



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 – 30TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (A)

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

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	
Monday 26th October Ss Chad and Cedd	Dipton	9.30am 10.00am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament The people of Ireland & Northern Ireland	(Coffee after Mass)
Tuesday 27th October Feria	Stanley	9.30am 10.00am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Dave Kelly	
Thursday 29th October Feria	Stanley	9.30am	John & Florence Dooly	(Coffee after Mass)
Friday 30th October The Martyrs of Douai College	Dipton	6.00pm 6.30pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Arthur Mitchell	
Saturday 31st October Saturday Memorial of the BVM	Stanley	9.30am 10.00am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and the Sacrament of Reconciliation Pauline B & Marie S	
Sunday 1st November All Saints' Day	Dipton Stanley	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Partnership and Kathleen McNamee People of the Partnership and Billy Hurry & David Johnson	(Coffee after Mass)

First reading - Exodus 22:21-27

Thus says the Lord: 'You shall not wrong a sojourner or oppress him, for you were sojourners in the land of Egypt. You shall not mistreat any widow or fatherless child. If you do mistreat them, and they cry out to me, I will surely hear their cry, and my wrath will burn, and I will kill you with the sword, and your wives shall become widows and your children fatherless. If you lend money to any of my people with you who is poor, you shall not be like a money-lender to him, and you shall not exact interest from him. If ever you take your neighbour's cloak in pledge, you shall return it to him before the sun goes down, for that is his only covering, and it is his cloak for his body; in what else shall he sleep? And if he cries to me, I will hear, for I am compassionate.'

Responsorial Psalm - Ps 18(17):2-3a. 3b-4. 47, 51ab. R2

Response: *I love you, Lord, my strength.*

I love you, LORD, my strength;

O LORD, my rock, my fortress, my saviour.

My God, my rock where I take refuge;

my shield, my saving strength, my stronghold.

I cry out, 'O praised be the LORD!'

and see, I am saved from my foes.

The LORD lives, and blest be my Rock!

May the God of my salvation be exalted.

The LORD gives great victories to his king,

and shows merciful love for his anointed.

Second reading - 1 Thessalonians 1: 1:5c-10

Brothers and Sisters: You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything. For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

Gospel Acclamation

If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, says the Lord,
and my Father will love him, and we will come to him.

Gospel – Matthew 22:34-40

At that time: When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together. And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. 'Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?' And he said to him, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.'

FAMILY OF PARISHES FINANCES – 18TH OCTOBER 2026

ST JOSEPH'S

Offertory Total - £505.71 Standing Order - £197.25

ST PATRICK'S

Offertory Total - £107.43 Standing Order - £172.85

Thank you for your generosity.

LISTEN TO THE WORD

The message in today's scripture is simple; love must be at the centre of your every thought word and action, to serve God you must serve your neighbour.

The readings begin with a clear statement on some of the actions necessary to accomplish this work. The world is becoming a very small place; sixty years ago, you seldom met anyone who lived outside a small geographical area. The scripture speaks of "sojourners" people who lived in Egypt because of economic circumstances; most of us are descendants of people who came seeking work and security for their families, they came from all parts of the British Isles and beyond and settled in our towns and cities. Today there are many different nationalities living in our town, we meet them in our neighbourhoods, at work and in our parishes. They do not remain strangers but become friends and work colleagues; they are very much a part of our community. To the Jewish people, with their laws and customs, the stranger was outside their society, and it was difficult for them to accept "gentiles" into their lives. We must always be ready to put aside our concern for other cultures and embrace the friendship of the "stranger"

Paul was caught between two worlds; He was a Jew and spoke always to those of his race who would listen to the good news, but he recognised that his mission was also to the Gentiles. He made no distinction between the two. Perhaps this was the way of life that he speaks about today. The church grew as welcoming, embracing church where all worshipped together, jews and gentiles. This was not the normal way that people behaved two thousand years ago. Hopefully we have learned a great deal more tolerance today.

Matthew's gospel speaks of the greatest commandment; the message is clear and concise; it cannot be misunderstood and there are no ifs or buts. Loving everybody is not easy; we each have our own view on society, and some people find it difficult to love, while others are difficult to love, but we must always try. Love needs to be worked at, problems need prayer and sacrifice, sometimes our love seems to be all one way, perseverance is the only way to follow Christ's teaching; the reward for our persistence is God's love.

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.

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. 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.

CLERGY TRAINING FUND

Today sees the launch of the Clergy Training Fund. There will be a second Collection this Sunday for the Fund. The fund supports the Priests and Deacons in formation for the Priesthood and Diaconate, We ask that you be as generous as you possibly can. The fund will remain open until 15th November for any private donations. If you would like to make a donation privately, please put in an envelope marked "Clergy Training Fund". Any cheques are made payable under the same name.

ANNUAL REMEMBRANCE MASS

The annual Mass for those who have died in the last year and whose funerals have taken place from St Joseph's or St Patrick's, will take place on **Monday 2nd November at 6.30pm** in St Patrick's Church, Dipton. We invite you to come along to support our bereaved families. Refreshments will be served afterwards. If you can help with baked goods, please bring them along on the evening.

ST PATRICK'S CEMETERY FUND

Next Sunday at St Patrick's, there will be a second collection for the Cemetery Fund. This will remain open for the month of November, the month of the Holy Souls when we remember all those who have died. It costs £250 a month to have the grass cut in our cemetery. One of the corporal works of mercy is to look after the dead. Please help us to maintain the dignity of this space for all who rest in our cemetery.

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 bake sale 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 28th October**. 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.

ST PATRICK'S COFFEE MORNING

Next Sunday there will be the monthly coffee morning after Mass at St Patrick's. Please do stay to support the community and meet new and familiar faces. If you can help with baked goods, these will be very much appreciated.

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.