



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 – 23RD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (A)

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

Sunday 6th September 23 rd Sunday of the Year	Dipton Stanley	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Partnership and Ryans, Walker, Hillas, Mulhearn & Lovell families People of the Partnership and Harry Pendleton
Monday 7th September Feria	Dipton Mountsett	9.30am 10.00am 2.00pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament For those who are sick (L & M) Funeral Liturgy for Mary Catherine (Cathy) Page (Coffee after Mass)
Tuesday 8th September The Birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Stanley	9.30am 10.00am 12.15pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Billy & Ivy Mulhearn Funeral Liturgy for Vincent (Vince) Lawler
Thursday 10th September Feria	Stanley	9.30am 10.00am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Arthur, Bernadette & Lesley Eagle (Coffee after Mass)
Friday 11th September Feria	Dipton	6.00pm 6.30pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Rebecca Page
Saturday 12th September The Most Holy Name of Mary	Stanley	9.30am 10.00am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and the Sacrament of Reconciliation Kathleen Rhodes
Sunday 13th September 24 th Sunday of the Year	Dipton Stanley	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Partnership and Richard Christon People of the Partnership and Eleanor Thomason

First reading - Ezekiel 33:7-9

Thus says the Lord: 'So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.'

Responsorial Psalm - Ps 95(94):1-2. 6-7b. 7c-9. R7c, 8a

Response: O that today you would listen to his voice! 'Harden not your hearts.'

Come, let us ring out our joy to the Lord;
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come into his presence, giving thanks;
let us hail him with a song of praise.

O come; let us bow and bend low.
Let us kneel before the Lord who made us,
for he is our God, and we the people,
the people of his pasture, the flock of his hand.

O that today you would listen to his voice!
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your forebears put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my work.'

Second reading - Romans 13:8-10

Brothers and Sisters: Owe no one anything, except to love each other. For the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. For the commandments, 'You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet', and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

Gospel Acclamation

God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself,
and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.

Gospel - Matthew 18:15-20

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, 'If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.'

FAMILY OF PARISHES FINANCES – 30TH AUGUST 2026

ST JOSEPH'S

Offertory Total - £482.40 Standing Order - £197.25

ST PATRICK'S

Offertory Total - £318.70 Standing Order - £172.85

Thank you for your generosity.

LISTEN TO THE WORD

The question behind today's readings goes to the very heart of the Christian message. How do we treat our neighbour? Do we go out of our way to help them? Do we stand aside and ignore them or is our attitude somewhere in-between? Some years ago, the church issued a document called "The Common Good"; this document called upon us to care for all members of our society no matter what their beliefs or social standing.

The first reading from the prophet Ezekiel speaks of the actions of a wicked man. It stresses our responsibility to speak to the wicked man and warn him of the danger he faces if he persists in his wickedness. If we do this then our responsibility comes to an end; if we fail to do this then his sin is also our sin. This seems harsh, but God calls on us to love our neighbour as ourselves and we need to consider very carefully the meaning of this responsibility.

Paul cuts to the crux of the matter: he has this ability to find the words to express relationship at its deepest level. He tells us, "Owe no one anything, except to love each other, For the one who loves another has fulfilled the law". He goes on to speak of the commandments of love and the sins that we must avoid. We know in our deepest being that love is the one thing that cannot hurt our neighbour. Do we fail our neighbours if we do not condemn their sinful actions?

The eighteenth chapter of Matthew's gospel is a discourse or reflection on the role of the church. In this chapter are the passages about who is the greatest, on leading others astray, on lost sheep, on brotherly correction and on Jesus' promise to be where two or three are gathered in His name. Today's passage is on brotherly love and reflects the Jewish law regarding disputes with others. One of the aspects of this teaching is that it is our responsibility to act with love in these disputes; we must always seek reconciliation before punishment. This goes to the very heart of the message of Jesus: "love one another as I have loved you". The final paragraph has been a source of great consolation to the church down the centuries: "where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them".

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.

LAST AFTERNOON OF THE PROMS

We are delighted that Craghead Colliery Band are joining us **THIS** Saturday 12th September at 3.00pm for Last afternoon of the Prome. 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 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, 10th 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 **Mary Catherine (Cathy) Page, Vincent (Vince) Lawler and Jayne Akenhead** who have died. **Cathy's** Funeral Liturgy will take place at Mountsett Crematorium on Monday 7th September at 2.00pm. **Vince's** Funeral Liturgy will take place in St Joseph's on Tuesday 8th September at 12.15pm. **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 Mornings return this month, and our first is today at St Patrick's after 9.00am Mass. St Joseph's will be next Sunday 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.

EDUCATION SUNDAY

Next Sunday is a special day of prayer for those involved in Catholic Education. There will be a second collection after Holy Communion.

AMICI LADIES GROUP UPCOMING DATES

Thursday 24th September - TBC

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

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.

GODFELLAS

The Godfellas will meet on Tuesday 29th September in St Joseph's Meeting Room at 7.00pm. If you haven't been before, why not come along?

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.

AN UPDATE FROM JILL BURGESS...

As Jill begins her retirement, she had been in touch to say that she has used the gift card for Hays Travel towards paying for her airfare to go and see her niece who lives in Australia. We hope she has a wonderful time Down Under!

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.