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
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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 – 32ND SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (A)

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

Sunday 8th November	*Dipton*	**9.00am**	**People of the Partnership** *and* **Sr Kate Frost FCJ**	
32nd Sunday of the Year	*Stanley*	**11.00am**	**People of the Partnership** *and* **Angie Nichol (Anniversary)**	*(Coffee after Mass)*
Monday 9th November	*Dipton*	*9.30am*	*Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament*	
Dedication of the Lateran Basilica		**10.00am**	**Ann Scott**	*(Coffee after Mass)*
Tuesday 10th November	*Stanley*	**6.30pm**	**Stephen Kelly**	
St Leo the Great				
Thursday 12th November	*Stanley*	**10.00am**	**Billy & Ivy Mulhearn**	*(Coffee after Mass)*
St Josaphat				
Friday 13th November	*Stanley*	**10.00am**	**Requiem Mass for Julia Anne Waite**	
Feria				
Sunday 15th November	*Dipton*	**9.00am**	**People of the Partnership** *and* **Deacon Terry McGann**	
33rd Sunday of the Year	*Stanley*	**11.00am**	**People of the Partnership** *and* **Chris White**	

First reading - Wisdom 6:12-16
Wisdom is radiant and unfading, and she is easily discerned by those who love her and is found by those who seek her. She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her. He who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty, for he will find her sitting at his gates. To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding, and he who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care, because she goes about seeking those worthy of her, and she graciously appears to them in their paths and meets them in every thought.

Responsorial Psalm - Ps 24(23):1-2. 3-4b. 5-6. R/ cf. 6
Response: ***For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord, my God.***

1. O God, you are my God; at dawn I seek you;
for you my soul is thirsting.
For you my flesh is pining,
like a dry, weary land without water.

2. I have come before you in the sanctuary,
to behold your strength and your glory.
Your loving mercy is better than life;
my lips will speak your praise.

3. I will bless you all my life;
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet;
with joyful lips, my mouth shall praise you.

4. When I remember you upon my bed,
On you I muse through the watches of the night.
For you have been my strength;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.

Second reading - 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. For this we declare to you by the word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Gospel Acclamation
Stay awake and be ready,
for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

Gospel – Matthew 25:1-13
At that time: Jesus told his disciples this parable, 'The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a cry, "Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him." Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out." But the wise answered, saying, "Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves." And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. Afterwards the other virgins came also, saying, "Lord, lord, open to us." But he answered, "Truly, I say to you, I do not know you." Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.'

Scripture Readings from the English Standard Version of the Bible, Catholic Edition (ESV-CE) © 2017 Crossway. Responsorial Psalm from Abbey Psalms and Canticles © 2018 USCCB.

FAMILY OF PARISHES FINANCES – 1ST NOVEMBER 2026

ST JOSEPH'S

Offertory Total - £660.67 Standing Order - £197.25

ST PATRICK'S

Offertory Total - £141.20 Standing Order - £172.85
Cemetery Fund - £175.61 Sunday Coffee Morning - £78.60

Thank you for your generosity.

LISTEN TO THE WORD

Today's readings explore Wisdom and help us to shape our thoughts and understanding that we may become a source of wisdom and counsel to those we meet. Solomon was a King of Israel known for his wisdom. When he became King, he asked the Lord for wisdom above all the gifts that were available to him. The Books of Ecclesiastes, Proverbs and Wisdom are ascribed to Solomon and are the source of real teaching on how we should approach the gift of Wisdom. In today's passage wisdom is described as "radiant", in some versions "luminous", reminding us that wisdom casts a light on everything we do. We are assured "she is easily discerned by those who love her and found by those who seek her".

Paul was constantly alert to the needs of the communities he helped to establish. He moved from place to place, and he relied on those he taught to give him feedback from their communities. The Thessalonians were worried that people were dying before the promised return of Our Lord. Paul reassures them that all who believe, living and dead, will be received into the kingdom. In this month of November, when our thoughts are centred on our friends and relatives who have died, this message is important to us too.

Jesus tells a simple story today. One that is human and understandable. He is teaching us about wisdom but through the frailties of the human spirit. Every person is different; sometimes we are careful and plan ahead; whilst at other times we are not so careful and are caught out. We each need the gift of wisdom; we need to be patient and prepared for every eventuality. The parable is about five bridesmaids who are wise and five who are foolish. The foolish bridesmaids find they are unprepared when the bridegroom comes. They feel that the wise bridesmaids should help them, but they cannot, and the foolish bridesmaids are locked out of the wedding hall. Do we rely upon others when we should be making our own precautions? Are we ready to meet God or do we put things off "till later"; wisdom teaches us to always be prepared; for as scripture says "Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour" when the Lord will call.

David Frank

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION 2026/2027

The Applications have now **CLOSED** for 2026/2027. Anyone who has missed the deadline will need to wait until 2027/2028. Thank you.

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

Of your charity, please pray for the repose of the souls of **Julia Anne Waite, Kirsten Timbey and Joseph (Joe) Lourie** who have died. Julia's Requiem Mass will take place this Friday at 10.00am in St Joseph's. Kirsten's is the granddaughter of Dennis and Anne Cowley. Funeral arrangements will be announced when they are finalised. Joe is a parishioner in Washington and is the father of Sarah McGee. Please keep them all in your prayers and their families at the sad time.

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

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.

REMEMBRANCE MASS – LOURDES PILGRIMAGE

The Lourdes Remembrance Mass is taking place on **Friday 20th November** at 7.00pm at Our Blessed Lady Immaculate Church, Washington. This Mass is open to everyone not just those who have been on the Lourdes Pilgrimage. A special memorial candle can be purchased to burn at the Mass with you your loved ones name written on the candle. If you would like to purchase one, please see the list in the Piety Stall – The Candles are £3.00 each and is a cash only purchase.

ST PATRICK'S 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.

GODFELLAS

The next meeting of the Godfellas will take place this **Tuesday, 10th November at 7.00pm** in the meeting room. If you've not been before, why not come along? It is a very relaxed social evening.

CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR

The Christmas Craft Fair takes place **THIS SATURDAY** at St. Patrick's from 12.30 – 3.30pm. Please do come along and support the fundraising efforts for our Family of Parishes. Thank you to all involved for their hard work.

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.

CHRISTMAS FAIR DONATIONS

Donations for raffle & tombola prizes and for the children's area would be greatly appreciated for our **Christmas Craft Fair from 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.

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

It has been decided that the Christmas Tree Festival at Dipton will not take place this year, but that on Sunday 13th December there will be a Christmas Afternoon Tea, followed by a Service of nine lessons and Carols. More details will be given shortly.

ST JOSEPH'S CARPARK CLOSURE

The carpark at St Joseph's will be closed all day to vehicles on **Thursday 19th November.** A Cherry Picker will be on site to aid the architectural survey for the renovations, and whilst it is on site the loose slates on the roof will be fixed and the gutters cleaned out.

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.