

6th Sunday of Easter - 25th May 2025

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

Stanley, St. Joseph

Consett - St. Patrick,

PONTOP

Partnership

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

A Peace the World Cannot Give

This Sunday's gospel can be broken into several statements which speak to us plainly of the loving message of Christ. Firstly, he equates love with faith; ***“If anyone loves me, he will keep my word”***. Then Jesus makes us a promise that the Father's love is ours and our faith will create a home which we will share with the Father and the Son for ***“we will come to him and make our home with him”***.

Jesus then speaks of a helper, the Holy Spirit. He will be a teacher, a guide and an advocate; this Spirit will be present in our lives and he will give us inner peace.

God's peace is not a human peace like when we are relaxing in an armchair; it is a deep and lasting peace. It is very far from the peace that the world offers; the world's peace is transitory, God's peace is everlasting.

No one is excluded from the love of God. That love is pure and true. All of God's creation is precious to Him and our role here on earth is to love and help those who are less fortunate than ourselves, no matter what religion or culture they belong to.

Jesus promises us the gift of peace, but peace can only be achieved when there is no more conflict, and a fair and equal society exists throughout our world – a true New Jerusalem.

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.

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

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.

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: 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 6:30pm 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

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.

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

Music Academy: Music helps people pray. We've seen that in our churches on a Sunday, often the people who have given their time and service to lead the music and the worship, haven't had the opportunity for formation and investment in this area. Also, we have seen that when music leaders give time and space for their journey of discipleship this has a prayerful and powerful effect on the times of worship and liturgy and the faith journeys of their music teams in their parishes. If you know someone who would be interested in participating in the OHP Academy, more information and a short video can be found at

<https://diocesehn.org.uk/whats-on/event/one-hope-project-music-academy/>.

Society of Saint Gregory - Annual Summers School 2025: Liverpool Hope University 30 July (from 2pm) - 2 August 2025 (lunchtime). JUBILEE 2025 - PILGRIMS OF HOPE. The theme of Jubilee and Hope will be reflected in our liturgies and music, providing us with an opportunity to reflect on what we have learned and to consider how we might take the message of hope back to our parish communities. **Keynote Speaker - David Wells**, a pastoral leader and well known speaker encouraging and inspiring people to share the joy of the gospel, through the lens of building parish life. **Director of Music - Martin Barry**, a parish musician, composer and former cathedral music director. He is President of Universa Laus, the international study group for liturgical music. **Workshops** - Proclaiming the Word, Presiding, School Chaplaincy, Scripture, Plainchant in the Parish setting, Singing the Psalms for the new Lectionary, Exploring the Liturgy Directory, the "Volunteer" Organist. We welcome Residential, Non-Residential and Day Delegates and Bursary Funding is available. Further details and online booking at <https://ssg.org.uk/summer-school/> or by emailing summerschool@ssg.org.uk

National Churches Trust: The National Churches Trust (NCT) have launched a survey to better understand the challenges that churches face, and to highlight the vital work our churches do. This survey has the support of denominations, faith, and heritage groups across the country and we encourage you to take part. The survey is live until the 30th June. Your response will provide essential evidence to build a clearer picture – to tell a stronger, more informed story about your church, and others like it, so that together some of the biggest challenges facing churches can be addressed and help ensure their future.

The survey can be found here: www.nationalchurchestrust.org/survey

Minsteracres - June Events

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 – Garden Care Next week - World Communications Day

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

Bishops' Visit: We look forward to welcoming Bishop Stephen who will be visiting St Mary's and Our Lady of the Rosary on Sunday 1st June.

SVP - Sudan Coin Boxes: Please return coin boxes to the back of the church. Monies will be sent to South Sudan where it is greatly needed.

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

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ANNIVERSARIES

St Mary's: Catherine Aitchison, Mary Catherine Athey, Anthony McElrue, Tommie Page, Catherine Toner, Nancy Henderson, Mary Jane Thompson, Mary Townson, John Grimes, Margaret Bell, Edward McElrue, John Gerome Grey, Edward Malpass, Norman Leslie Black, Alice Grogan, John M Grugan, Esther Lavery, Richard Nelson, Anne Marie Ryan, Rose Greenfield, Mary Campbell, Josephine Toner, John Jerome Grey, Nicholas Boyle, Daniel Robinson, Keith Kennedy, Margaret Jones

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: Margaret Collins, Hector Hughes, William Kane, Michael Murray, Veronica Robb, Doreen Wilkes.

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, 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'