



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 – 21<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (A)

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

|                                                                              |                   |                                 |                                                                                                                            |                     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> August</b><br>21 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Year  | 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>   |                     |
| <b>Monday 24<sup>th</sup> August</b><br>St Bartholomew, Apostle              | Dipton            | 9.30am<br><b>10.00am</b>        | Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament<br><b>A special intention</b>                                                           |                     |
| <b>Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> August</b><br>Feria                               | Stanley           | 9.30am<br><b>10.00am</b>        | Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament<br><b>In thanksgiving</b>                                                               |                     |
| <b>Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> August</b><br>St Monica                          | Stanley           | 9.30am<br><b>10.00am</b>        | Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament<br><b>Michael Thomason</b>                                                              | (Coffee after Mass) |
| <b>Friday 28<sup>th</sup> August</b><br>St Augustine of Hippo                | Dipton            | 9.30am<br><b>10.00am</b>        | Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament<br><b>Anniversary of James (Jim) Walker</b>                                             |                     |
| <b>Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> August</b><br>The Passion of St John the Baptist | Stanley           | 9.30am<br><b>10.00am</b>        | Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and the Sacrament of Reconciliation<br><b>John Kelly</b>                                |                     |
| <b>Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> August</b><br>22 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the Year  | Dipton<br>Stanley | <b>9.00am</b><br><b>11.00am</b> | <b>People of the Partnership and Kathleen Armstrong</b><br><b>People of the Partnership and Mary &amp; Charles Coffell</b> |                     |

#### First reading - Isaiah 22:15, 19-23

Thus says the Lord GOD of hosts, 'Come, go to this steward, to Shebna, who is over the household, and say to him: "I will thrust you from your office, and you will be pulled down from your station. In that day I will call my servant Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, and I will clothe him with your robe, and will bind your sash on him, and will commit your authority to his hand. And he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the house of Judah. And I will place on his shoulder the key of the house of David. He shall open, and none shall shut; and he shall shut, and none shall open. And I will fasten him like a peg in a secure place, and he will become a throne of honour to his father's house." '

#### Responsorial Psalm - Ps 138(137):1-2a, 2bc, 3, 6, 8bc. R8bc

**Response:** O LORD, your merciful love is eternal; discard not the work of your hands.

I thank you, LORD, with all my heart;  
you have heard the words of my mouth.  
In the presence of the angels I praise you.  
I bow down towards your holy Temple.

I give thanks to your name  
for your merciful love and your faithfulness.  
On the day I called, you answered me;  
you increased the strength of my soul.

The LORD is high, yet he looks on the lowly,  
and the haughty he knows from afar.  
O LORD, your merciful love is eternal;  
discard not the work of your hands.

#### Second reading - Romans 11:33-36

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgements and how inscrutable his ways! 'For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counsellor?' 'Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?' For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory for ever. Amen.

#### Gospel Acclamation

You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church,  
and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

#### Gospel - Matthew 16:13-20

At that time: When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter replied, 'You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.' And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.' Then he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.

## **FAMILY OF PARISHES FINANCES – 16<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2026**

### **ST JOSEPH'S**

Offertory Total - £446.69     Standing Order - £197.25

### **ST PATRICK'S**

Offertory Total - £97.71     Standing Order - £172.85

*Thank you for your generosity.*

## **LISTEN TO THE WORD**

Most people are not born leaders; they tend to look for someone else to lead and make decisions; they are content to follow. This is part of human nature, after all, if you did not decide, then you cannot be blamed, and you can always criticise those who made the decision. In most situations people come forward to lead, sometimes reluctantly, sometimes hastily, but always with, hopefully, good intentions. However leadership can change people, some become roaring lions, others meek lambs, we should never take on leadership without considering the nature of the role required.

Peter was a fisherman; the impression given in the Gospels was that he was good at his job and he had the respect of his companions; when Andrew met Jesus and spent the day with Him, he went afterwards to Peter to tell him about Jesus so that he could meet him and make his own mind up. This indicates the respect that was given to Peter. On that first meeting Jesus singled out Peter; he calls him Cephas, which means rock, from which we take the word Petrus or Peter.

In today's first reading Isaiah speaks of the appointment of a leader, the master of the palace. He calls this new leader a servant, for leaders should serve, he gives him authority, entrusts him with the keys and the power to include or exclude others. A father figure, he should treat all as his sons and daughters, keeping them to the right path. He is there so that the Glory of God can be made manifest. There is an echo here of the future role of Peter in the early church.

Paul reminds us that God's choice is not our choice; we cannot know the mind of God, never penetrate His motives or understand his methods. "For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things".

The question "Who do people say I am?" is one that each of us must answer. Peter, taking on the mantle of leadership, is clear in his reply "You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God". What inspired Peter to this outburst? Was it something that had been growing in his heart and understanding over the months spent with Jesus? We cannot know, but from this moment Peter is set firmly on the throne of leadership and for him there is no turning back.

*David Frank*

## **LAST AFTERNOON OF THE PROMS**

We are delighted that Craghead Colliery Band are joining us on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September at 3.00pm 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. It promises to be an entertaining afternoon, please come along and bring your family and friends too – it's suitable for all the family.

## **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.

## **AMICI LADIES GROUP UPCOMING DATES**

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September - TBC

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

## **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.

## **GROUND FORCE DAYS 2026**

Following our successful Ground Force days last year, we are looking to do the same this year in both St Patrick's and St Joseph's.

The dates are: **Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> September – St Patrick's**  
**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> October – St Joseph's**

The time is: **10.30am – 2.00pm**

If you can help at one or both, please sign up on the sheets at the back of the Church. A picnic lunch will be provided for all those who help.

## **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."

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/Sept1Ivote](http://righttolife.org.uk/Sept1Ivote)

## **WOODLAND ACTIVITY DAY**

The Diocesan Environmental Group invite you to a Woodland Activity Day at Emmaus Village, Pemberton Road, Allensford DH8 9BA on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> September starting at 10.00am. Bushcraft, archery, tomahawk throwing, rosary walk, nature walks and expert talks including talk on care of creation. Everyone is welcome!

## **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.

## **SUNDAY MASSES**

Please note that there are no more Sunday Mass intentions available at St Joseph's for 2026. The nearest available date for Sunday Masses at St Patrick's is 4<sup>th</sup> October.

Weekday Masses at St Joseph's are now only available from 10<sup>th</sup> of November, and from Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September at St Patrick's.

Please note that weekday and Saturday Masses are subject to be cancelled at short notice due to Fr Shaun's busy schedule. Please be assured that should this happen, your Mass intention will be moved to the nearest available date.

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.