

4th Sunday of Easter - 11th May 2025

Annfield Plain - St. Teresa, Blackhill - Our Blessed Lady Immaculate, Brooms - Our Blessed Lady & St. Joseph,

Stanley, St. Joseph

PONTOP

Partnership

Consett - St. Patrick,

Dipton - St. Patrick, Lancheater - All Saints, Moorside - St. Pius X, Shotley Bridge - Our Lady of the Rosary

Vocation of Holiness

This Sunday is the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. As Christians, we all share one common vocation, the vocation of holiness. The Second Vatican Council says *“that all the faithful of Christ of whatever rank or status, are called to the fullness of the Christian life and to the perfection of charity.”* (Lumen Gentium 40).

We cannot become holy and virtuous by our own merits. Rather, any growth is the result of the grace of God. We can receive numerous graces whenever we turn to him in quiet times of prayer as well as through the sacraments. The greatest form of prayer we can partake in is the Holy Mass. Consequently, we should strive to make it the highlight of our week, ensuring there are no competing distractions for our time. We can also, to the best of our circumstances, try to attend Mass on weekdays as well.

It is only when we are attending to our primary vocation of holiness that we'll be able to discern our secondary call to the vocation of priesthood, religious life, marriage or consecrated singlehood. Holiness will allow us to have the humility and docility to hear the voice of God gently guiding us. It will also strengthen us to overcome any fears, and say yes to whichever vocation he calls us to. Let us strive to live out our vocation of holiness to the best of our ability.

Fr Tom McHale

(except Monday)

01207 - 502320

Fr John Bagnall

(except Wednesday)

01207 - 502196

Deacon Chris Callan

Deacon Shaun McGee

Deacon David Westgarth

General Notices Around the Partnership

Partnership - Sacrament of Reconciliation: St Patrick's, Consett; Saturday after 10am Mass. Our Lady and St Joseph's Brooms on Saturday's before the 5.30pm Vigil Mass 4.45pm-5.15pm.

Communion Visits: If anyone is aware of someone who is housebound and who would like to receive communion at home, please contact Fr Tom at St Mary's 01207 502196 or Fr John at St Patrick's 01207 502320 to arrange this.

Confirmation Meeting- Thursday 15th May The next Confirmation Meeting for our young people will take place this Thursday 15th May at St. Mary's church hall, Blackhill, starting at 6.30 until 8.00 p.m. We appreciate the commitment involved in bringing children to these meetings, especially from further afield. Please bring the children 10 minutes beforehand so we can start promptly. It is very important that the Candidates attend the full programme of preparation.

What is Gift Aid: By signing a Gift Aid Declaration we can reclaim 25p for every £1 you donate to the parish. If for example you were to give £5 a week through Gift Aid the parish would obtain an annual income tax refund of £65. You don't have to be paying a lot of tax to join the Gift Aid Scheme – only sufficient to cover the basic rate tax the parish will reclaim. Providing you pay tax on your salary or pension you can join the scheme. If you are a taxpayer and not in the Gift Aid Scheme the parish is effectively losing out on “free money” from the Government.

Am I Eligible - In order to sign a Gift Aid Declaration you must be a UK taxpayer, and donate either by standing order or by weekly envelopes so that your contributions can be recorded

Raised in Songs and Stories: Playing in the Demi on 13th May at 12.30pm. singing, dancing, food and great craic.

Holy Island: Saturday 19th July 2025. There are still places available for our annual trip to Holy Island, with an hour or two stop off at Seahouses for fish and chips. shopping or a visit to the local. The cost is £15 per adult/£5 Child. Envelopes are available at the back of St Patrick's and St Mary's. Please ensure that you pay as soon as you book a place to ensure that we have enough money to pay for the bus.

May Procession and Benediction: St Joseph's Stanley on Sunday 18th May at 3.00pm.

CBS The Hunchback of Notre Dame: A block booking has been made on Tuesday 3rd June for 20 seats at the price of £12 at the production of The Hunchback of Notre Dame to be held at the Empire Theatre Consett. Envelopes are available at the back of St Patrick's and St Mary's Church please put your name/contact number, how many seats and your payment inside.

Ways of Praying - Thursday Evenings from 15th May: Join us at St. Pius X as we explore 'Ways of Praying' with Fr. Stephen Wang. These are a series of 12 videos and discussions giving practical wisdom and spiritual encouragement from Fr Stephen to help you grow closer to God. These sessions will guide you in deepening your prayer life and strengthening your faith. They follow on from the acclaimed Sycamore videos. Doors open at 6:30 with time available for private prayer before the Blessed Sacrament from 6:45pm. Tea and Coffee from 7:10pm before the sessions start at 7:30. Close at 8:30pm approx. If you want to know more contact Deacon Shaun at shaun.mcgee@diocesehn.org.uk

Around The Diocese

We are overjoyed to welcome our new Pope Leo XIV. May the Lord bless him in his ministry. His first words were peace to the world, the peace of the risen Christ. May we all share that peace. Read more: <https://diocesehn.org.uk/.../bishop-of-hexham-and.../>

Holy Island SVP Vinnies Camp- Volunteering is a Work of Heart: new volunteers needed to help in their Holiday Centre on Holy Island for the Summer. Full training and support will be given

and would suit someone wanting to give back to the Community by helping 9–12-year-olds have fun for a week. They are also keen to attract people who would like to help by volunteering in the Kitchen/Dining room and with caretaking. Further information can be found at <https://svp.org.uk/microsite/ozanam-camp>

'Hope in a Time of Darkness' – A Lecture by His Eminence Cardinal Timothy Radcliffe OP: Monday 23rd June 2025; 7:45pm Galilee Chapel, Durham Cathedral. Durham Cathedral Institute is delighted to be hosting this year's Bishop Dunn Memorial Lecture of the Centre for Catholic Studies at Durham University, hearing from speaker **Cardinal Timothy Radcliffe** and respondent **Prof Anna Rowlands**. For more information and to book tickets, please visit <https://durhamcathedral.ticketsolve.com/ticketbooth/shows/1173659458> Please send any queries to ccs.admin@durham.ac.uk.

New Liturgical Leaders of Celebration of the Word and Holy Communion: An introductory course, over six sessions, which helps new Liturgical Leaders of Celebrations of the Word and Holy Communion to begin learning about this ministry. Begins 13 May 2025. Location: St Hilda's Diocesan Resource Centre, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE15 7PY. Cost: £30.00 per person *REGISTRATION To book a place please ask your Parish Priest or telephone the Parish Office*

Refresher session for existing Liturgical Leaders of Celebrations of the Word and Holy Communion: For existing Liturgical Leaders of Celebrations of the Word and Holy Communion to support them in their ministry. Please note that participants must already be commissioned in this ministry to attend this session. To be held on Monday 23rd June 2025. Location: St Hilda's Diocesan Resource Centre, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE15 7PY Cost: £15.00 per person *REGISTRATION To book a place please ask your Parish Priest or telephone the Parish Office*

Vacancies: **Bookings Administrator** for the Youth Ministry Trust, based at the Emmaus Village, Consett – full-time, permanent contract. Closing date: 14 May

Laudato Si' Mass: Bishop Stephen will celebrate Mass at 10.00am at St Mary's Cathedral on Saturday 24th May to celebrate 10 years since the publication of Pope Francis' encyclical – Laudato Si'. All are welcome to attend this Mass which marks the start of Laudato Si' week. More information on the Diocesan website:

<https://diocesehn.org.uk/whats-on/event/laudato-si-week-2025-mass/>

Minsteracres - June Events

Quiet Day: Tuesday 24th June 2025. A day of spiritual reflection and renewal, personal prayer and Quiet contemplation. Lunch and refreshments are included. Suggested donation £40.

Pentecost Retreat: Friday 13th June from 6.30pm to Sunday 15th June at 2pm. Reflect on the role of the Holy Spirit in the Gospel. Times of input, silence and prayer, with Fr Chris Thomas. Suggested donation £220.

3 Day Walking Retreat: Daily walks of 7 to 10 miles. Tuesday 17th June from 10am to Thursday 19th June at 5pm. Phone 01434673248 email: info@minsteracres.org

St Mary's News

Collections: This week – Little Sisters of the Poor

Next week - SVP

Legion of Mary: will say the Holy Rosary and Legion prayers on Tuesday evenings at 6pm.

In Need of Support: If you need support from the SVP please put your name and telephone number in a sealed envelope marked SVP and place it through St Mary's presbytery door, A member of the SVP will contact you. Please ring 07377259724.

Memorial Stones: Anyone wishing to purchase a Memorial Stone in memory of a loved one at

a cost of £85 can pick up a form from the back of the church and give it to Joe Anderson or hand it into St Mary's office. Please hand in by the end of May to avoid disappointment.

Sunday Breakfast Club: will be back on the first Sunday of June.

St Mary's Summer Fete: will take place on Sunday 27th July. More information next week.

Wellcome Thursday: Although we offer a healthy 3 course meal to all our guests, it was not set up necessarily to feed those in need. Many of our guests are not in this category. We offer a meeting place for all age groups to come and spend time and make new friends in a comfortable friendly environment.

St Patrick's News

Collections: This week – Little Sisters of the Poor Next week - Social and Welfare

Children's Liturgy: The Children's Liturgy takes place at St Patrick's on the first Sunday of each month. This is for any children of primary school age, if you or your child may be interested in attending the liturgy, please come along (parents are very welcome to come and accompany their child). The next children's liturgy will take place on Sunday 11th May. Thank you.

Sunday Coffee Morning: Sunday 25th May after 9.15am Mass all welcome in the Church Hall Lounge for Bacon Sandwiches, Tea and Coffee.

St Patrick's Hall - Lunch Club Lunch to be held on Monday 12th May 12 noon at a cost of £4 for the meal there will be bingo and a raffle too. Limited seats available. Contact the Hall Number on 07517 929658 to book.

Brooms - Our Lady and St Joseph's News

Collections: This week – Little Sisters of the Poor Next week - Social and Welfare

The collection for Sick and Retired Priests raised £672, thank you for your generous donations.

People's Kitchen: Thank you for your continued donations which can be deposited in the named tin at the back of the church.

Nursery Applications: Brooms School are thrilled to announce that applications are now open for places for our nursery which is now open for 3 year olds only initially. Please contact the school on 01207 503979 for an application form and to arrange a visit if you wish.

Toddler Group: Brooms School Toddler Group will operate every '*Wednesday in term time from 9.15am – 10.30am.*' Refreshments will be provided for a small donation but there will be no charge to attend. All are welcome.

Monthly Mass at St Ives, Leadgate: The next Mass will be held on Thursday 15th May at 10am.

Thank you: After the recent Funeral of Cyril Pearson the family kindly donated £305 to Our Lady & St Joseph Brooms for the church funds.

St Pius News

Collections: This week – Little Sisters of the Poor Next week - Social and Welfare

Holy Rosary Hour: The next one will be held on Monday 26th May at 6pm.

Benediction and Evening Prayer: Wednesday evenings 5.45pm - 6.45pm

100 Club: There are spare numbers available if you would like to support your church please see Christina Parkin. Envelopes are available at the back of the church.

Our Lady of the Rosary News

Collections: This week – Little Sisters of the Poor

Next week - SVP

ANNIVERSARIES

St Mary's: Catherine (Katie) Bell, Joan Mary Dawson, Tom Slane, Thomas Anthony Slane, Mary Katherine McArdle, Elizabeth Mildred Lenaghan, Gerald Rogan, Rose Toner, Honor McDonald, Ann Rafferty, Mary Christina Watson, Basil Whitfield, Angela Bell, Mary Anne Donnelly, (Baby) Jennifer Theresa Young, Peter Robson, Edwin Rimmer, Agnes James, Hugh Harper, Ann White, Thomas McGovern, Florence Ashton, Jean Mary Dawson, Lynda Ann Telford, Ann Loughran, James Conney, John Devanney (snr), John Campbell, Mary Monica McGuckin, John Armstrong, Veronica Liddle, Patrick O'Neill, Marie Joyce Wilson, John Glancy, Mary McKie, Rose Grimes, Margaret Corr, Iris Bland, Geraldine Murray, James Conney, James Grimes, William Kennedy, John Mulhearn, Nicholina Thornton, Rose Clarke, Mary bell, Margaret Fullen.

Our Lady of the Rosary: Fr. Paul Harrison, Tom Cowie, Mary Florence Nicholson, Arthur Denis Nicholson, Mary McKie, Thomas Bell, William Devlin.

St. Patrick's: Albert Huntley, Peter Hughes, Veronica McKenna, Norah Ward, Kevin McCurley, Teresa Adams, David Stobbs, Hayden Coyle, Jean Cartmel, Kathleen Finnegan, Patricia Hutchinson, Dennis Aubrey, Valerie Glynn, Anthony Burns, James Martin, Mary Cosgrove, Therese Dixon, Joseph Grugan, Margaret Robinson, Shaun Andrew Gettings, Angela Rose, Catherine Page.

St Pius: Jane Bell, Elsie Donaghy, Catherine Mullen.

Our Lady & St Joseph's: Mary E. Suddick, Robert Fountain, Jack Appleby, Kathleen McCabe.

THOSE WHO ARE SICK IN OUR PARISHES

We keep in our prayers

St Mary's: Paul Wass, Ryan McBeath, Kieran Richard Atkinson, Amelia Burns, Ethan White, James Thomas English, Eileen Fannon, Mary Barnes, Arron Armstrong, Maddy Kennedy, Mark Adams, Jack Nugent, Donna Philips, Julianne Kennedy, Eileen Haughey, David Oliver, Jimmy McGuigan, Sarah June Quinn, Thomas Eccles, Philip Robinson, Audrey Johnson, Ged Hester, Peter Doherty, Jakob English, Katelyn Howe, Ann Hester, Fiona Bell, Cecelia Moore, David Urwin, Barbara Bennison, Eileen Dunstan, Molly Glancy, Ian Clarke, Andrew (Andy) Kavanagh.

Our Lady of the Rosary: James Baker.

St. Patrick's: Eileen Fish, Margaret Heslop, Anna Bradley, Cheryl Reily, Judith Hindmarsh, Andrew Bates, Jean Walls, Sienna Jane McNestry, Joan O'Keefe, Joan Wilson, Alan McCullagh.

St Pius: Joseph Agnew, Gerry Akers, Marie Atherton, Martin Daly, Rita Daly, Paul Hunt, Danny Morton, Robert Nixon Jr, Jade Telford, Muriel Steele, Ethan O'Neil (13 yrs old).

Our Lady and St Joseph's: Sue Robertson

Partnership Prayer

*Risen Christ, from your abundant grace,
pour out afresh your Holy Spirit upon our Diocese.*

*As we build on the deep foundations of faith
laid by the countless saints of these Northern lands,
by Aidan and Cuthbert, Hilda and Bede
may our Partnerships continue the mission
of building your Kingdom on the earth:
to give living witness to your love,
and to your compassion and hope for our world.*

*We pray in trustful confidence that your power working in us
can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.*

Who live and reign forever and ever. Amen'

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

*My Jesus I believe that you are present in the most Holy Sacrament, I love you
above all things and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this
moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I
embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you, never
permit me to be separated from you. Amen'*

A Prayer for Peace by Pope John Paul II

*Hear my voice, for it is the voice of the victims of all wars and violence
among individuals and nations.*

*Hear my voice, for it is the voice of all children who suffer and will suffer
when people put their faith in weapons and war.*

*Hear my voice when I beg you to install into the hearts of all human beings
the wisdom of peace, the strength of justice, and the joy of fellowship.*

*Hear my voice, for I speak for the multitudes in every country
and in every period of history who do not want war are ready to walk the road
of peace.*

*Hear my voice and grant insight and strength so that we may always respond
to hatred with love, to injustice with total dedication to justice,
to need with the sharing of self, to war with peace.*

O God, hear my voice and grant unto the world Your everlasting peace. Amen'