



Roman Catholic Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle a registered charity 1143450

STANLEY FAMILY OF CATHOLIC PARISHES

- Saint Joseph's, Stanley and Saint Patrick's Dipton -

St Joseph's Presbytery, Thorneyholme Terrace, Stanley, DH9 0BL | 01207 299 012

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Father Shaun Purdy (Parish Priest) pp.stjoseph.stanley@diocesehn.org.uk

Reverend Paul Nichol (Parish Deacon) 07906 489 152

Melissa Gillespie (Administrator) Tuesday – Friday 9.30am – 3.30pm

Sharon Walker (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.

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS - 17TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (A)

*** The order of Mass can be found on page 4 of your Hymn Book ***

Sunday 26th July <i>17th Sunday of the Year</i>	<i>Dipton</i> <i>Stanley</i>	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Partnership and John McGuinness People of the Partnership and Barry Myers	
Monday 27th July <i>Feria</i>	<i>Dipton</i>	9.30am 10.00am	<i>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</i> Michael Purdy	
Tuesday 28th July <i>Feria</i>	<i>Stanley</i>	9.30am 10.00am	<i>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</i> Lucy & Jack Kelly	
Thursday 30th July <i>Feria</i>	<i>Stanley</i>	9.30am 10.00am 12.15pm	<i>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</i> Monica Heaton Funeral Liturgy for James (Jimmy) Russell Gregg	<i>(Coffee after Mass)</i>
Sunday 2nd August <i>18th Sunday of the Year</i>	<i>Dipton</i> <i>Stanley</i>	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Partnership and James (Jim) Walker People of the Partnership and Spinks family anniversary	

First reading - 1 Kings 3:5-6a, 7-12

In those days: The LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, 'Ask what I shall give you.' And Solomon said, 'O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of your people whom you have chosen, a great people, too many to be numbered or counted for multitude. Give your servant, therefore, an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great people?'

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. And God said to him, 'Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life, or riches, or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you.'

Responsorial Psalm - Ps 119(118):57, 72, 76-77, 127-128, 129-130, R97a

Response: O Lord, how I love your law!

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| <p>1. You, O LORD, are my portion;
I have promised to obey your words.
The law from your mouth means more to me
than large quantities of silver and gold.</p> | <p>2. Let your merciful love console me
by your promise to your servant.
Show me compassion, that I may live,
for your law is my delight.</p> |
| <p>3. That is why I love your commands
more than finest gold,
why I rule my life by your precepts,
and hate false ways.</p> | <p>4. Your decrees are wonderful indeed;
therefore my soul obeys them.
The unfolding of your word gives light,
and understanding to the simple.</p> |

Second reading - Romans 8:28-30

Brothers and Sisters: We know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

Gospel Acclamation

I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,
you have revealed the secrets of the kingdom to little children.

Gospel - Matthew 13:44-46 (short form)

At that time: Jesus said to the crowd: 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.'

FAMILY OF PARISHES FINANCES – 12TH JULY 2026

ST JOSEPH'S

Offertory Total - £523.05 Standing Order - £197.25

ST PATRICK'S

Offertory Total - £112.71 Standing Order - £172.85

Thank you for your generosity

LISTEN TO THE WORD

Life is about making decisions. Everything that happens to us, large or small, needs a decision to be made and we are judged by the decisions that we make. Each decision should be made after a thoughtful analysis of the problem; unfortunately, I tend to make decisions quickly, and then I have to live with the consequences. How I wish I had the Wisdom of Solomon; then all my decisions would be well thought out, and nothing would go wrong!

Today's readings however have given me pause for thought. Wisdom is not beyond my ability; actually, it is within my grasp. All I need to do is to realise that I should never make decisions without considering the effects on others. I should listen to what is within my heart and not just in my head and never leave my faith out of the equation. Mind this is easy to say but oh so difficult to do.

Solomon prayed for wisdom; perhaps he already had the gift but, by opening his heart to God, he came to realise how he could change and become wiser in his judgements. If Solomon can achieve this through prayer, then it is within the grasp of each of us. Paul reminds us "that for those who love God all things work together for good". We are "called according to His purpose" and we each have the ability to become like God's Son. We do this by turning everything to good. We need to consider each situation from God's perspective; (What would Jesus do?) and then try to apply the love of God to our solutions. In this way Paul assures us we can share the glory of God.

The Gospel contains three parables. The first two about the treasure hidden in a field and the pearl of great value are reminders to me that trying to apply the Wisdom of Solomon would be something to be treasured and lead to a better place, God's Kingdom. The treasure is not found easily. It is found through working in the field of life and unearthing this great gift. It is in the searching that we change as people and become wise. The third parable is perhaps a warning to us that if we do not follow the path to wisdom then we are in danger of being the fish which are rejected and are thrown into the furnace.

David Frank

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

Of your charity, please remember in your prayers the repose of the souls of: James (Jimmy) Russell Gregg and Father Leo Pyle who have died. Jimmy's Funeral Liturgy will take place on Thursday 30th July at 12.15pm in St Joseph's and Father Leo's Requiem Mass will take place on Wednesday 29th July at 12noon in St Mary's, Hexham.

LOURDES PETITIONS & FAMILY OF PARISHES CANDLE

Boxes are available at the Lady Altars in both St Joseph's and St Patrick's for anyone who would like petitions taken to the Grotto in Lourdes. The boxes will remain until **THIS SUNDAY**. Please remember not to put any money in the envelopes as they get burned.

As we have done in previous years, a family of parishes candle will be lit at the chapel of light. Anyone who wishes to contribute to this can pass on their donations to Father Shaun.

GODFELLAS

The next meeting of the Godfellas will take place on **THIS TUESDAY**. We will be meeting at the Harry Clasper in Whickham at 7.00pm for drinks (and food for those who wish).

ORGAN RECITAL SERIES

The Newcastle and District Society of Organists, in collaboration with St Dominic's, Newcastle, present this year's summer recital series. The next recital will be given by Charles Wooler from Newcastle on 21st August. The recital begins at 7.30pm and lasts for 70 minutes. Admission, including refreshments, is £10.

We offer a word of welcome to all those visiting the Churches within our Family of Parishes this summer.

We hope you are made to feel welcome among us.

CONGRATULATIONS

We offer our prayerful congratulations to Maria McGee who will be confirmed at 11.00am Mass today.

31ST JULY – 7TH AUGUST

Father Shaun, along with some members of our Family of Parishes will be travelling to Lourdes this coming Friday for the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes. We will remember you all in prayer.

Next Sunday we welcome the Franciscan Friars who will be celebrating the Masses in Father Shaun's absence. Please note that whilst Father Shaun is away there will be no weekday Mass or Celebration of the Word and Holy Communion.

BEREAVEMENT GROUP

Our Family of Parishes is setting up a Bereavement Group which will meet on the third Saturday of the month at 11.00am in St Joseph's meeting room. It is a safe, friendly and confidential space to share, listen, and find support with others who understand. The first meeting will be one Saturday 19th September.

WORLD CUP SWEEPSTAKE

As we are all aware, Spain are the World Champions, with England coming in third place. But every cloud has a silver lining, we're told. For two lucky people they are £120 richer from our sweepstake! We congratulate:

Ethan Hall – St Joseph's winner

Wendy Reay (clo Mary Jane) – St Patrick's winner

AMICI LADIES GROUP UPCOMING DATES

Thursday 20th August - Summer Celebrations at St Patrick's Dipton, 7pm

Thursday 24th September - TBC

October TBC, November TBC. Please keep a lookout for dates.

OUTREACH AFTERNOON TEA

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

ANNFIELD PLAIN TABLETOP SALE

We are taking a table to raise parish funds at the tabletop sale on 8th August (11am-1pm) at Annfield Plain Community Centre if anyone is free to come along and support the event.

LOURDES AT HOME

There is the opportunity to join the Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage from the comfort of your own home, by joining in the services through livestream on YouTube (*HN-Lourdes Hospitalite*) All timings are BST:

Saturday 1 st August	Opening Mass	9.30am
Sunday 2 nd August	Sunday Mass	9.00am
Monday 3 rd August	Grotto Mass	9.00am
	<i>(watch on Lourdes Live YouTube)</i>	
Tuesday 4 th August	Anointing of the sick	9.30am
Wednesday 5 th August	International Mass	8.30am
	<i>(watch on Lourdes Live YouTube)</i>	
Thursday 6 th August	Reconciliation Service	8.30am
	Closing Mass	1.00pm

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.