

16th Sunday of the Year - 20th July 2025

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

Stanley, St. Joseph



Consett - St. Patrick,

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

Stop and Listen

It is said that today people aged between 30 and 55 are in the busiest period of their lives. They might be, building a career, establishing a business, raising a young family.

They are so busy that even if they continue to practice their faith they have no time to develop their inner life and their relationship with God in prayer.

But we might add that even older people are very busy these days, some might still have to work or be occupied almost full-time looking after grandchildren.

In today's gospel we hear the account of two sisters who were friends of Jesus. There is Martha who is busy with the work of the Lord and Mary who is more interested in knowing the Lord of the work. Martha was in a dither getting food and the house ready while Mary was sitting down, talking and listening to Jesus.

Jesus used this domestic scene to make a very important point and he says in effect to Martha, take it easy, stop fussing – there are more important things than making dinner, and I am one of them.

Jesus wasn't being dismissive of his friend Martha. He knew as well as we do that someone has to make the tea. Jesus wasn't making little of the practical jobs you and I have to do every day.

But Jesus was insisting that we get our priorities right. If we get the balance right in our lives we will find time for service and time for contemplation. We will find time for work and time for prayer. We will find time for doing and time for stopping. Because God not only needs workers - he needs listeners too.

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.

Ways of Praying - Thursday Evenings: **There will be a 2 week break resuming on Thursday 31st July.** 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. Evening ends approx 8.30pm. If you want to know more contact Deacon Shaun at shaun.mcgee@diocesehn.org.uk

Men's Social Group The idea of a men's social group in the Consett/Blackhill/Leadgate area of Pontop Partnership has been spoken about for some time. The lounge of St. Patrick's Hall, Consett would be available for monthly evening meetings where we could have quiz nights, listen to interesting guest speakers, perhaps a BBQ night or just to get together in fellowship. If you would be interested, please let Fr. John or Fr. Tom know. Maybe we could call ourselves 'The Friday Fellas'?

Walsingham Pilgrimage 8th – 11th August: The bus for Walsingham is now due for payment the cost this year is £85 per person which includes a tip for the driver. If you could drop the payment into Wendy at St Patrick's by Friday 25th July. Please note the pick up times to leave for Walsingham on Friday 8th are 8.30am at St. Mary's Blackhill and 8.40am at John Street Consett. There will be an early 8am Mass at St. Patrick's Consett on that day.

Holy Souls Prayer Group: The first meeting of the Holy Souls Prayer Group will be held on 1st August at St Patrick's Consett at 10.30am. Please bring with you your Rosary Beads and any written names of your deceased family and friends.

Around the Diocese

Family and Group Stays at Castlerigg Manor This August: Castlerigg Manor is a Retreat Centre in the Lake District, owned by the Diocese of Lancaster, and this summer they are opening their doors to family groups, individuals and other small groups. A good option for anyone looking for a budget get-away in a beautiful part of the country. Book at <https://castleriggmanor.com/open/> or contact director@castleriggmanor.co.uk

Job Vacancy: The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle is looking to appoint an IT Field Engineer. The IT Field Engineer works with the Technology Services Manager in the delivery of the Diocesan Technology strategy across our Diocesan and Parish communities. This includes close collaboration with Clergy, staff and volunteers to assess requirements, provide technical guidance, in-person support, project delivery and hardware configuration. The role provides an opportunity to contribute to the mission and values of the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle by leveraging technology to support and empower the Diocese and Parish communities. A copy of the Job Description can be obtained from annie.leaver@diocesehn.org.uk
The closing date for applications is 09:00 Friday 1st August 2025.
This role is exclusively available to internal candidates.

St Mary's News

Collections: This week – SVP

Next week – Flower Fund

The Sanctuary Candle: will burn for 'A Special Intention' and 'In Loving Memory of Michael Corrigan'

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

Summer Fete: will take place on Sunday July 27th beginning at 1pm. There is a box at the back of church for gifts of items for tombola, bottles, cuddly toys, books, toys and cakes, no jumble. We really need volunteers to help on the day and the week before the Sunday.

Men in Black: Men in Black show on Saturday August 16th in the JFK Centre. Tickets £5. Bingo, Raffle, Refreshments and Bar. Doors open at 6.30pm

"Welcome Thursday:" is taking a break over the summer to allow our hard working team a chance to take a holiday and will resume on Thursday August 21st. Thank you for your continued support.

The Breakfast club: will be having a summer break and will return on Sunday September 7th. Thank you to all volunteers and patrons for your continued support.

St Patrick's News

Collections: This week – Social and Welfare Fund

Next week - Garden Care

Thank You: The family of the late Moira Murray would like to thank Fr John, David Westgarth and all who attended the funeral of Moira. Also for all of the beautiful cards, flowers and masses for her. The retiring collection after her funeral raised a very generous £479.60 for McMillan.

Children's Liturgy: The Children's Liturgy takes place at St Patrick's on the first Sunday of each month. The liturgy will take a break over the summer holiday and return in September. Thank you to those who support and lead the liturgy.

Sunday Missals: Would the parishioners who ordered the new Sunday Missal please collect them from the Piety Stall asap. The cost is £16. Thank you.

Tea on Tuesday: Will be taking a break for July and August and will resume on Tuesday September 2nd.

Recycling for good Causes: There is a box at the back of the church in which you can recycle any Jewellery, coins and currency, mobile phones, cameras, gadgets and stamps. When the box is full it will be collected and the money raised from the items in the box will be used for Good Causes. Our last collection raised £84.05 for Cafod.

Sunday Coffee Morning: Sunday 27th July after 9.15am Mass all welcome in the Church Hall Lounge for Bacon Sandwiches, Tea and Coffee.

Brooms - Our Lady and St Joseph's News

Collections: This week – Cemetery Fund

Next week - Cemetery Fund

Collections: The collection for Stella Maris, raised £150, thank you for your generosity.

People's Kitchen: Thank you for your continued donations of coppers and small change which is forwarded to the People's Kitchen in Newcastle. Your donations can be deposited in the named tin at the back of the church. A further £150 has been sent to the charity.

Thank You: The family of the late Moya Archbold, would like to thank everyone for the collection at Moya's funeral which raised £75 for Brooms Church.

Thank You: The family of the late Sue Robertson would like to thank everyone for the collection at Sue's funeral which raised £242, to be shared between Cancer research and The Dog's Trust.

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.

Cemetery Fund: The fund is open for donations until the end of September. If you Gift Aid your contribution please add your planned giving envelope number to the cemetery fund envelope. Envelopes are available at the back of the church. Thank you for your support.

St Pius News

Collections: This week – Social and Welfare Fund Next week - Garden Care

Holy Rosary Hour: The next one will be held on Monday 28th July at 6pm.

Benediction and Evening Prayer: Wednesday 23rd July 5.45pm - 6.45pm.

Our Lady of the Rosary News

Collections: This week – SVP Next week – Flower Fund

CAFOD: thank you for your generous support this year and for the donation of £74.00 received in April.

ANNIVERSARIES

St Mary's: Joan Mary Kennedy, Mary McCabe, Virginia Reilly, Wilf Reay, Olive Kearney, Ian William Kitchen, Anthony O'Neill, Kevin White, Edward Murray, Catherine Hillas, John Toner, Francis Joseph Page, Raymond Ellis, Catherine Stobbs, Winifred Costello, James McElrue

Our Lady of the Rosary: James Dixon, Gerry Corr, Larry McKie, Ellen Clifford, David Barron, Vincent Robson.

St. Patrick's: James Crozier Snr, Josephine Darroch, Maurice Byrne, Mary Hannant, Mary McArdle(Burns(Bernadette McGurk, Peter Harpin, Rita Hughes, John Crawley, Anthony Bough, Ann Dickinson, Malcolm Wright, Joanne Storey, Andrew Rowlands, John Bell, Marjorie Whitton, Elizabeth Carr, Mary Innes, Vincent Vallely, Thomas Williamson, Hugh Thompson, Veronica Naisbett, Elizabeth Anne Greer, Charles Smith, Fred McAloon, Ruth Armstrong, Ronald Birkett.

St Pius: Elsie Hughes, Richard Pinkney, Janet Dorothy Thompson, George Whales.

Our Lady & St Joseph's: June Williamson, Catherine Williamson, Paul Richardson, Teresa Toole, Peter Grogan, Billy White, Patricia McCabe, Richard Manley-Reeves, Rosa Rigby.

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, John McDonald, Simon Quinn, Joseph Parisi.

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, Michael Cooke, Terry Maguire, Sean Kennedy.

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.

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'