

MASSTIMES AND INTENTIONS

31st May - 7th June 2026

MOST HOLY TRINITY	Dipton Stanley	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Partnership; The Chirnside Family People of the Partnership; Francis & Wallace Ormston
Monday 1st June	Dipton	9.30am 10.00am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Priest's Intention
Tuesday 2nd June	Stanley	6.00pm 6.30pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Daniel Bradley
NO MASS ON WEDNESDAY			
Thursday 4th June	Stanley	10.00am	Celebration of the Word and Holy Communion
Friday 5th June	Dipton	6.00pm 6.30pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament The Ryans, Walker, Hillas, Mulhearn & Lovell families
Saturday 6th June	Family of Parishes Trip to Holy Island and Seahouses for the annual Stella Maris Pilgrimage.		
CORPUS CHRISTI	Dipton Stanley	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Partnership; Priest's Intention People of the Partnership; Angie Nichol



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

24TH MAY 2026 - THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

Exodus 34: 4-6, 8-9 | Daniel 3: 52-56 | 2 Corinthians 13: 11-14 |
John 3: 16-18

Often, in the Lectionary, the readings seem out of sync. The first reading and the Gospel are arranged to complement each other but the second reading is different; if there is nothing that speaks to you in the first reading and the Gospel there well may be something in the second reading; this is why we must listen at mass and not just follow the words in a book. Listening is a different form of communication from reading. This week, however, I sense symmetry between each of the readings. There is a common thread and that thread is the love of God.

The Israelites, in the desert were a stubborn people, when you read the passages of Exodus their moans and groans rise from the pages; who could love such an ungrateful lot. They turned away from God so often. However, God loved them and through Moses, his prophet, He came to them time and again to ease their suffering and bring them back to Him. We are not very different today from those Israelites of old; how often do we begin to moan and groan when things do not go our way. How many of our fellow Christians have turned away from Him and followed the false gods of selfishness and money. Still God loves us all, just as He loved the people of the desert.

Nicodemus, in today's Gospel, comes to Jesus in secret, at dead of night. He wanted to know more about the man, Jesus, and needed reassurance that he was God's chosen one; but he also wanted to hold on to his status, his standing in society. The words of this Gospel passage must have stayed with Nicodemus for the rest of his life. It was only through the death of Jesus that Nicodemus could come out of the dark into the light. Is there some part of our life story that we keep hidden; not wishing for ridicule but frightened to stand up for our beliefs.

Paul, as ever, understands our human nature and brings together Father, Son and Spirit in a beautiful prayer for unity and peace. We share this prayer at the beginning of Mass "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all". He calls us to seek perfection through rejoicing, comforting one another and living in peace. This must be the basis of our community for when we live in Grace, Love and Fellowship we live in harmony with the Blessed Trinity.

David Frank.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Monday	Feria
Tuesday	Feria
Wednesday	Feria
Thursday	St Barnabas, Apostle (M)
Friday	The Sacred Heart of Jesus (S)
Saturday	Immaculate Heart of Mary
	M = Memorial F = Feast S = Solemnity

PARISHES CALENDAR THIS WEEK

Thursday	Coffee after Mass (Stanley)
Saturday	Holy Island
Next Sunday	Coffee Morning after Mass (Dipton)

Finance - 24 May 2026	Offertory Total	Standing Order	Lay Training Fund
STANLEY	£418.87	£197.25	£172.40
DIPTON	£117.00	£172.85	£100.85
Future Collections: 7 th June - Quarterly Diocesan Levy 21 st June - Day for Human Life			

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.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY (A)

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

First Reading

Exodus 34:4b-6, 8-9

In those days: Moses rose early in the morning and went up on Mount Sinai, as the LORD had commanded him, and took in his hand two tablets of stone. The LORD descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD. The LORD passed before him and proclaimed, 'The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.'

And Moses quickly bowed his head towards the earth and worshipped. And he said, 'If now I have found favour in your sight, O Lord, please let the Lord go in the midst of us, for it is a stiff-necked people, and pardon our iniquity and our sin, and take us for your inheritance.'

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Dan 3:52. 53. 54. 55. 56. R52b

Response: To be praised and highly exalted for ever!

Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our ancestors.

Response: To be praised and highly exalted for ever!

Blessed is your glorious and holy name,

Response: To be praised and highly exalted for ever!

Blessed are you in the temple of your holy glory,

Response: To be praised and highly exalted for ever!

Blessed are you on the throne of your kingdom,

Response: To be praised and highly exalted for ever!

Blessed are you who look into the depths, seated upon the cherubim,

Response: To be praised and highly exalted for ever!

Blessed are you in the firmament of heaven.

Response: To be praised and highly exalted for ever!

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 13:11-14

Brothers and Sisters: Rejoice. Aim for restoration, comfort one another, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Verse

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, the God who is and who was and who is to come.

Gospel

John 3:16-18

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

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

A PRAYER TO THE HOLY TRINITY

**Glory be to the Father,
Who by His almighty power and love created me,
making me in the image and likeness of God.**

**Glory be to the Son,
Who by His Precious Blood delivered me from hell,
and opened for me the gates of heaven.**

**Glory be to the Holy Spirit,
Who has sanctified me in the sacrament of Baptism,
and continues to sanctify me
by the graces I receive daily from His bounty.**

**Glory be to the Three adorable Persons
of the Holy Trinity,
now and forever.**

Amen.



DATES FOR THE DIARY - NEW DATES ADDED!

Saturday 6th June - Stella Maris Pilgrimage to Holy Island
Friday 3rd July - Dipton Club with the Whistle Testers
Saturday 4th July - Indoor 'car boot' 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

LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 2026

Are you a First timer or Solo Pilgrim? You are invited to a get together on **Sunday 5th July** at St Michael's Church Hall, Houghton le Spring, DH5 8NF. The afternoon begins at 2.00pm and finish at 4.00pm. It will give you an opportunity to ask any questions you may have and to meet fellow pilgrims.

STELLA MARIS - ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE TO HOLY ISLAND

ONE SEAT AVAILABLE

The Coach will pick up from St Joseph's at **8.15am** this coming Saturday before picking up at St Patrick's at **8.30am**. We will leave Holy Island around 4.30pm to travel on to Seahouses for Fish and Chips. All monies need to be paid by **TODAY**. If anyone would like the final seat, please contact the Parish Office.

CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION

Ushaw will be hosting a Eucharistic Procession with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, starting at 3pm on Sunday 7th June in St. Cuthbert's Chapel. Weather permitting, the procession will go through Ushaw's beautiful gardens, returning to the Chapel for Benediction. Last year, more than 300 people attended this event, so arrangements are in place to help Ushaw to estimate numbers and plan accordingly. You do not need a ticket for this event, but there is a sign-up sheet available at the back of our churches, so that we can let Ushaw know in advance how many people intend to come.

BISHOP SÉAMUS CUNNINGHAM - 60 YEARS A PRIEST

On Saturday 20th June, Bishop Séamus will celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving at St Mary's, Sunderland, for his Diamond Jubilee. The Mass begins at 11.00am followed by refreshments in the Parish Hall.

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.

SVP CAMP - HOLY ISLAND

Calling all young adults 18+. Do you have a week to spare to spend on Lindisfarne this Summer helping out at the Holy Island SVP Camp? Volunteers are needed to work alongside the children who stay in the SVP purpose-built centre on the island. Weeks, 3, 5 and 6 of the Summer have 60 children ready to have a great time rock pooling, walking, arts and crafting and enjoying outdoor activities but we need more helpers to ensure they have the best time!

- Week 3 Sat 1st August - 8th August
- Week 5 Sat 15th August - 22nd August
- Week 6 Sat 22nd - 29th August

If you are interested have a look at the website visit <https://svp.org.uk/microsite/ozanam-camp> or email Barbara Taws barbarat@svp.org.uk
 All helpers receive training and will need to be DBS checked.

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

We commend to your prayers, the repose of the souls of **Maureen Hughes** and **Anthony Bell**. Maureen's funeral arrangements are to be announced. Anthony's Funeral Liturgy will take place on Monday 8th June at 10.15am in Mountsett Crematorium.

CORPUS CHRISTI

NEXT SUNDAY, all Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion will renew their commitment to serve in our family of parishes for a further year. Please keep them in your prayers. A reminder that all Extraordinary ministers are required to attend a day of reflection each year. This will be advertised when the next one is coming up.

ST BEDE'S OPEN DAY

To celebrate the 60th Anniversary of our school opening, we are delighted to invite pupils, families, former students, and members of the community to our School Open Day on Saturday 27th June 10:00am – 2:00pm at the school site.

FIRE EXITS AROUND ST JOSEPH'S

Please could we remind you not to park in front of the steps by the Sacristy door or in front of the Church doors when using the car park. These areas need to be clear **AT ALL TIMES** in case we need to evacuate the Church in the event of a fire. Thank you for your understanding.

DATE FOR THE DIARY

This year, after 18 years as Head Teacher at Dipton (2 of which were as executive Head Teacher at Stanley), we say "farewell" to Mrs Burgess, who is retiring. A special Mass will take place on Monday 13th July at 6.30pm in St Patrick's Church, followed by refreshments. All are welcome!

ST PATRICK'S SCHOOL ART WEEK

Come along to our school's art gallery at St Patrick's Church Dipton on Wednesday 3rd June, 2.45pm - 5.30pm. Refreshments will be served. Parents can view and purchase artwork which will be framed and ready to treasure. Your support helps fund resources, activities and opportunities for our children.

ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL TEDDY BEAR'S PICNIC OPEN DAY

Come and join St Joseph's School for their Teddy Bears' Picnic Open Day on Sunday 12th July from 12.15pm - 1.30pm. We're looking forward to welcoming families to our special open event bring your favourite teddy along and enjoy a lovely day of fun, exploration, and community!

Come and discover our wonderful school, meet our team, and see what makes our learning environment so special. We can't wait to see you there!

AN EVENING OF ENTERTAINMENT WITH THE WHISTLE TESTERS

Tickets will soon be on sale for our next social in Dipton Club on Friday 3rd July. As always, this promises to be a good night with music, dancing, bingo, raffle and Tombola. Put the date in your diary, and we look forward to seeing you there! Tickets will be the usual price of £5.00, and it is suitable for all the family.

SIGNIFICANCE FESTIVAL

Significance and the Youth Ministry Team invite you to join them at the Emmaus Village for the annual Significance Festival on Saturday 27th June. Arrivals from 12.00pm, Guided Walk of the Laudato Si' Environmental Project at 1.15pm, Presentation from Significance and Mass, celebrated by Bishop Stephen, at 3.00pm followed by a Barbecue and Ceilidh in the evening. Entry is free with charges for accommodation on Friday and Saturday nights. BBQ tickets cost £10. All proceeds and donations will support Significance, the charity founded by Fr Dermott Donnelly. Please support this vital work. To request a booking form and for further information email Evie at evie.rea@ymt.org or Tel. 01207 592244.

NEW HORIZON CHOIR PRESENTS: SHOWTIME!

The word of musical theatre brought to life! Come and see classic songs and under-appreciated gems given a new twist by a large contemporary choir at Northern Stage, Barras Bridge, Newcastle NE1 7RH, 25th July 2026 at 7.30pm. For more info and tickets, visit www.newhorizonchoir.co.uk/showtime.