

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

5th - 19th April 2026

HOLY SATURDAY	Stanley	7.30pm	Easter Vigil: For the intentions of the newly baptised and received
EASTER SUNDAY	Dipton	10.00am	The intentions of those in our Family of Parishes PLEASE NOTE, THIS IS THE ONLY MASS TODAY
Monday 6 th April	Dipton	12noon	Priests Intention
Tuesday 7 th April	Stanley	10.00am	Priests Intention
NO MASS ON WEDNESDAY			
Thursday 9 th April	Stanley	10.00am	Priests Intention
Friday 10 th April	Dipton	10.00am	Priests Intention
NO MASS ON SATURDAY			
2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER	Dipton Stanley	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Partnership; Mark & Jack Brown People of the Partnership; Darren Williams
Monday 13 th April	Dipton	9.30am 10.00am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Bill Mantle
Tuesday 14 th April	Stanley	9.30am 10.00am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Bill & Ivy Mulhearn
NO MASS ON WEDNESDAY			
Thursday 16 th April	Stanley	10.00am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament The Ryans, Walker, Hillas, Mulhearn & Lovell Families
Friday 17 th April	Dipton	9.30am 10.00am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Priests Intention
Saturday 18 th April	Stanley	9.30am 10.00am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Sacrament of Reconciliation until 9.55am Bernardina, Floro, and Deceased Members of the Sebache Family
3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER	Dipton Stanley	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Partnership; Joe Jarvis People of the Partnership; Shaun McGough

LITURGICAL CALENDAR (2ND WEEK OF EASTER)	
Monday	Weekday of Easter
Tuesday	Weekday of Easter
Wednesday	Weekday of Easter
Thursday	St Bernadette Soubirous (Op M)
Friday	Weekday of Easter
Saturday	Weekday of Easter
M = Memorial F = Feast S = Solemnity	

PARISHES CALENDAR COMING UP...	
Thurs 9th	Coffee after Mass (Stanley)
Sun 11th	Coffee Morning (Stanley)
Tues 14th	Godfellas 7.00pm (Stanley)
Thurs 16th	Coffee after Mass (Stanley)
Fri 17th	Free Film Night (Stanley)

Finance - 29 March 2026	Offertory Total	Standing Order
STANLEY	£397.13	£197.25
DIPTON	£131.40	£172.85
Future Collections: Saturday 4 th / Sunday 5 th April - Easter Offering Sunday 12 th April - Northern Brethren Fund (Sick and Retired Priests) Open until Sunday 3 rd May Sunday 26 th April - Little Sisters of the Poor		

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.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO NEED HEALING IN OUR FAMILY OF PARISHES...
Margaret Convey, Maureen Dixon, Doreen Bailes, Margaret Pendleton



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

5TH APRIL - SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION

Acts 10:34.37-43 Psalm 117 Colossians 3:1-4 John 20:1-9

One approach to the Easter Sunday scriptures is to begin at the Gospel and work your way back to the first reading. Using this approach, you find a new way to look at familiar passages and discover a depth to the readings you may not have noticed before.

Mary of Magdala comes to the tomb early and in darkness. When we began to discover what our faith was about, we were, perhaps, very young and willing to accept what we were taught. After a time, and this happens I suppose to everyone, the darkness of the world that surrounds us begins to hide those early beliefs and can lead us away from God. Last night we celebrated the Mass of Light; light came into the world to banish the darkness. This light is the light of faith and just as it allowed Mary to see that the stone had been rolled away so too this light enables us, and all who seek for Christ, to see and understand, to banish the darkness in our own lives.

Peter and John must have been devastated by the events of the last few days; despite their good intentions; their frail human spirits have let them down. Now they see that something is happening and they race towards it at break-neck speed. Can you imagine the thoughts that are tumbling through their minds; what new torment are they going to endure. The tomb is open; the grave clothes lie empty but carefully wrapped and, instead of fear, their hearts are filled with hope. This is no grave robbery; the tomb is empty, Jesus is risen, and death is defeated because, in truth, death cannot overcome love.

Peter lived through the days of Christ, he walked those dusty ways with Him, every experience is written into his memory. Now he begins to understand and that understanding fills him with the need to tell, everyone he meets, of his life with Jesus. In today's passage he meets Cornelius who represents the Gentiles; he is a Roman official who is coming to faith, the flickering light he sees is fanned into a flame through his meeting with Peter and by the power of God's grace that has entered his life. Just as last night's converts found their courage to say yes to the invitation from Christ to join his church so Cornelius, in his day, adds his acceptance of the way, the truth and the life offered by Our Risen Lord.

David Frank.



THE LORD HAS RISEN, ALLELUIA!

As we celebrate with great joy the resurrection of Jesus, I wish you and your family every blessing for the Easter season. May you all experience the healing love of the risen Lord in your life.

We rejoice with five new Catholics - Abbie, Calum, Darren, Elisabeth and Eric. We offer our prayerful congratulations from our Family of Parishes to each of them as they embark upon this next stage of their faith journey. We hope they will be very happy and continue to bring growth to our communities. I thank Deacon Paul and Margaret Arthurs for the work they have done with the candidates since September through the Journey in Faith programme. Thank you too to their sponsors who have supported them on this journey.

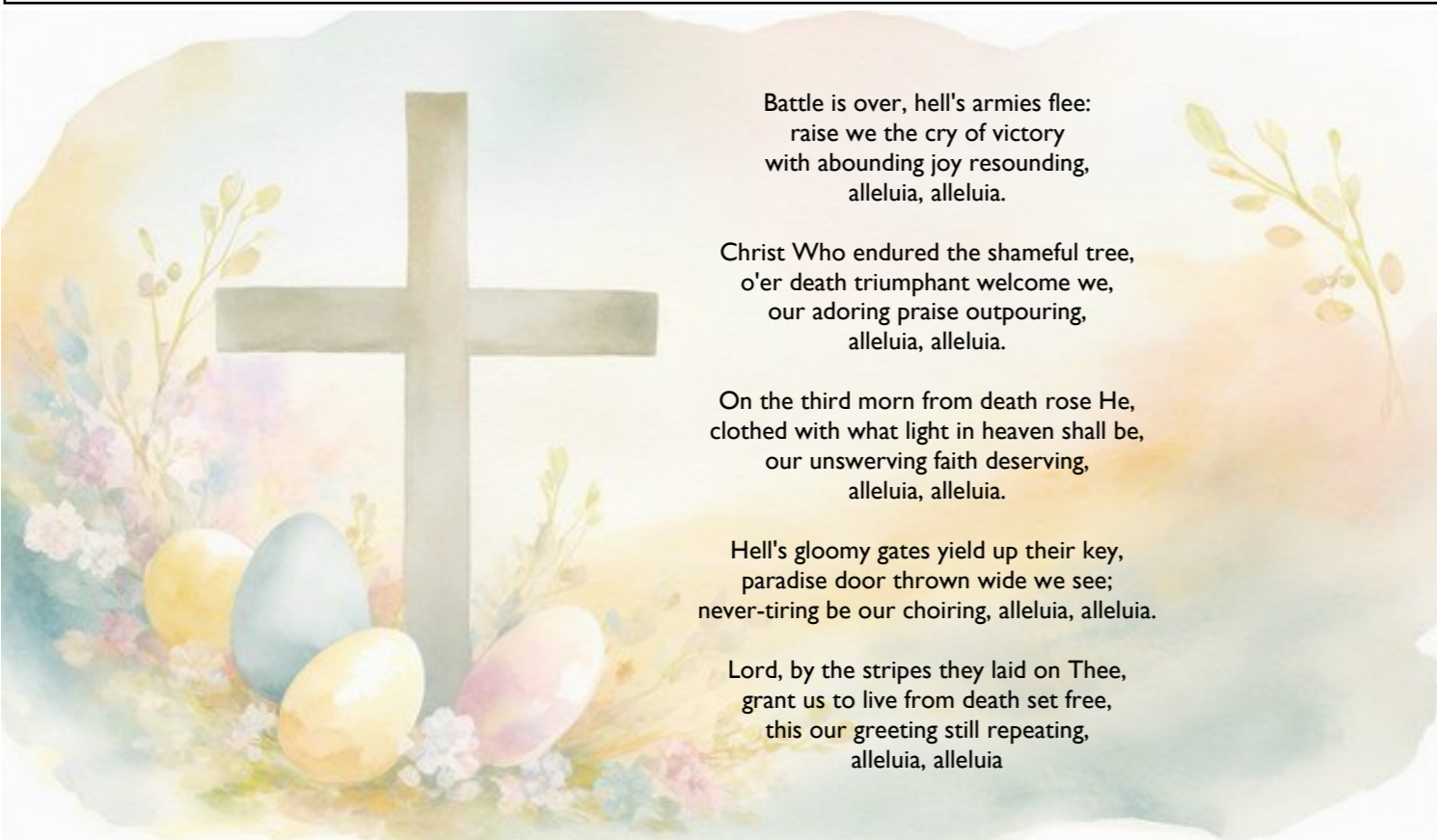
The Easter Triduum doesn't just magically happen, it takes a lot of effort of many people to ensure the liturgies raise our minds and hearts to God. There are so many people to give thanks for, and I hope those who have supported us know how much they are appreciated. I commend to each one of you those who have helped and ask you to offer a prayer of thanksgiving for them and for their intentions.

It is not just at the important times of the year, but each and every week we give thanks for all those who work so hard to make sure our communities are places of prayerful welcome, where people can truly belong. I thank all of you who give freely of your time without counting the cost, to continue the mission entrusted to us here in our little area of County Durham.

Finally, I want to say "thank you" for your support to myself in enabling me to be able to minister to you and to all the parishioners who seek the help and support of the Church. Without you I would not be able to do what I do. I am humbled by your prayers and support throughout the year.

With prayers and good wishes to each and everyone of you.

Father Shaun



Battle is over, hell's armies flee:
raise we the cry of victory
with abounding joy resounding,
alleluia, alleluia.

Christ Who endured the shameful tree,
o'er death triumphant welcome we,
our adoring praise outpouring,
alleluia, alleluia.

On the third morn from death rose He,
clothed with what light in heaven shall be,
our unswerving faith deserving,
alleluia, alleluia.

Hell's gloomy gates yield up their key,
paradise door thrown wide we see;
never-tiring be our choring, alleluia, alleluia.

Lord, by the stripes they laid on Thee,
grant us to live from death set free,
this our greeting still repeating,
alleluia, alleluia

DATES FOR THE DIARY - NEW DATES ADDED!

Friday 3rd July - Dipton Club with the Whistle Testers
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 soul of **Pat McCue**. Pat's Requiem Mass will take place on Friday 1st May at 10.30am followed by cremation at Mountsett Crematorium. We also remember in our prayers **Father Denis O'Mahoney** a priest of the Diocese who died on Tuesday 31st March in Ireland.

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 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 Acceuil 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

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 the link to Adult Helpers link.

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



EASTER RAFFLE

Tickets will be available after Mass on Saturday evening and before Mass on Sunday Morning for our Easter Raffle in aid of our family of parishes. There are some fabulous prizes to be won. It is £1 for a strip. The draw will take place at the Coffee Morning on Easter Sunday after Mass in St Patrick's, Dipton.

PASTORAL STRATEGY

Thank you to those who took the time to come to the recent Parish meetings, Now that both meetings have taken place, this is not the end of our discernment. You have received your sheets to pray with, and if you maybe couldn't come to the meeting, we now offer you the opportunity to put in what you have discerned. Boxes are available at the back of both churches to put your thoughts in. These boxes will remain in Church until Sunday 12th April.

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.

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.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Children's Liturgy of the Word Take place at Mass on a Sunday (except 1st Sunday at Dipton and 2nd 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.

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

GODFELLAS

The Godfellas will meet on Tuesday 14th April at 7.00pm in St Joseph's meeting room. If you haven't been before, why not come along? It's a relaxed evening with no set agenda, and it is purely social. Feel free to bring your own drinks/snacks along, and be sure of a warm welcome!

FREE FILM NIGHT

On Friday 17th April, we will have our free film night. We will be watching the film—**The Windermere Children**. The Windermere Children tells the true story of child Holocaust survivors brought to England in 1945 to rehabilitate by Lake Windermere. The film portrays their struggle with trauma, tentative steps toward healing, and the lifelong bonds they form. Praised for its sensitivity, understated power, and hopeful tone, it's an emotional, moving, and ultimately uplifting watch worth seeking out. The film will start at **7.00pm** and is suitable for ages **12+**. Feel free to bring along drinks and snacks.

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.

DIOCESAN VACANCY

Role: Parish Secretary
Contract: Permanent
Salary: £8430.24 pro rata per annum
Hours: Part-time 12 hours per week
Working Pattern: Able to be negotiated at interview.
Location: St Mary's, Great Lime Road, Forest Hall, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE12 7AB
How to apply: Please visit <https://diocesehn.org.uk/vacancy/parish-secretary-18/>
Closing Date: 12:00noon 13/04/2026.

OFFICE CLOSURE

The Family of Parishes Office will be closed until Tuesday 14th April. If it is urgent, please leave a message on the answering machine and Father Shaun will pick it up when he can. Father Shaun will also check the emails when he can.