

MASSTIMES AND INTENTIONS

10th - 17th May 2026

6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER	Dipton Stanley Stanley	9.00am 11.00am 3.00pm	People of the Partnership; Kevin McCormick and First Holy Communion of Charlotte People of the Partnership; Tom Hovvels & Toby & Ben Hall Rosary Procession and Benediction with the Diocesan Lourdes Hospitalité
Monday 11 th May	Stanley Dipton	10.15am 6.30pm	Funeral Liturgy for Margurita (Rita) Mary Mallet Private intention (M&AH)
Tuesday 12 th May	Stanley Mountsett	10.00am 11.45am	Billy & Ivy Mulhearn Funeral Liturgy for Doreen Bailes

NO MASS ON WEDNESDAY

ASCENSION THURSDAY - A HOLYDAY OF OBLIGATION			
14 th May	Stanley Dipton	10.00am 6.30pm	People of the partnership; Rita Mallet (SVP) People of the Partnership; Father Pat McKenna (NBF)

Friday 15 th May	Dipton	6.30pm	Professor Judith Champ
Saturday 16 th May	Stanley	10.00am	Pat McCue

7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER	Dipton Stanley	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Partnership; Father Joe Park (Anniversary) People of the Partnership; Margaret Pendleton
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LITURGICAL CALENDAR	
Monday	Weekday of Easter
Tuesday	Weekday of Easter
Wednesday	Our Lady of Fatima
Thursday	The Ascension of the Lord (S)
Friday	Weekday of Easter
Saturday	Weekday of Easter
M = Memorial F = Feast S = Solemnity	

PARISHES CALENDAR THIS WEEK	
This Sunday	Coffee Morning (Stanley)
Tuesday	Godfellas 7.00pm (Stanley)

Finance - 3 May 2026	Offertory Total	Standing Order	Sick & Retired Priests
STANLEY	£536.27	£197.25	£120.10
DIPTON	£119.31	£172.85	£68.80

Future Collections: 17th May - World Communications Day
25th May - Lay Training Fund
7th June - Quarterly Diocesan Levy
21st June - Day for Human Life

PRAYER BEFORE MASS

Almighty and ever-living God,
I approach the sacrament of Your only-begotten Son
Our Lord Jesus Christ, I come sick to the doctor of life,
unclean to the fountain of mercy,
blind to the radiance of eternal light,
and poor and needy to the Lord of heaven and earth.

Lord, in your great generosity, heal my sickness,
wash away my defilement,
enlighten my blindness, enrich my poverty,
and clothe my nakedness.

May I receive the bread of angels,
the King of kings and Lord of lords, with humble reverence,
with the purity and faith, the repentance and love,
and the determined purpose
that will help to bring me to salvation.

May I receive the sacrament of the Lord's Body and Blood,
and its reality and power.

Kind God, may I receive the Body of Your only-begotten Son,
our Lord Jesus Christ, born from the womb of the Virgin Mary,
and so be received into His mystical body
and numbered among His members.

Loving Father, as on my earthly pilgrimage
I now receive Your beloved Son under the veil of a sacrament,
may I one day see him face to face in glory,
who lives and reigns with You for ever.
Amen.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO NEED HEALING
IN OUR FAMILY OF PARISHES...**
Margaret Convey, Maureen Dixon

GETTING YOUR CHILD BAPTISED

If you or a family member is looking to have your child baptised, please collect the leaflet 'Getting your child baptised' from the back of church. This policy of how we access the Sacraments of Initiation is applicable across the Pontop Partnership. Please read the leaflet carefully before returning the attached application *in person* to your parish priest at the end of Mass.

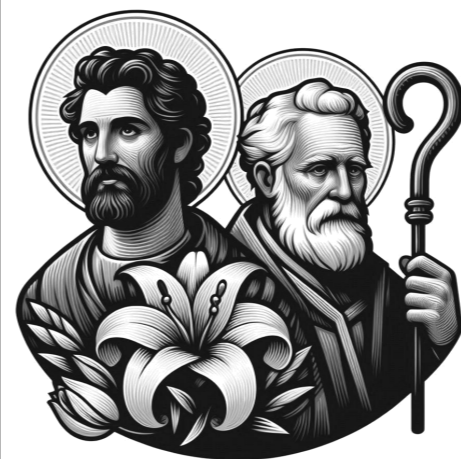
A GENTLE REMINDER...

Please remember to switch off your mobile phone
(or put it on silent) when coming into Church.

We show reverence to Jesus present in the Tabernacle.

Please talk to God before Mass and one another afterwards.

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.



Roman Catholic Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle
a registered charity 1143450

The Parishes of

SAINT JOSEPH, STANLEY



SAINT PATRICK, DIPTON

St Joseph's Presbytery
Thorneyholme Terrace
Stanley, DH9 0BL

01207 299 012

www.stanleycatholic.org

stjoseph.stanley@diocesehn.org.uk



Father Shaun Purdy

Parish Priest

pp.stjoseph.stanley@diocesehn.org.uk



Reverend Paul Nichol

Parish Deacon

07906 489 152



Melissa Gillespie

Parish Administrator

Office Hours

Tuesday - Friday

9.30am - 3.30pm



Sharon Walker

Parish 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.



If you would like to receive this newsletter by email, please contact the office.



LISTEN TO THE WORD

10TH MAY 2026 - 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 8: 5-8, 14-17 | Psalm 65 | 1 Peter 3: 15-18 | John 14: 15-21

Easter is moving towards its close and in a few short weeks we will be celebrating the Feast of Pentecost, the birthday of the Church. The readings for today contain a promise - one full of hope and commitment. Love is flowing from our heavenly Father, through his precious Son to the Holy Spirit raising our hearts, lifting us up, enriching our lives, creating a power within us that is from God.

Philip the Apostle felt this power. He goes to the land of Samaria, to a people despised by the Jews, whose only glimpse of the love of Jesus came through the Samaritan Woman; the one who found the living water of faith. He takes with him the Good News of Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, and the Samaritans accept his words and turn to Christ. Can you imagine how much courage and faith it took for Philip to make this journey?

Saint Peter travelled the known world bringing the Good News to the pagans and to the Jews. His constant companion was the Holy Spirit. It enabled him to face all sorts of problems in his mission to bring the word of God to his people. The people he spoke to were searching; they lived from day to day without any real hope for the future. Peter tells us how we too can become beacons of light to those who are without hope. "In your hearts honour Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defence to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; do it with gentleness and respect". There are many in our families, our workplaces and our neighbourhoods who are without hope. Peter advises us to be courteous, respectful and conscientious in our dealings with others; there are many who will listen and walk away, we only sow the seed, the love of God brings it to harvest.

John's gospel is made for Easter. His words of encouragement are there for all. The promise, made by Jesus, speaks to our hearts. We are not orphans in this world. We have a heavenly Father who loves us, a Brother who is our saviour and a Spirit living within us whose power can strengthen and guide us. We are one with Christ. Jesus promises us "In that day you will know that I am in my Father and you in me and I in you"; this is the encouragement we need to speak to others and remind them that God's love is there waiting for them to turn to Him and say "Abba Father".

David Frank.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (A)

THE ORDER OF MASS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 4 OF THE HYMN BOOK

First Reading

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17

In those days: Philip went down to the city of Samaria and proclaimed to them the Christ. And the crowds with one accord paid attention to what was being said by Philip, when they heard him and saw the signs that he did. For unclean spirits, crying out with a loud voice, came out of many who had them, and many who were paralysed or lame were healed. So there was much joy in that city.

Now when the Apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent to them Peter and John, who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit, for he had not yet fallen on any of them, but they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 66(65):1-3a. 4-5. 6-7a. 16, 20. *R*

Response: Cry out with joy to God, all the earth.

Cry out with joy to God, all the earth;
O sing to the glory of his name.
O render him glorious praise.
Say to God, 'How wondrous your deeds!'

'Before you all the earth shall bow down,
shall sing to you, sing to your name!'
Come and see the works of God:
his wondrous deeds among the children of Adam.

He turned the sea into dry land;
they passed through the river on foot.
Let our joy, then, be in him;
he rules for ever by his might.

Come and hear, all who fear God;
I will tell what he did for my soul.
Blest be God, who did not reject my prayer,
nor withhold from me his merciful love.

Second Reading

1 Peter 3:15-18

Beloved: In your hearts honour Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defence to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behaviour in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil. For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Verse

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

John 14:15-21

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.

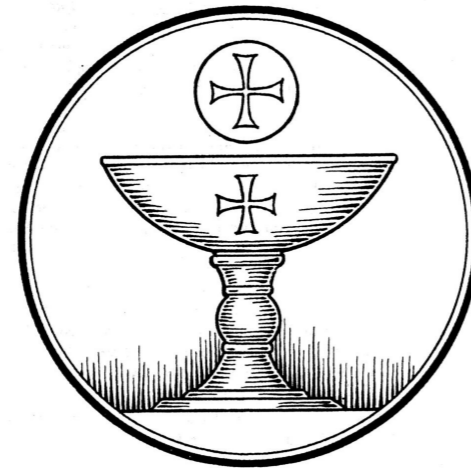
Glory to you, O Lord.

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, 'If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you for ever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

'I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



We congratulate the Children who have
received Jesus for the First time in
Holy Communion this weekend.

Aria
Freddie
Isobel
Trevin
Nattasha
Harley-Kate
William
Charlotte
Elena
Ella

DATES FOR THE DIARY - NEW DATES ADDED!

Sunday 10th May - Rosary Procession and Benediction (*Stanley*)

Saturday 6th June - Stella Maris Pilgrimage to Holy Island

Friday 3rd July - Dipton Club with the Whistle Testers

Saturday 4th July - Indoor 'carboot' sale

Saturday 11th July 2026 - Summer Craft Fair

Friday 31st July 2026 - Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

Saturday 12th September 2026 - The last afternoon of the Proms

Sunday 29th November 2026 - First Sunday of Advent

Saturday 14th November 2026 - Christmas Craft Fair

Sunday 20th December 2026 - Christmas Brass Concert

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

Of your charity, please pray for the repose of the souls of **Margurita (Rita) Mary Mallet and Doreen Bailes**. Rita's funeral Liturgy will take place on **Monday 11th May at 10.15am** in St Joseph's followed by burial in Stanley Cemetery. Doreen's Funeral Liturgy will take place on **Tuesday 12th May at 11.45am** in Mountsett Crematorium.

LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 2026

Are you a First timer or Solo Pilgrim? You are invited to a get together on **Sunday 5th July** at St Michael's Church Hall, Houghton le Spring, DH5 8NF. The afternoon begins at 2.00pm and finish at 4.00pm. It will give you an opportunity to ask any questions you may have and to meet fellow pilgrims.

MASS FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

On Saturday 23rd May at 12noon in St Joseph's we have our annual Mass for the sick and housebound from our Family of Parishes.. During Mass the Sacrament of the sick will be celebrated. If you are ill and would benefit from the Sacrament of the sick, then please come along to this Mass and receive the Lord's healing in this great sacrament. Following Mass there will be refreshments in the meeting room,

STELLA MARIS - ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE TO HOLY ISLAND

The annual Stella Maris Pilgrimage to Holy Island is taking place on Saturday 6th June 2026. A coach has been booked for those who wish to go, with pick-ups from Stanley and Dipton. Following the Pilgrimage to Holy Island, we will stop off at Seahouses for Fish and Chips. The cost of the trip is £15.00 for adults and £5.00 for Children (up to 16). If you would like to go, please contact the office on 01207 299 012.

FIRE EVACUATION

In the coming weeks there will be an **UNANNOUNCED** Fire Evacuation Drill at the end of Mass. The process will be as follows...

At the end of Mass, one of the fire marshals will shout **"FIRE... FIRE!"** at that point we ask that you leave your hymn books on the benches, pick up your personal belongings and leave the Church as quickly and safely as possible, please do not hang around the Church, but leave the premises. If you are unsteady on your feet or require further assistance, remain in your places and the Fire Marshal will come and help you.

Whilst this is a drill, we ask you to take it seriously, because in the actual event of a fire, we need to know we can evacuate the premises as safely and quickly as possible.

ROSARY PROCESSION AND BENEDICTION

Next Sunday at 3.00pm there will be a Rosary Procession and Benediction in St Joseph's, Stanley. This is being hosted jointly between our Family of Parishes and the Diocesan Lourdes Hospitalité as we commemorate 100 years since the first Diocesan Pilgrimage in 1926. Please come along and give a warm welcome to those who will join us from across the Diocese.

BISHOP SÉAMUS CUNNINGHAM - 60 YEARS A PRIEST

On Saturday 20th June, Bishop Séamus will celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving at St Mary's, Sunderland, for his Diamond Jubilee. The Mass begins at 11.00am followed by refreshments in the Parish Hall. All are welcome!

GODFELLAS

The next meeting of the Godfellas will be on Tuesday 12th May at 7.00pm in St Joseph's meeting room. If you haven't been before, a warm welcome awaits. It's an informal gathering where we come together for a drink, nibbles and different activities ranging from a quiz to a guest speaker. Why not come along and give it a go this week?

FAITH REFERENCES

If you are applying for a job in a Catholic School and require a faith reference, would you please speak to Father Shaun [in person](#), before putting his name down as a reference. This helps Father Shaun identify the person he is writing the reference for, and also so he knows to expect the reference request arriving.

SVP CAMP - HOLY ISLAND

Calling all young adults 18+. Do you have a week to spare to spend on Lindisfarne this Summer helping out at the Holy Island SVP Camp? Volunteers are needed to work alongside the children who stay in the SVP purpose-built centre on the island. Weeks, 3, 5 and 6 of the Summer have 60 children ready to have a great time rock pooling, walking, arts and crafting and enjoying outdoor activities but we need more helpers to ensure they have the best time!

- Week 3 Sat 1st August - 8th August
- Week 5 Sat 15th August - 22nd August
- Week 6 Sat 22nd - 29th August

If you are interested have a look at the website visit <https://svp.org.uk/microsite/ozanam-camp> or email Barbara Taws barbarat@svp.org.uk
All helpers receive training and will need to be DBS checked.

LECTURE AT HOLY NAME, JESMOND

'From Francis to Leo: the Catholic Church in a Change of Era' - When Pope Francis died a year ago, the Cardinals elected a Pope who would continue and deepen his reform, which they said was key to evangelizing today's world. This is what Francis and now Leo call "the change of era" -- a new apostolic age. In his lecture at the Holy Name Church, Jesmond, Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 3JX on Saturday 16 May at 11am, Pope Francis biographer and noted Catholic journalist and commentator Dr Austen Ivereigh explains the nature of the Francis-Leo transition, how the Church is being called to change its way of operating, and why it matters for the future of faith in these islands. All are welcome, there is no charge and no booking is necessary.

DIOCESAN VACANCIES

Role: Cleaner (Immaculate Heart of Mary, Lobley Hill and St Mary's, Whickham)
Contract: Permanent
Salary: £3497 pro rata per annum
Hours: Part-time 5 hours per week
Working Pattern: Able to be negotiated at interview.
Location: Immaculate Heart of Mary, Malvern Gardens, Lobley Hill, Gateshead, NE11 9LL and
St Mary, Dockendale Lane, Whickham, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE16 4EN. How to apply: Please visit <https://diocesehn.org.uk/vacancy/cleaner-7/> Closing Date: 12:00 pm, 13/05/2026
Role: Cleaner (St Mary's Presbytery, Lobley Hill)
Contract: Permanent
Salary: £2447.9 pro rata per annum
Hours: Part-time 3.5 hours per week
Working Pattern: Able to be negotiated at interview.
Location: Immaculate Heart of Mary, Malvern Gardens, Lobley Hill, Gateshead, NE11 9LL
How to apply: Please visit <https://diocesehn.org.uk/vacancy/cleaner-8/> Closing Date: 12:00 pm, 13/05/2026.

ST BEDE'S OPEN DAY

To celebrate the 60th Anniversary of our school opening, we are delighted to invite pupils, families, former students, and members of the community to our School Open Day on Saturday 27th June 10:00am – 2:00pm at the school site.

PROUD CATHOLICS

Our next meeting will be on 19th May at St Andrew's Worswick Street, NE1 6UW at 07:30pm. It is our Annual General Meeting where we come together to discuss the upcoming year for the group, any changes that would like to be made and democratically vote for members of the Committee. We would like as many of you to attend as possible so if you can make it, please come. There will be a Zoom link available for this meeting.

FIRE EXITS AROUND ST JOSEPH'S

Please could we remind you not to park in front of the steps by the Sacristy door or in front of the Church doors when using the car park. These areas need to be clear **AT ALL TIMES** in case we need to evacuate the Church in the event of a fire. Thank you for your understanding.