

MASSTIMES AND INTENTIONS

19th - 26th April 2026

3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER	Dipton Stanley	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Partnership; Joe Jarvis People of the Partnership; Shaun McGough
Monday 20 th April	Dipton	6.30pm	Celebration of the Word and Holy Communion
Tuesday 21 st April	Stanley	10.00am	Celebration of the Word and Holy Communion
NO MASS ON WEDNESDAY			
Thursday 23 rd April	Stanley	10.00am	Celebration of the Word and Holy Communion
Friday 24 th April	Dipton	6.30pm	Celebration of the Word and Holy Communion
NO MASS ON SATURDAY			
4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER	Dipton Stanley	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Partnership; Brian McDermott People of the Partnership; James Keers

LITURGICAL CALENDAR	
Monday	Weekday of Easter
Tuesday	Weekday of Easter
Wednesday	Weekday of Easter
Thursday	St George, Patron of England (S)
Friday	Weekday of Easter
Saturday	St Mark, Evangelist (F)
<i>M = Memorial F = Feast S = Solemnity</i>	

PARISHES CALENDAR THIS WEEK	
Thursday	Coffee Morning (Stanley)

Finance - 12 April 2026	Offertory Total	Standing Order	Sick & Retired Priests
STANLEY	£580.15	£197.25	£91.00
DIPTON	£137.01	£172.85	£51.65
Future Collections: 26 th April - Little Sisters of the Poor 17 th May - World Communications Day 25 th May - Lay Training Fund 7 th June - Quarterly Diocesan Levy 21 st June - Day for Human Life 29 th June - Peter's Pence			

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

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.

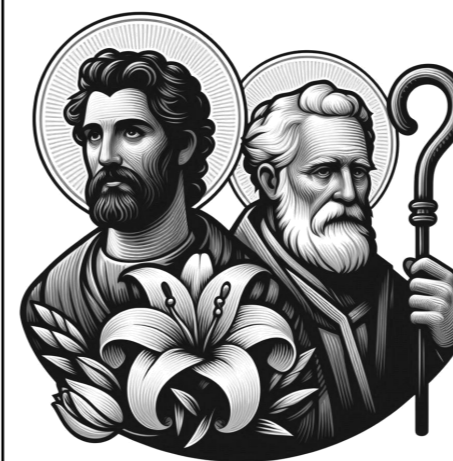
A GENTLE REMINDER...

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.

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



LISTEN TO THE WORD
19TH APRIL 2026 - 3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER
Acts 2: 14, 22-33 | Psalm 15 | I Peter 1: 17-21 | Luke 24: 13-35

There is a sense of timelessness in the church which allows us to see events that happened in the past as events which are happening in the here and now. This is how we should experience Easter; the readings may be familiar to us but the sense of newness in the words of Peter and in the Acts of the Apostles is something we need to tune into. This is what makes us an Easter people because we believe that the experience of the first Holy Week and the emergence of the early church in the first Easter are events which are happening today in our hearts and in our communities.

This sense of renewal brings a fresh joy into our lives. We can wonder at the courage of Peter and the Apostles because we can see the courage of people today who are living and dying for their faith in Jesus Christ. Peter speaks to us of the power of the resurrection. Our belief in the resurrection helps us to understand that, through following the teaching of Our Lord, we too can be raised to new life. This is not an easy road to follow, but through faith in Christ and living our lives in love and truth we can find that way to our true home.

Mass is at the very centre of our life in Christ. We believe that this celebration brings together the whole church, living and dead, into one great sacrament of praise and thanksgiving. Each time we go to Mass we celebrate Christ's death and resurrection. Today's gospel reading of the two disciples on the road to Emmaus is often used as an example of the way that our Mass is celebrated. Mass is a real encounter with Jesus: he walks with us, speaks to us and teaches us through His word. Listening to the readings, in the Liturgy of the Word, is listening to Jesus. If we do not listen, then we silence Christ, and His Word falls on arid ground. Only by listening and praying for understanding can we come to truly know Our Lord.

The Liturgy of the Eucharist allows us to be present at the last supper with Jesus and his apostles; every time we receive communion, we break that bread with Him as he broke the loaf before his disciples in Emmaus. The disciples' hearts were on fire with their love for Christ; our hearts too should burn with His love each time we celebrate Mass.

David Frank.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER (A)

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

First Reading

Acts 2:14, 22-33

On the day of Pentecost Peter, standing with the Eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed the crowd: 'Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst — as you yourselves know — this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it.

'For David says concerning him, "I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken; therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; my flesh also will dwell in hope. For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One see corruption. You have made known to me the paths of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence."

'Brothers, I may say to you with confidence about the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants on his throne, he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this which you yourselves are seeing and hearing.'

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 16(15):1-2a, 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11. *RI*

Response: O Lord, you will show me the path of life.

Preserve me, O God, for in you I take refuge.
I say to the LORD, 'You are my Lord.'
O LORD, it is you who are my portion and cup;
you yourself who secure my lot.

I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel,
who even at night directs my heart.
I keep the LORD before me always;
with him at my right hand, I shall not be moved.

And so, my heart rejoices, my soul is glad;
even my flesh shall rest in hope.
For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol,
nor let your holy one see corruption.

You will show me the path of life,
the fullness of joy in your presence,
at your right hand, bliss for ever.

Second Reading

1 Peter 1:17-21

Beloved: If you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one's deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile, knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Verse

Lord Jesus, open the Scriptures to us;
make our hearts burn within us when you speak to us.

Gospel

Luke 24:13-35

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

On the first day of the week, two of the disciples of Jesus were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. But their eyes were kept from recognising him. And he said to them, 'What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?' And they stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, 'Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?' And he said to them, 'What things?' And they said to him, 'Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened. Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning, and when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see.' And he said to them, 'O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?' And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He acted as if he were going further, but they urged him strongly, saying, 'Stay with us, for it is towards evening and the day is now far spent.' So he went in to stay with them. When he was at table with them, he took the bread, and blessed, and broke it, and gave it to them. And their eyes were opened, and they recognised him. And he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?' And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they found the Eleven and those who were with them gathered together, saying, 'The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!' Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



Scripture Readings from the English Standard Version of the Bible, Catholic Edition (ESV-CE) © 2017 Crossway.
Responsorial Psalm from Abbey Psalms and Canticles © 2018 USCCB.

DATES FOR THE DIARY - NEW DATES ADDED!

Saturday 25th April - Pre-loved Sale/Fashion Show

Saturday 6th June - Stella Maris Pilgrimage to Holy Island

Friday 3rd July - Dipton Club with the Whistle Testers

Saturday 4th July - Indoor 'carboot' sale

Saturday 11th July 2026 - Summer Craft Fair

Friday 31st July 2026 - Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

Saturday 12th September 2026 - The last afternoon of the Proms

Sunday 29th November 2026 - First Sunday of Advent

Saturday 14th November 2026 - Christmas Craft Fair

Sunday 20th December 2026 - Christmas Brass Concert

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

Of your charity, please pray for the repose of the souls of **Pat McCue, Margaret Pendleton** and **Doreen Bailes**. **Margaret** will be received into St Joseph's on **Wednesday 29th April** at **4.00pm**, her Requiem Mass will be celebrated on **Thursday 30th April** at **12noon** followed by burial in Stanley Cemetery. **Pat's** Requiem Mass will be celebrated on **Friday 1st May** at **10.30am** in St Joseph's followed by cremation at Mountsett Crematorium. We are awaiting the arrangements for Doreen's funeral.

Please also pray for **Father Pat McKenna**, a priest of the Diocese who died on Good Friday.

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.

APEAL FOR LOURDES NURSES

The Lourdes Planning Group make a renewed appeal for Nurses on the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes. Without the help of dedicated nurses we can't offer the support that our Accueil Pilgrims desperately need. If you can help, please sign up by going to <https://bit.ly/DHNLourdes2026> and click on the link to Healthcare Team Volunteers. For more information, please contact the lead nurse - michele.hall@diocesehn.org.uk **The Closing date is 30th April 2026**

APEAL 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 the link to Adult Helpers link. **The Closing date is 30th April 2026**

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



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' All bookings and Enquiries are made through the Tour Operator - 0800 612 3423

STELLA MARIS - ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE TO HOLY ISLAND

The annual Stella Maris Pilgrimage to Holy Island is taking place on Saturday 6th June 2026. A coach has been booked for those who wish to go, with pick-ups from Stanley and Dipton. Following the Pilgrimage to Holy Island, we will stop off at Seahouses for Fish and Chips. The cost of the trip is £15.00 for adults and £5.00 for Children (up to 16). If you would like to go, please contact the office on 01207 299 012.

VOLUNTEER CHAPERONES

The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle is seeking volunteers to support children's choir rehearsals at the Cathedral Church of St Mary as chaperones. Volunteers would need to be available from 4-5.30pm on either Tuesday or Thursday afternoons. No musical experience is necessary, but a valid DBS certificate issued by the Diocese would be required. This can be arranged through Parish Safeguarding Leads or the Diocesan Safeguarding Team.

Anyone interested in volunteering can contact Eimear via email: eimear.hurley@diocesehn.org.uk or on 07814 461448.

PRE-LOVED SALE - JUBILEE CENTRE

We've managed to secure a table at two events being held at the Jubilee Centre Dipton: on 25th April for their preloved clothing/accessories sale and fashion show, and on 4th July for their 'indoor carboot sale'. If you're spring cleaning your home or wardrobe/accessories, please consider donating your unwanted items in the donation boxes at the back of our churches. Proceeds from any sales will boost our parish funds. Your support attending this community event (11am until 1pm) would also be welcomed.

LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR APEAL

A special collection will be held on Sunday 26th April for St Joseph's Home, Little Sisters of the Poor, Newcastle. The collection will assist in the replacement of some specialised bathing units and also ongoing general refurbishment of the Home. If you are able to help, donations can be sent by cheque, payable to Little Sisters of the Poor, to: St Joseph's Home, Westmorland Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE4 7QA. Alternatively, secure online donations can be made by visiting: www.littlesistersofthepoor.co.uk/donate-here/ No gift is too small. Every act of kindness helps to ensure that residents continue to receive the care, dignity, and love they so deeply deserve. Thank you.

JOB VACANCY

Assistant Cook at St Joseph's Care Home, Little Sisters of the Poor, Newcastle. Hours available: 37.5 hours per week, including evenings and weekends.

Please note, sponsorship for this role is not available and applicants must have the right to work in the UK, which will be checked if successful. For more information, please contact St Joseph's Home on: 0191 2731279.

OUTREACH AFTERNOON TEA

The Outreach Afternoon Tea will take place **Wednesday 29th April**. 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.

We also need some volunteers to help. Because of illness, some of the volunteers are unable to commit at this time. If you can help with baking and serving, please contact the office.

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.

FIRE EVACUATION

You will remember we mentioned a few months ago about having an **UNANNOUNCED** Fire Evacuation Drill at the end of Sunday Masses. We haven't forgotten about this, and there are plans in place to have one in the coming weeks. We invite those people who agreed to be fire marshals to stay behind after Mass on **Sunday 26th April** for a brief refresher with Simon on the evacuation plan.

At the end of Mass, one of the fire marshals will shout **"FIRE... FIRE!"** at that point we ask that you leave your hymn books on the benches, pick up your personal belongings and leave the Church as quickly and safely as possible, please do not hang around the Church, but leave the premises. If you are unsteady on your feet or require further assistance, remain in your places and the Fire Marshal will come and help you.

Whilst this is a drill, we ask you to take it seriously, because in the actual event of a fire, we need to know we can evacuate the premises as safely and quickly as possible.