



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

stjoseph.stanley@diocesehn.org.uk | www.stanleycatholic.org



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 – 29TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (A)

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

Sunday 18th October 29 th Sunday of the Year	Dipton Stanley	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Partnership and Gerry Nichol People of the Partnership and Billy & Ivy Mulhearn
Monday 19th October St Wilfrid	Dipton	6.30pm	NBF
Tuesday 20th October Feria	Stanley	9.30am 10.00am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Ryans, Walker, Hillas, Mulhearn & Lovell families
Thursday 22nd October St Teresa of Avila	Stanley	10.00am	Lesley Eagle (Coffee after the Mass)
Friday 23rd October Feria	Dipton	6.30pm	For a sick person
Saturday 24th October	Stanley	9.30am 10.00am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and the Sacrament of Reconciliation Roy Clark
Sunday 25th October 30 th Sunday of the Year	Dipton Stanley	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Partnership and Priest's Intention People of the Partnership and Tom Thomason

First reading - Isaiah 45:1, 4-6

Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped, to subdue nations before him and to loose the belts of kings, to open doors before him that gates may not be closed: 'For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I name you, though you do not know me. I am the Lord, and there is no other, besides me there is no God; I equip you, though you do not know me, that people may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is none besides me; I am the Lord, and there is no other.'

Responsorial Psalm - Ps 96(95):1, 3. 4-5. 7-8. 9-10a, c. R7b

Response: *In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for length of days unending.*

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| 1. O sing a new song to the Lord;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.
Tell among the nations his glory,
and his wonders among all the peoples. | 2. For the Lord is great and highly to be praised,
to be feared above all gods.
For the gods of the nations are naught.
It was the Lord who made the heavens. |
| 3. Ascribe to the Lord, you families of peoples,
ascribe to the Lord glory and power;
ascribe to the Lord the glory of his name.
Bring an offering and enter his courts. | 4. Worship the Lord in holy splendour.
O tremble before him, all the earth.
Say to the nations, 'The Lord is king.'
He will judge the peoples in fairness. |

Second reading - 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5b

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, to the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: grace to you and peace. We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers, remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labour of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters loved by God, that he has chosen you, because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction.

Gospel Acclamation

Shine as lights in the world,
holding fast to the word of life.

Gospel – Matthew 22:15-21

At that time: The Pharisees went and plotted how to entangle Jesus in his words. And they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, 'Teacher, we know that you are true and teach the way of God truthfully, and you do not care about anyone's opinion, for you are not swayed by appearances. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?' But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, 'Why put me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin for the tax.' And they brought him a denarius. And Jesus said to them, 'Whose likeness and inscription is this?' They said, 'Caesar's.' Then he said to them, 'Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's.'

FAMILY OF PARISHES FINANCES – 11TH OCTOBER 2026

ST JOSEPH'S

Offertory Total - £423.65 Standing Order - £197.25

ST PATRICK'S

Offertory Total - £93.46 Standing Order - £172.85

Thank you for your generosity.

LISTEN TO THE WORD

Cyrus was the King of Persia; to the Jews he was a pagan who followed pagan gods. Israel was a small nation caught between two powerful empires, Persia and Babylon. Jerusalem was destroyed by the Babylonians and the Israelites sent into exile in Babylon. Many years were to pass in exile before Persia defeated Babylon and the exiles were free to return to their own lands. Isaiah sees the hand of God in this event; he recognises that God works through those who do not know His name. We are never in charge of our lives; we can be uprooted by events outside our control, but God is always there, watching over us.

When I read the letters of Paul I am struck by a sense of eavesdropping into private conversation. The Old Testament and the Gospels are "histories" or "Biographies" but Paul's writings are simply letters between people who know each other. To the historian they are fascinating because they record actual events in the same way that letters written in wartime give a unique sense of what ordinary people were doing, thinking and dreaming about at that time. There are three things mentioned by Paul which go to the very depth of our faith in Christ. He speaks of "remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labour of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ". The success or failure of every Christian community depends on how we light up our world through our faith in God, our hope for the future and our love for family, friends and neighbours. These are the marks by which our community will be judged by those around us.

Can you imagine living under a foreign power and of being reminded of your slavery each time you looked at a coin? The face of Caesar was stamped on the money that was used in the Holy Land, a constant reminder of their plight to the people. The Pharisees use this hated coin in a plan to trap Jesus into an indiscreet comment. Jesus sees through their plot and turns it on its head. Money is important in society; it is needed so that we may purchase those things that are necessary in our life, but it is no more than a medium of exchange. Our true wealth is found in our faith in God. Sometimes we are tempted by money or by the assets of this world, but we must keep focused on Our Lord for that is where we will find everlasting happiness.

David Frank

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION 2026/2027

Following the meeting on Tuesday evening, application forms are now available for this year. The forms can be collected from Father Shaun or Deacon Paul after Mass. Forms will only be given in person, forms will not be given to another parent to hand over. Completed forms need to be returned to St Joseph's Presbytery by **SUNDAY 25TH OCTOBER 2026**. Anyone who applies after this date will need to wait until the following year.

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, 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.

GROUND FORCE DAY 2026

Following our successful Ground Force Day last year, we are looking to do the same this year.

The date is: **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.

CHRISTMAS FAIR DONATIONS

Donations for raffle & tombola prizes and for the children's area would be greatly appreciated for our **Christmas Craft Fair which is at 12.30 - 3.30 on Saturday 14th November**. Proceeds from the fair go towards parish funds for St Joseph's and St Patrick's. Donations of wine, spirits, beers, soft drinks, store cupboard items, biscuits, chocolates, sweets, toiletries, pencils, crayons, colouring books and small games and other suitable unwanted/unused items would be appreciated.

Donation boxes are in church porches. If anyone would like to be involved in organising the fair, helping in the tearoom, carpark, or on one of the stalls this year please contact Lorraine Murray or Sharon Walker. Your help would be hugely valued.

APPEAL FOR BAKED GOODS / PRESERVES

Calling all bakers and Jam & chutney makers. Your baked goods would be very welcome at our bakesale and tea room at our Christmas Craft Fair. To ensure we have a wide variety of items on sale, can all pledges please be added to the Baked Goods List which you'll find at the back of church (St Joseph's) and in the porch (St Patrick's). If you are unable to bring your bakes on the morning of the fair, they can be collected on the morning or the evening before. If you require collection, you can indicate this on the Baked Goods lists. Preserves will also be welcome.

OUTREACH AFTERNOON TEA

The Outreach Afternoon Tea will take place this Wednesday 29th July. If you would like some company, a bit of a natter, with refreshments, then this is for you! The afternoon takes place in St Joseph's meeting room and promises to be a good time. If you would like to come along or for more information, please contact the parish office. Transport may be able to be arranged for those who need it.

We also need some volunteers to help. If you can help with baking and serving, please contact the office.

The Outreach is a vital asset to the people of our community, so please help it continue to serve the community and be a place of welcome for many years to come.

PROUD CATHOLICS

The meeting for this month will be hosted on 20th October at 07:30pm at St Andrew's RC Church, Worswick Street, NE1 6UW. We will be both praying and discussing The Luminous Mysteries of the Rosary. There will be a Zoom link available. For those attending in person, please bring snacks and/or drinks for social time afterwards.

DIOCESAN VACANCY

Role: Finance Assistant

Contract: Permanent

Salary: £3,653 pro rata per annum

Hours: Part-time 5 hours per week

Working Pattern: Able to be negotiated at interview.

Location: St Paul, Dewley, Cramlington, NE23 6EF and St John the Baptist, Annitsford, Cramlington, NE23 7QR

How to Apply: <https://diocesehn.org.uk/vacancy/finance-assistant-2/>

Closing Date: 12:00 pm, 22/10/2026

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.