



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 -

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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 - 18TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (A)

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

Sunday 2nd August 18 th Sunday of the Year	Dipton 9.00am Stanley 11.00am	People of the Partnership and James (Jim) Walker People of the Partnership and Spinks family anniversary
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No Masses or Celebrations of the Word and Holy Communion during the week

Sunday 9th August 19 th Sunday of the Year	Dipton 9.00am Stanley 11.00am	People of the Partnership and Barbara Guthrie People of the Partnership and Ryans, Walker, Hillas, Mulhearn & Lovell families
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First reading - Isaiah 55:1-3

Thus says the Lord:

'Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters;

and he who has no money, come, buy and eat!

Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,

and your labour for that which does not satisfy?

Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good,

and delight yourselves in rich food.

Incline your ear, and come to me;

hear, that your soul may live;

and I will make with you an everlasting covenant,

my steadfast, sure love for David.'

Responsorial Psalm - Ps 145(144):8-9. 15-16. 17-18. R cf. 16

Response: *You open your hand and fulfil us, O Lord.*

The LORD is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in mercy.
How good is the LORD to all,
compassionate to all his creatures.

The eyes of all look to you,
and you give them their food in due season.
You open your hand and satisfy
the desire of every living thing.

The LORD is just in all his ways,
and holy in all his deeds.
The LORD is close to all who call him,
who call on him in truth.

Second reading - Romans 8:35, 37-39

Brothers and Sisters: Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

One does not live by bread alone,

but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

Gospel - Matthew 13:44-46

At that time: When Jesus heard of the death of John the Baptist, he withdrew in a boat to a desolate place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them and healed their sick. Now when it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, 'This is a desolate place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves.' But Jesus said, 'They need not go away; you give them something to eat.' They said to him, 'We have only five loaves here and two fish.' And he said, 'Bring them here to me.' Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass, and taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and said a blessing. Then he broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

FAMILY OF PARISHES FINANCES – 26TH JULY 2026

ST JOSEPH'S

Offertory Total - £595.75 Standing Order - £197.25

ST PATRICK'S

Offertory Total - £112.39 Standing Order - £172.85

Thank you for your generosity

LISTEN TO THE WORD

Today's readings remind us that although we need food and drink to sustain our physical bodies, we also need the higher gifts to raise us to our life with God. There is an underlying theme in the readings based on the food of the Eucharist through which we are blessed with the love of God in our lives.

The prophet Isaiah lived at a time when famine was a constant worry in the minds of the people. One bad harvest was a disaster; a succession of bad harvests could result in the destruction of a nation. Today's passage is a call to the people from God; He reminds them that his love, his living water, is always there for them. That nothing can really satisfy them unless it comes from God.

The letter to the Romans contains a number of very profound verses; today's message is one of my favourites and gives real solace to those who are suffering in this world. Paul asks us "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?" Just take a moment to reflect on this question. It goes to the very centre of our faith; Paul has known suffering, he has been persecuted, beaten, imprisoned and left for dead all because of his work for Christ. Yet he stands firm knowing that God loves him.

John the Baptist died because he would not compromise on his beliefs; he spoke the truth and those who hide from the truth killed him. Jesus knows that this will also be his fate; he will not hide from it, he goes forward in the face of opposition because of His love for the people. He tries to find a haven of peace to grieve for his cousin, but the weight of his responsibilities will not allow him peace. So He goes to the people again, He heals those who are sick and then, in a moment of true compassion He feeds both their physical bodies and their questioning minds. Jesus lives out the prophecy of Isaiah in the hills of Judea and gives the people and his disciples a glimpse of the food that is to come; our Eucharist.

David Frank

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.

31ST JULY – 7TH AUGUST

Father Shaun, along with some members of our Family of Parishes is currently in Lourdes until this Friday for the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes. We will remember you all in prayer and Father Shaun will offer Mass for you all this morning.

This 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.

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.

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 19th September.

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.

MAY HE REST IN PEACE

We commend to your prayers, the repose of the soul of John Kelly who has died. John is the brother of Paula Welsh. We offer our sympathy to his family at this time.

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:

Sunday 2 nd August	Sunday Mass	9.00am
Monday 3 rd August	Grotto Mass	9.00am

(watch on Lourdes Live YouTube)

Tuesday 4 th August	Anointing of the sick	9.30am
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Wednesday 5 th August	International Mass	8.30am
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(watch on Lourdes Live YouTube)

Thursday 6 th August	Reconciliation Service	8.30am
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Closing Mass	1.00pm
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A JOURNEY OF ENCOUNTER, CONVERSION AND MISSION

Are you thinking about becoming a Catholic, or are you a Catholic and ever wondered why we do the things we do and want to find out more? The Journey in Faith programme will be starting on Thursday 3rd September at 7.00pm until 8.30pm in the meeting room at St Joseph's. If you are interested, or for more information, please contact the Family of Parishes office.

FAITH AND FOOTBALL

Father Marc Lyden-Smith who is Parish Priest in Sunderland and Chaplain to Sunderland AFC has written a book (*Faith and Football*) about his experiences. It draws on years of pastoral experience among players, managers, staff and supporters. The book is available on Amazon priced £7.95. It can also be purchased directly from McCrimmon Publishing Company Ltd.

WORKS AT ST PATRICK'S SCHOOL

Please take extra care when using the Church Car Park due to the works which are taking place at St Patrick's School during the summer holiday.

MASS INTENTIONS

Many people have Masses offered for a particular intention, maybe for someone who has died, a significant anniversary or maybe someone is ill. Mass intention envelopes are available from the back of both of our Churches. Sunday Masses are our most popular and so it is wise to give as much notice as possible (more than six weeks). Weekdays are usually easier to accommodate. There is the option on the envelope as to which Church you would like to have the Mass celebrated. If you don't mind which Church, please tick the third option on the envelope. Whilst we do our best to accommodate Masses, please be aware that if a Funeral Mass comes in this takes precedence and so the Mass requested for that day will be celebrated when there is an available day. It may also be that Father Shaun is not around on a particular day because of other commitments and the Mass will also need to be rescheduled for another available day. Thank you for your understanding.

WEEKDAY MASSES IN THE AREA

If you are looking for weekday Masses whilst there are no Masses in Stanley this week. These are some of the choices in the area:

Monday	10.00am	Consett
Tuesday	10.00am	Consett
Wednesday	10.00am	Annfield Plain
Thursday	6.30pm	Consett
Friday	10.00am	Consett
Saturday	10.00am	Consett

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.