



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 – 27TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (A)

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

Sunday 4th October 27 th Sunday of the Year	Dipton Stanley	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Partnership and Jenny & Cassie Taggart People of the Partnership and Kitty McTiernan	(Coffee after Mass)
Monday 5th October Feria	Dipton	6.30pm	Celebration of the Word and Holy Communion	
Tuesday 6th October Feria	Stanley	10.00am	Celebration of the Word and Holy Communion	
Wednesday 7th October	Stanley	11.15am	Funeral Liturgy for Mary Jane Roscoe	
Thursday 8th October Feria	Stanley	10.00am	Celebration of the Word and Holy Communion	(Coffee after the Service)
Friday 9th October St John Henry Newman (Feast)	Dipton	6.30pm	Celebration of the Word and Holy Communion	
Sunday 11th October 28 th Sunday of the Year	Dipton Stanley	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Partnership and Fr John Coyle People of the Partnership and Rose Taggart	(Coffee after Mass)

First reading - Isaiah 5:1-7

Let me sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; and he looked for it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. What more was there to do for my vineyard, that I have not done in it? When I looked for it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and briars and thorns shall grow up; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah are his pleasant planting; and he looked for justice, but behold, bloodshed; for righteousness, but behold, an outcry!

Responsorial Psalm - Ps 80(79):9, 12, 13-14, 15-16, 19-20. R̥ Isaiah 5:7a

Response: *The vineyard of the LORD is the house of Israel.*

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| 1. You brought a vine out of Egypt;
you drove out the nations and planted it.
It stretched out its branches to the sea;
to the River it stretched out its shoots. | 2. Then why have you broken down its walls?
It is plucked by all who pass by the way.
It is ravaged by the boar of the forest,
devoured by the beasts of the field. |
| 3. God of hosts, turn again, we implore;
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the stock your right hand has planted,
the son you have claimed for yourself. | 4. And we shall never forsake you again;
give us life that we may call upon your name.
Bring us back, O Lord God of hosts;
let your face shine forth, and we shall be saved. |

Second reading - Philippians 4:6-9

Brothers and Sisters: Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise: think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me — practise these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

Gospel Acclamation

I chose you out of the world, says the Lord, that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should abide.

Gospel – Matthew 21:33-43

At that time: Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'Hear another parable. There was a master of a house who planted a vineyard and put a fence round it and dug a wine press in it and built a tower and leased it to tenants, and went into another country. When the season for fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit. And the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other servants, more than at first. And they did the same to them. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, "They will respect my son." But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, "This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and have his inheritance." And they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?' They said to him, 'He will put those wretches to a miserable death and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons.' Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the Scriptures: "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes"? Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits.'

FAMILY OF PARISHES FINANCES – 27TH SEPTEMBER 2026

ST JOSEPH'S

Offertory Total - £469.10 Standing Order - £197.25

ST PATRICK'S

Offertory Total - £291.35 Standing Order - £172.85

Thank you for your generosity.

LISTEN TO THE WORD

Being able to reassure people when things are getting difficult is a tremendous gift; Paul, writing from prison to his friends in Philippi, can see past his own problems and find time to give solace to those who need his strength in their infant church communities. What gives him the power to do this? From somewhere he finds the only answer he can give them; they must pray for those things that worry them and the God of compassion will come to their aid. Prayer is the great consoler; it gives us hope, it frees us from anxiety, and it strengthens those around us. It leads us to the peace of God which, as Paul assures us, is much greater than we can understand.

Today's passage from his letter to the Philippians shows Paul at his best; when faced with overwhelming odds he always brings us back to the simple truth; If we live in the way that Jesus taught us then no matter what we face we can go forward with hope and the love of God, and those around us, will circle us and give us peace and strength. He urges us to be true, be honourable, be just, be pure, be lovely, be commendable; these Christian virtues are the only real things of value in life, hold to them and by your example others will find strength and consolation.

The first reading and the Gospel both have a common theme; the creation of a vineyard. In Isaiah the vineyard is built for the benefit of the people of Israel. They however will not look after it; they leave it to the briar and the thorn. Instead of the vineyard being a source of wealth it becomes a source of division, and it is laid to waste. In the Gospel the vineyard is rebuilt this time by a owner who wants desperately for it to succeed. However, those who are the tenants, the chief priests and the elders, mistreat the owner's servants and, when the owner sends his son to them, they seize him and kill him. Jesus foretells his own death through the parable of the vineyard. He warns the people of Israel that if they reject the vineyard once again then it will be taken from them. In our day this story still runs true; we are now the workers in the vineyard; we too must work to ensure only good wine is created for the warning in the parable applies to us today.

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.

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

Of your charity, please pray for the repose of the soul of **Mary Jane Roscoe**. Mary's Funeral Liturgy will take place on **Wednesday 7th October** at **11.15am** in St Joseph's, followed by interment at East Stanley Cemetery. We keep Mary and her family in our prayers.

Please also remember in your prayers **Father John Coyle**, a priest of the Diocese who died last week. His funeral will take place at the Cathedral on **Friday 23rd October** at **12noon**.

FATHER SHAUN SUMMER HOLIDAY

Father Shaun will be on his Summer Holiday from after Mass today and will return Saturday 17th October. If you need a priest urgently, please contact Deacon Paul who will advise on which Priest to contact.

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.

COLUMBAN MISSION APPEAL

NEXT SUNDAY We welcome Father Tim Mulroy from the Columban Fathers who will give the annual Mission Appeal. There will be a second collection to support their work.

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.

LOURDES REMEMBRANCE MASS

A Mass of remembrance will take place at Our Blessed Lady Immaculate Church, Washington, NE38 7HS at 7.00pm on Friday 20th November. At the Mass special candles will burn in memory of loved ones. If you would like a candle, please speak to Father Shaun. They are priced £3.00. The Mass is open to everyone, not just those who have been to Lourdes.

FLAME 2027

Flame 2027 takes place on **Saturday 6th March**. The theme is **'TAKE COURAGE'**. It is open to anyone from school year 9 to University/young adult age. Under 18s must be part of an organised group. Please talk with your school chaplain, catechist or parish priest if you would like to come along. Two years ago, almost 900 young people from our Diocese travelled to Wembley Arena for this national Catholic youth gathering.

COST: £55 per person For further information contact Mary Madziva mmadziva@ymt.org

CAFOD FAMILY FAST

There will be a second collection today for CAFOD. If you are a taxpayer, please use the envelopes provided last week for Gift Aid. Thank you.

THANK YOU

St Joseph's September coffee mornings raised £124.50 for the Clergy Training Fund.

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.