

The Most Holy Trinity - 15th June 2025

Annfeld 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

A Mystery of Love

This weekend, the Church celebrates one of its core dogmas: that **three** distinct divine persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—are somehow united so closely as to be only **one** God. Since this seems to be a contradiction from the perspective of human logic, the temptation for all of us is to simply write it off as a “Mystery of Faith”, something that we accept not because we understand it, but because the Bible—and especially the teachings of Christ—reveal it to us.

However, God may be calling us to engage with this truth more deeply than that. It’s worth noting that the word ‘mystery’ originally comes to us from ancient Greek. And when the Greeks used it, they weren’t talking about a logical or theological puzzle. They were actually describing a rite of initiation, a mystical experience that yielded some sort of deeper wisdom about the divine. It wasn’t something to be “solved”. It was something that people engaged in and then contemplated in order to grow in understanding.

In addition to telling us about the Trinity, the Bible also tells us that “God is love”. So, contemplating our experience of love in this world might help us to understand. To begin with, we will probably all recognise that love is a **unifying** force. When we love other people (e.g., our families, etc.) we start to identify them with ourselves. We say that they are a part of us. Of course, our love doesn’t unite us perfectly because we don’t love perfectly. But God does. And it stands to reason that perfect love **would** unite perfectly. So, the Trinity is not a completely illogical proposition after all.

The Christian faith isn’t just a set of abstract beliefs. It’s an invitation to use our whole lives to contemplate the deep truth of God by sharing more and more deeply in the perfect love of Christ. The more Christ-like we become in the love that we give to God and each other, the more we will come to understand all the mysteries of God, including the Trinity.

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 Session – Thursday 19th June 6.30pm – 8.00pm: We would like to welcome all Confirmation candidates together with their parents and guardians to this important gathering which will be held in the JFK Centre (St Mary's church hall) Blackhill.

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.

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. Evening ends approx 8.30pm. If you want to know more contact Deacon Shaun at shaun.mcgee@diocesehn.org.uk

The Holy Souls. On Friday, June 27th [Solemnity of The Sacred Heart], a short film about Montligeon - the French Shrine unique in the world due to its sole dedication to praying for The Holy Souls in Purgatory - will be shown in St. Patrick's Presbytery, following the 10am Mass. This is with a view to commencing a monthly, all year round, Holy Souls' Prayer Group in St. Patrick's Church. All are welcome to attend.

Fr. John's 10th Anniversary of Ordination All of the free tickets for Fr. John's 10th Anniversary Party on Saturday July 5th have now been claimed. If you have a ticket and are unable to come please return it as we have a reserve list of people who would like to come. Fr John would like to hold a Charity Raffle on the night, in aid of Willowburn Hospice. If you have any prizes of bottles etc. to donate it would be much appreciated. Prizes may be dropped off at St. Patrick's Church or the Presbytery. Thank you in advance.

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'?

Significance Festival: Significance and the Youth Ministry Team invite all parishioners to join them at the Emmaus Village for the annual Significance Festival on Saturday 28 th June beginning with Mass at 3.00pm celebrated by Bishop Stephen and followed by a Barbecue and Ceilidh in the evening. More on the notice board.

St Bedes China Appeal: St Bedes are looking for donations of bone china cups & saucers to be used for a Youth SVP project. The china doesn't have to be matching, but in good condition. There will be a box at the back of the church for donations.

Around the Diocese

Witness: Sharing Our Faith in Today's World: – A Year of Jubilee Formation Opportunity
Saturday 28 June, 9.20am -1.30pm, Emmaus Village; Are you terrified by the idea of evangelisation? Do you dread people asking you about the Church? All are welcome to join us for: a day of sharing experiences and fears; an insight into how to deal with tough questions and 10 things that might help when talking to people about your faith! This witness formation event will lead into the **Significance Festival** with Mass celebrated by Bishop Stephen at 3pm followed by a BBQ, live music and ceilidh. **For more information and booking details visit:** <https://bit.ly/DHNWitness-Significance> or contact the Formation & Mission team at adminfaith.mission@diocesehn.org.uk or call 0191 243 3316.

St Mary's News

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.

Welcome 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 – Day for Life

Next week - Lay Training Fund

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. The next children's liturgy will take place on Sunday 6th July. The liturgy will take a break over the summer holiday and return in September. Thank you to those who support and lead the liturgy.

300 Club winners for May: £20 No. 11. Joan Wilson £15 No. 149. John Rodgers
£10 No. 172 Catherine Welford £10 No. 49 Jean Murray

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

Celebration Breakfast Sunday Coffee Morning: Sunday 29th June after 9.15am Mass the children who have recently made their First Holy Communion will be invited into the hall with their family to join our regular monthly coffee morning for a Celebration Breakfast. Bacon and Sausage Sandwiches will be available along with tea, coffee and juice. There will also be a celebration cake for the children. We hope you can join us to mark the completion of our programme this year. All are welcome.

Brooms - Our Lady and St Joseph's News

Collections: This week – Day for Life

Next week - Lay Training Fund

Collections: The collection for the Lay Training Fund raised £121, thank you for your support.

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 donation of £150 was sent this week. Up to February 2025 a total of £4,950 has been donated to the charity, thank you for your generous support.

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. All are welcome.

St Pius News

Collections: This week – Day for Life

Next week - Lay Training Fund

Holy Rosary Hour: The next one will be held on Monday 30th June at 6pm.

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

June 100 Club Winners: £30 Kathleen Clark No 52, £20 Lisa Hicks No 61
£10 Helen Moore No 5

Our Lady of the Rosary News

Collections: This week – Day for Life

Next week - Lay Training Fund

ANNIVERSARIES

St Mary's: James Armstrong, Teresa Roberts, Christine Sproson, Bernard McDermott Thomas Patrick Welsh, James Joseph Toole, Maurice Ryans, Maria Farrell, Olwyn Marie Oates, Gwendoline McElhone, Elizabeth Richardson, Mary O'Hagan, Winifred Arthurs, John Murray, John O'Neill, Anne Rushgrove, Margaret Ross, orah May Dougherty, Martin Laverty, John McNeill, John Bell, Patrick Green, Sean Mitcheson, Joseph Creegan, Victoria Kate Phillips, Albert Williams, Patrick Healey, John Grant.

Our Lady of the Rosary: Fr. John Kelly, Nellie McNally, Winifred Arthurs, James Bertram Nicholson, Patrick Healey Jnr, James McNally

St. Patrick's: Jim Crozier, Vera Teasdale, Margaret Haggarth, Teresa Clark, Christopher Langdon, Agnes Fowler, Frances Ann Sloane, Mary Murray, Ned Joyce, Mary Graham, Jason Peter Thorpe, Charlotte Irwin, Martin Young, William Miller, James Edward Hunter, Bill Hunter, Maureen Hughes, Joyce Price, Clive Robson, Terence Dumigan, Catherine Ann Patterson, Bernard McGuinness, Stephen Breen, Teresa Rossi, Nellie McNally.

St Pius: Charles Akers, Albert Hanson, Rosemary Murphy.

Our Lady & St Joseph's: Charles Cullen, Ralph Wilks, George Fountain, John Clark, Rita McCabe, Pat Matthews, Rosa Matthews, Kenneth Lowerson, Fr. Michael Keoghan, Marie McShane, Mary Bell (nee Grogan), Joan McNally.

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.

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)

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'