



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 – THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (A)

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

|                                                                                   |                   |                                 |                                                                                                                                             |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> August</b><br><i>The Assumption of the BVM</i>          | Dipton<br>Stanley | <b>9.00am</b><br><b>11.00am</b> | <b>People of the Partnership and Kathleen Goldsmith</b><br><b>People of the Partnership and William &amp; Margaret Bradley &amp; Family</b> |
| <b>Monday 17<sup>th</sup> August</b><br><i>Feria</i>                              | Dipton            | <b>10.00am</b>                  | <b>Mary Kiernan</b>                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> August</b><br><i>Feria</i>                             | Stanley           | <b>10.00am</b>                  | <b>Jenny Heslop</b>                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> August</b><br><i>St Bernard</i>                       | Stanley           | <b>10.00am</b>                  | <b>Kay Hegarty</b><br><br>(Coffee after Mass)                                                                                               |
| <b>Friday 21<sup>st</sup> August</b><br><i>Dedication of St Mary's Cathedral</i>  | Dipton            | <b>6.30pm</b>                   | <b>Celebration of the Word and Holy Communion</b>                                                                                           |
| <b>Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> August</b><br><i>21<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Year</i> | Dipton<br>Stanley | <b>9.00am</b><br><b>11.00am</b> | <b>People of the Partnership and Maureen &amp; Terry Hughes</b><br><b>People of the Partnership and Alison Patterson</b>                    |

#### First reading - Revelation 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab

God's temple in heaven was opened, and the ark of his covenant was seen within his temple.

And a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. She was pregnant and was crying out in birth pains and the agony of giving birth. And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great red dragon, with seven heads and ten horns, and on his heads seven diadems. His tail swept down a third of the stars of heaven and cast them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she bore her child he might devour it. She gave birth to a male child, one who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron, but her child was caught up to God and to his throne, and the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God.

And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, 'Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come.'

#### Responsorial Psalm - Ps 45(44):10. 11. 12. 16. R10b

**Response:** *On your right stands the queen in gold of Ophir.*

1. The daughters of kings are those whom you favour.  
On your right stands the queen in gold of Ophir.
2. Listen, O daughter; pay heed and give ear:  
forget your own people and your father's house.
3. So will the king desire your beauty.  
He is your lord, pay homage to him.
4. They are escorted amid gladness and joy;  
they pass within the palace of the king.

#### Second reading - 1 Corinthians 15:20-27

Brothers and Sisters: Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. For 'God has put all things in subjection under his feet.'

#### Gospel Acclamation

Mary has been taken up into heaven; the host of angels rejoice.

#### Gospel - Matthew 13:44-46

In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, and she exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.'

And Mary said, 'My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant. For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name. And his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts; he has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate; he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his offspring for ever.'

And Mary remained with her about three months and returned to her home.

## FAMILY OF PARISHES FINANCES – 12<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2026

### ST JOSEPH'S

Offertory Total - £402.61     Standing Order - £197.25

### ST PATRICK'S

Offertory Total - £95.80     Standing Order - £172.85

*Thank you for your generosity.*

## LISTEN TO THE WORD

We have a great affection and devotion to Our Blessed Lady but how much do we know about her. Most of our information comes from the incarnation passages from the Gospel of Luke but there is a great deal in the New Testament about Our Lady that needs to be found and reflected upon. We are privileged to have the gift of the great prayer "Our Lady" and this is a great source of meditation on the life of the mother of Christ. It must be read slowly, and the words need to resonate in our hearts, for this will lead us to a new understanding each time we say this prayer.

One of the sources of information about our Blessed Mother comes from the Book of Revelation and today's passage which speaks of "a great sign appeared in Heaven, a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon beneath her feet." Our thoughts immediately associate this vision with Our Blessed Lady and as the narrative continues, we have a image of a woman giving birth and God saving the child from the devil whilst the woman escapes into wilderness. The Book was written in a time of persecution, and the words give us a glimpse of how the events throughout the New Testament, from the escape into Egypt to the martyrdom of the apostles tell the story of the birth of the church.

A more human passage giving a picture of Our Lady is the Gospel passage which presents us with both a loving meeting of Mary and Elizabeth and the prophetic message of the powerful "Magnificat", there are echoes in the prayer of the sermon on the mount with the power of the mighty being defeated by the exaltation of "those of humble estate".

Amid these two hymns of praise and glory to our Blessed Lady comes a passage from Paul. Perhaps this can be looked upon as the culmination of Mary's support for her son which is found throughout the scriptures. Paul speaks of the Resurrection, "the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep" and goes on to remind us that "in Christ shall all be made alive", all in their proper order. It is the culmination of the Song of the Magnificat and reminds us that "The last enemy to be destroyed is death" and the promise of resurrection from the dead will be fulfilled.

*David Frank*

## MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

Of your Charity, please pray for the repose of the souls of **Father Joe Kendall** and **James Mulgrew** (*Jimmy Cricket*). **Father Joe** was a priest of the Archdiocese of Liverpool who died suddenly aged 45. He was a good friend of Father Shaun and has visited our family of parishes on numerous occasions. He was due to visit again in a couple of weeks. **James** (or as he was better known *Jimmy Cricket*), was a well-known and much-loved comedian, which many of you will remember from various programmes on the television. His son, Father Frankie Mulgrew is a priest of the Diocese of Salford and trained with Father Shaun in Seminary. His Requiem Mass will take place this Friday in Salford Cathedral. Please keep them and their families in your prayers at this sad time.

## 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 21<sup>st</sup> August. The recital begins at 7.30pm and lasts for 70 minutes. Admission, including refreshments, is £10.

## AMICI LADIES GROUP UPCOMING DATES

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> August - Summer Celebrations at St Patrick's Dipton, 7pm  
Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September - TBC  
October TBC, November TBC. Please keep a lookout for dates.

## HYMN BOOKS – ST PATRICK'S

There are currently nine hymn books missing from St Patrick's. If you have one, could you please kindly return it. The cost to replace those missing is £62.55. Thank you for your understanding.

**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.**

## LAST AFTERNOON OF THE PROMS

We are delighted that Craghead Colliery Band are joining us on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September for Last afternoon of the Proms. Tickets are £5.00 which includes Pimm's/Orange juice and cake and are available from both churches from today.

## 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 on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> September.

## JOURNEY IN FAITH

Are you considering becoming a Catholic, or would you like to find out more about your faith and the reason why we do the things we do? Our Journey in Faith programme is beginning on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September from 7.00pm until 8.30pm in St Joseph's meeting room. Our first topic is 'come and see'. If you would like more information, please contact the family of parishes office.

## LOURDES CENTENARY BALL 2026

The Lourdes Hospitalite invites you to join them at the Lourdes Centenary Ball on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> September 7.00pm – 11.00pm at Newcastle Civic Centre, dancing to the Paul James band and disco. Dress code is optional Black Tie. Tickets are £10.00. If you would like tickets, please speak to Father Shaun.

## OPPOSING THE ASSISTED SUICIDE BILL

The Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill is back in the House of Commons and seeks to legalise assisted suicide. It will have its Second Reading and vote on Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> September 2026. Please write to your MP to make your voice heard and oppose the Bill.

"This bill is wrong in principle," says Archbishop Richard Moth, President of the Bishops' Conference, "It is also deeply flawed and, if passed, could lead to vulnerable people feeling pressured into ending their lives. The Bill has a serious lack of protection for health and social care staff and risks putting many wonderful hospices and care homes in the position of no longer being able to operate. I urge you to write to your Members of Parliament to petition them to vote against the Bill at Second Reading."

You can support the Archbishop's call and contact your MP now as a matter of urgency. Even if you have already done so in the past, please speak up and voice your opposition. The charity Right to Life UK has a simple online mechanism to do this. It takes little more than a few minutes to enter your postcode, make sure the suggested text suits your viewpoint and submit your message to ask your MP to stop this flawed Bill progressing through parliament. For more information and resources, visit: [cbcew.org.uk/opposing-assisted-suicide](http://cbcew.org.uk/opposing-assisted-suicide) [righttolife.org.uk/Sept1](http://righttolife.org.uk/Sept1) | vote

## SAFEGUARDING DBS UPDATE

From 1<sup>st</sup> September 2026, the law about regulated activity with children is changing. Currently anyone carrying out regulated activity with children can be supervised by a DBS holder when carrying out their role. From September, **all** persons carrying out regulated activity with children will require an enhanced DBS check with child barred list information. If a person teaches/cares for/supervises children often enough (3 times in 30 days), they will be in regulated activity with children even if someone else supervises them. This will also apply to any young helpers over 16 who will also need a DBS check from 1<sup>st</sup> Sept if they are assisting with activities involving children. If you fall into any of these categories please urgently call our Parish Safeguarding representative Sharon Walker (07969 212 778) in order that your DBS check application can be completed.

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.