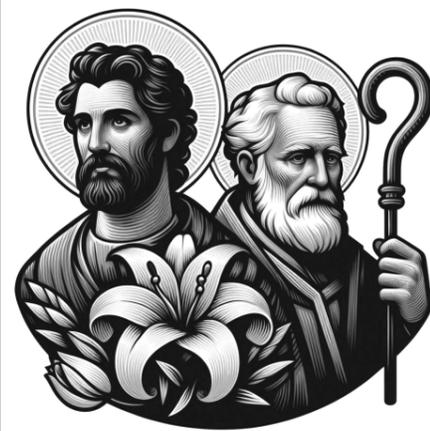
A GENTLE REMINDER...

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

✠

Sharon Walker
Parish Safeguarding Representative

07969 212 778

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

1ST MARCH 2026 - SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
Genesis 12: 1-4 | Psalm 32 | 2 Timothy 1: 8-10 | Matthew 17: 1-9

It is a long journey from the desert of the Temptations to the mountain of the Transfiguration, and over the years we have followed Jesus through every step. What makes us do this? Is the love of God so firmly entrenched in our hearts that we feel we must follow him no matter what joys and trials we experience in our lives, or are we still searching for that faith that others seem to have but which eludes us? I believe that, in truth, it is partly one and partly the other. We cannot have faith unless we have doubt. They are unlikely bedfellows, but as our life ebbs and flows we are tossed around on the sea of faith. Let us pray that we will be cast, at the last, upon the shores of heaven.

The first reading from Genesis is spoken to Abraham, but the message is for each of us. We are asked to leave our homes and kin and follow Him. If we do this then we will receive the blessing that God promised to Abraham as we, too, journey to the home that the Lord has prepared for us. The psalm echoes the promise to Abraham: the Lord will lay His merciful love upon us if we hope in him. If you are going through a difficult time, then keep this psalm close to your heart, for the consolation it promises will help you in your troubles.

Paul's letter to Timothy was written, we believe, from prison and is pastoral in nature. It reminds Timothy's people that though they may suffer for their faith in a crucified Christ they will find their consolation in the risen Christ for through Him death has been abolished and they, and we, have the promise of immortality through Christ our Saviour.

The Transfiguration is a foretaste of what is to come. Through this event Jesus shows to Peter, James and John how the covenant promise of the Old Testament, in the appearance of Moses and Elijah, is being fulfilled in Him. We hear, once again, the voice from the cloud: "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased: listen to Him." If the apostles needed any further assurance that Jesus was the Saviour, then surely this is the time. However, the passage ends with the warning, once again, that Jesus must suffer death and rise again so that the Word can be fulfilled.

David Frank.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT (A)

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

First Reading

Genesis 12:1-4a

In those days: The LORD said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonours you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.'

So Abram went, as the LORD had told him.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 33(32):4-5. 18-19. 20, 22. R5b

**Response: May your merciful love be upon us,
as we hope in you, O LORD.**

The word of the LORD is upright,
and all his works to be trusted.
The LORD loves justice and right,
and his merciful love fills the earth.

Yes, the LORD's eyes are on those who fear him,
who hope in his merciful love,
to rescue their soul from death,
to keep them alive in famine.

Our soul is waiting for the LORD.

He is our help and our shield.

May your merciful love be upon us,
as we hope in you, O LORD.

Second Reading

2 Timothy 1:8b-1

Beloved: We share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God, who saved us and called us to a holy calling not because of our works, but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, and which now has been manifested through the appearing of our Saviour Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Verse

From a bright cloud, the Father's voice was heard:
'This is my beloved Son, listen to him'.

Gospel

Matthew 17:1-9

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew

Glory to you, O Lord.

At that time: Jesus took with him Peter and James and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light. And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah,

talking with him. And Peter said to Jesus, 'Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He was still speaking when, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, 'This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.' When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces and were terrified. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, 'Rise, and have no fear.' And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one, but Jesus only. And as they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, 'Tell no one the vision, until the Son of Man is raised from the dead.'

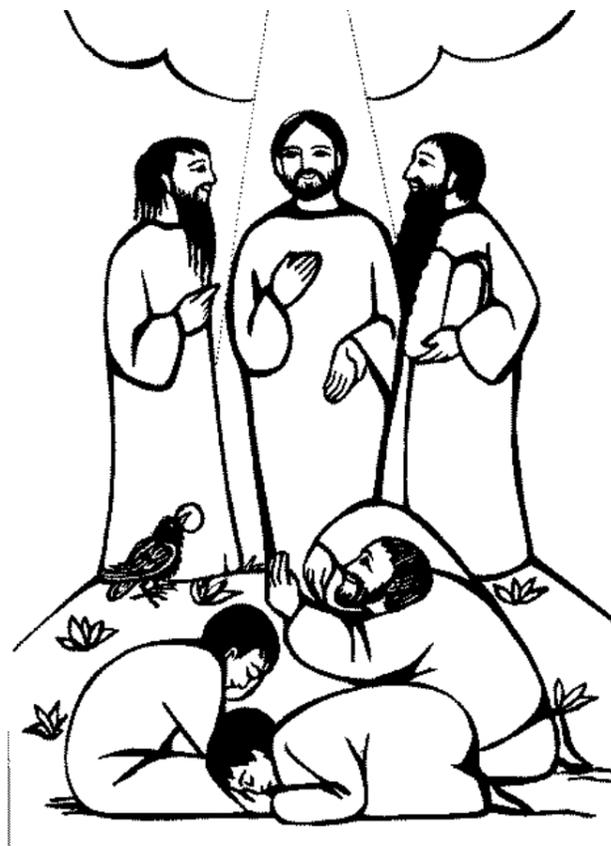
The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

QUESTIONS FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION

- ✠ What for me are the real implications of unconditional trust in God?
- ✠ How can I best respond to the grace of salvation?
- ✠ Why are the disciples forbidden to spread the message until after the Resurrection?

Taken from The Sunday Word - Henry Wansbrough, OSB.



DATES FOR THE DIARY

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
Saturday 14th November 2026 - Christmas Craft Fair

PASTORAL STRATEGY

In Bishop Stephen's Pastoral Letter read at all Masses last weekend, we heard about God's calling for our Diocese. The hopes and challenges we all face in the coming years. All parishes are asked to reflect and discern on their mission as we continue our journey to live as a flourishing Diocese alive in the Holy Spirit.

More information is available via www.diocesehn.org.uk including details for an online session taking place on Tuesday 3rd March at 7pm.

Following on from the Pastoral Letter, Father Shaun invites our parish communities to discern individually before coming together as our Family of Parishes.

The following Discernment meetings will take place:

St Patrick's Saturday 14th March
St Joseph's Saturday 21st March

The Morning will begin with Mass at 10.00am. We will finish by 12noon.

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.

APPEAL FOR LOURDES MEDICAL TEAM

The Diocesan Pilgrimage relies on the generosity of doctors, 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. If you would like to register to be part of the team, please visit <https://bit.ly/DHNLourdes2026> and click on the link to Healthcare Team Volunteers

APPEAL FOR ADULT HELPERS LOURDES

If you are going to Lourdes and willing to be part of the Adult Helpers Teams whilst there, you can sign up through the Lourdes page on the diocesan website <https://bit.ly/DHNLourdes2026> and click on Adult Helpers link.

You can also use this QR code for signing up for the Medical Team or as an Adult helper.



LENTEN LUNCHES

Lent Lunches continue this Tuesday after 11.15m Mass. Do please come along and offer your support. By coming along you are not only getting a lovely bowl of soup provided by fantastic volunteers, you are also supporting the work of St Cuthbert's Care.

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

COFFEE MORNING AFTER MASS

This Sunday we have Coffee Morning after Mass in St Patrick's and Next Sunday we have Coffee Morning after Mass in St Joseph's. Do please come along and support your family of parishes. All proceeds raised helps to support our parishes and helps the mission. It is also a good opportunity to see friends new and old.

DIOCESAN VACANCY

Role: Parish Finance Officer

Salary Scale: £43,000 to £45,000

Location: St Vincent's Diocesan Offices, West Road,
Newcastle upon Tyne, NE15 7PY

Applicant Pack: From Annie Leaver, Head of HR
annie.leaver@diocesehn.org.uk

Closing Date: Wednesday 4th March 2026
(we reserve the right to close the post early)

Shortlisting: Wednesday 11th March 2026

Interviews scheduled: Tuesday 17th March 2026

The full advert can be viewed at <https://diocesehn.org.uk/job-vacancies/>

THANK YOU FROM WILLOW BURN

Dear Fr Shaun and the people of the parish,
On behalf of everyone at Willow Burn Hospice, I would like to thank you for inviting us to take part in your Christmas Tree Festival (Dec 2025). It was a real privilege to be included in such a lovely community event and we are so grateful for the opportunity to share our work and be part of your festive celebrations. Thanks to the kindness of those who attended, a total of £22.82 was raised in support of Willow Burn Hospice. This contribution will help us continue providing compassionate support to local people and their families when they need it most.

Please pass on our sincere thanks to everyone involved in organising the Christmas Tree Festival and to all who supported our tree. We are very grateful for your support and hope to be invited again in the future. With best wishes and thanks, Ali on behalf of Willow Burn

DIOCESAN LENTEN REFLECTION RESOURCES

These are available at diocesehn.org.uk. This includes We Dare to Ask which is a resource for small group faith-sharing and for individual meditation, featuring five sessions on the theme of our Baptismal Vocation. Each session includes scripture, prayers and a reflection with questions. Please consider joining with others this Lent to use We Dare to Ask, as we prepare to renew our baptismal promises at Easter. The booklet, which includes a foreword by Bishop Stephen, is available to view and download now

A RELAXED PILGRIMAGE TO ROME 2027

Father Shaun is organising a Pilgrimage to Rome from 14th - 18th June 2027, staying at Villa Palazzola, the Summer Residence of the Venerable English College. The Villa overlooks Lake Albano and Castel Gandolfo, the Summer Residence of Pope Leo. Price: £1,395 per person sharing a twin/double room on a half-board basis. A limited number of single rooms are available at a supplement of £100. Price includes return airfare including **15kg hold Luggage**, accommodation as detailed in the itinerary, all transport whilst in Italy, services of a guide, gratuities and all entrance fees. Please note that this itinerary is not suitable for less able travellers. Price does not include lunches, drinks or items of a personal nature. Deposit of £300 and completed booking required by **14.8.26** with balance and any single supplement due by **15.3.27**. Booking is now open. You can book by visiting pilgrimagepeople.org and clicking on book, then on Italy and you will then find in the list 'Pilgrimage to Rome with Father Shaun Purdy' or alternatively there is a paper form at the back of Church. All bookings and Enquiries are made through the Tour Operator. A full itinerary is available from the back of Church.

SAFEGUARDING IN OUR FAMILY OF PARISHES

Sharon Walker is the Parish Safeguarding Representative (PSR) both Stanley and Dipton. Part of their role is to make sure all parishioners have access to the relevant Safeguarding policies:

CSSA / Diocesan Safeguarding Policy – is available on request
Caring Safely for others – is available on request.

But both policies can be found on the Diocese website – <https://diocesehn.org.uk/services/safeguarding/promoting-a-culture-of-safeguarding/>. Our Website has a link to the relevant information. Please also note there are now updated Safeguarding posters on the noticeboard.

We also draw your attention to the online safeguarding training for all volunteers. Information is available on the noticeboards at both churches on how to access this.

If you have any queries, please speak to Sharon, Sharon's number is on the front of the newsletter.