



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 – 24TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (A)

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

Sunday 13th September Dipton 9.00am
24th Sunday of the Year Stanley 11.00am

People of the Partnership and Richard Christon
People of the Partnership and Eleanor Thomason

Monday 14th September Dipton 9.30am
The Exaltation of the Holy Cross (Feast) 10.00am

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Jayne Akenhead (SVP)

(Coffee after Mass)

Tuesday 15th September St Mary's 2.15pm
Our Lady of Sorrows

John Kelly

(Mass in St Mary's School, South Moor – all are welcome!)

Thursday 17th September Stanley 9.30am
Feria

Mary Thatcher

(Coffee after Mass)

Friday 18th September Dipton 11.00am
Feria

Requiem Mass for Jayne Akenhead

Saturday 19th September Stanley 9.30am
Saturday Mass of Our Lady 10.00am

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and the Sacrament of Reconciliation

Rebecca Page

Sunday 20th September Dipton 9.00am
24th Sunday of the Year Stanley 11.00am

People of the Partnership and Fr Leo Pyle

People of the Partnership and Michael Hall

First reading - Sirach 27:30-28:7

Anger and wrath, these are abominations, and the sinful man will hold them fast. The one who seeks vengeance will be paid vengeance from the Lord, and he who keeps a record will have his own sins recorded. Forgive your neighbour the wrong he has done, and then your sins will be pardoned when you pray. Does one person harbour anger against another and yet seek for healing from the Lord? Does he have no mercy towards someone like himself and yet pray concerning his own sins? If he himself, being flesh, maintains wrath, who will make atonement for his sins? Remember the end of your life and cease from enmity, remember destruction and death and be true to the commandments. Remember the commandments and do not be angry with your neighbour; remember the covenant of the Most High and overlook error.

Responsorial Psalm - Ps 103(102):1-2. 3-4. 9-10. 11-12. R8

Response: *The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger and rich in mercy.*

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| 1. Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all within me, his holy name.
Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and never forget all his benefits. | 2. It is the Lord who forgives all your sins,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with mercy and compassion. |
| 3. He will not always find fault;
nor persist in his anger for ever.
He does not treat us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our faults. | 4. For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so strong his mercy for those who fear him.
As far as the east is from the west,
so far from us does he remove our transgressions. |

Second reading - Romans 14:7-9

Brothers and Sisters: None of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

Gospel Acclamation

A new commandment I give to you, says the Lord,
that you love one another, just as I have loved you.

Gospel - Matthew 18:21-35

At that time: Peter came up and said to Jesus, 'Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?' Jesus said to him, 'I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.'

'Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, "Pay what you owe." So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you." He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. When his fellow servants saw what had taken place they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. Then his master summoned him and said to him, "You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?" And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.'

FAMILY OF PARISHES FINANCES – 6TH SEPTEMBER 2026

ST JOSEPH'S

Offertory Total - £443.13 Standing Order - £197.25

ST PATRICK'S

Offertory Total - £119.50 Standing Order - £172.85

Thank you for your generosity.

LISTEN TO THE WORD

Can we ever understand the depth of the forgiveness of God? We struggle to forgive; sometimes even the most minor of incidents cause us resentment which can spoil our day. How then can we forgive as God asks us; how do we allow the compassionate forgiveness of God to flow through us and towards the person who has caused us injury? We say sorry, we hear the word from another but is true sorrow at the heart of the message?

One of the dilemmas at the heart of forgiveness is the effect on your own wellbeing. To forgive or not to forgive is your choice. The wise person who wrote the Book of Sirach sets before us today the very heart of the problem. If we do not forgive another, then we suffer from resentment and anger. They may seem justified at the time but they affect our lives, and the lives of those around us, in so many ways. We cannot find peace through anger. We cannot begin to heal if we harbour resentment. Worst of all, if our hurt turns to retaliation, then we hurt God, our families and ourselves, for retaliation is a road to further anger and cannot lead to peace. If you forgive then you will be forgiven – your God is a God of love, leave your anger and resentment in His hands and when you cause another an injury then God will forgive you.

Paul reminds us in a clear message that each of us is part of the love of Christ. As He preached forgiveness and love of neighbour then it is only right that we follow His example and forgive each other.

Perhaps Peter knew someone that was always falling out with him. A fellow fisherman who was trying to fish his favourite fishing hole or one of those irritating people who was always causing an argument. He probably thought Jesus would offer him sympathy. After all, he was generous, offering to forgive his neighbour SEVEN times. Jesus saw an opportunity to teach, and He took that opportunity to remind us that forgiveness is a two-way street. We cannot expect forgiveness if we ourselves do not forgive and the number is irrelevant. We must immerse ourselves in a culture of forgiveness which becomes second nature to us and then, in God's time we can find God's peace living in our hearts.

David Frank

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION 2026/2027

We will shortly beginning the Sacramental programme for 2026/27. We invite parents of children in year 4 or above, who are baptised Catholic, from our family of parishes to an information evening on **Tuesday 15th September at 6.30pm in St Joseph's Church meeting room**, where information will be given for the process this coming year and how you can register your child.

EDUCATION SUNDAY

This Sunday is a special day of prayer for those involved in Catholic Education. We pray for the Schools in our Family of Parishes, the Catholic Education Trusts and the Diocesan Department for Education for all their care and support of our Young People who are in Catholic Education. There will be a second collection after Holy Communion for the Catholic Education Service.

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.

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 continues THIS Thursday, 17th September, from 7.00pm until 8.30pm in St Joseph's meeting room. If you would like more information, please contact the family of parishes office.

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

We commend to your prayers the repose of the souls of **Jayne Akenhead** who has died. Jayne's Requiem Mass will take place in St Patrick's on Friday 18th September at 11.00am.

SUNDAY COFFEE MORNING

Our Monthly Sunday Coffee Morning returns today at St Joseph's after 11.00am Mass. All are welcome!

WEEKLY COFFEE MORNINGS

A weekly coffee morning on a Monday at St Patrick's, is beginning on Monday 14th September. This will take place each Monday when there is a morning Mass. St Joseph's have their weekly coffee morning on a Thursday after 10.00am Mass. Why not make a special effort to come to Mass on those days and stay after Mass for coffee and conversation.

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 26th September – St Patrick's**
Saturday 24th October – St Joseph's

The time is: **10.30am – 2.00pm**

You may be thinking that you would love to help but the outdoor work might be too much. Why not sign up to help clean the Church on the same days at the same times. Cleaning materials will be provided.

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.

CHRISTMAS CANDLES IN MEMORY OF LOVED ONES

As we did last year, red sanctuary candles will burn in our churches in memory of loved ones for the octave of Christmas. Today sees the beginning of the initiative. We know it's only September, but it helps us with our ordering to know how many candles we will need to purchase in the run up to December. The candles are priced at **£7.50 each** or **2 for £12.00**. envelopes for your dedications can be found at the back of our churches. The closing date is **December 18th**. There is the option to pay by card at St Joseph's. Please write on the envelope "paid through Dona" and put the amount. When paying on the Dona machine, please select "Christmas Candles" so we can check payment has been received. Thank you.

GREAT NORTH RUN

John Nichol along with his nieces and nephew is running the Great North Run today for Motor Neurone disease, in memory of his late wife Angie. If you would like to sponsor him, there is a form at the back of the church. There is also a QR code for the Just Giving Page. Good luck, Team Nichol!

HOME MISSION SUNDAY

On Sunday 20th September, we will celebrate Home Mission Sunday, a day for us as the Catholic community in England and Wales to celebrate our faith in these lands, and our shared commitment to communicate the beauty and the joy of knowing Jesus Christ. Celebrating the Holy Father's first encyclical, the theme for this year is "Magnifica Humanitas" as the heart of mission. We can celebrate together the call the Holy Father has placed before us to live out our authentic human humanity which finds its fullness in Christ. More details about this can be found on the Bishops' Conference website – www.cbcew.org.uk/home-mission-sunday There will be a second collection next Sunday.

FREE FILM NIGHT – THE SCARLET AND THE BLACK (PG)

Join us on Friday 18th September for the showing of this great classic film at 7.00pm in St Joseph's Meeting Room.

HELP AT FUNERALS

We have a limited number of volunteers to help at funerals in our family of parishes. Can you help as a welcomer or even come along and help with the responses and singing? Please speak to Father Shaun if you can help with this important ministry.

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.