

18th Sunday of the Year - 3rd August 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, Lancaster - All Saints, Moorside - St. Plus X, Shotley Bridge - Our Lady of the Rosary

The impermanence of worldly possessions

This Sunday's readings offer valuable insights that resonate with our daily lives.

In our first reading, the author of Ecclesiastes reflects on the vanity of worldly pursuits. Everything we accumulate - wealth, possessions, and achievements - ultimately fades away. True fulfilment lies beyond material things.

The psalm today invites us to listen to God's voice and not harden our hearts. Our days are numbered, and it's essential to recognise the eternal perspective beyond our earthly existence.

St. Paul reminds us in our second reading that our identity transcends worldly divisions. In Christ, there is no distinction between Greek or Jew; we are all one. Our focus should be on heavenly things.

In our Gospel reading, Jesus tells a parable about a rich man who accumulates wealth but neglects the needs of others. His life revolves around possessions, yet he loses everything when his life is taken away. Jesus emphasises that true life doesn't consist of material wealth, but in sharing what we have with others. "*You fool,*" God says, highlighting the man's shortsightedness. We are called to be rich in what matters to God - compassion, generosity, and love for others.

This Sunday's readings invite us to reflect on the impermanence of worldly possessions and the importance of living for eternal values. Let's strive to be rich in what truly matters, sharing our blessings with those around us.

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: Join us at St. Pius X as we explore 'Ways of Praying' with Fr. Stephen Wang. 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 **Men's Social Group – 'The Friday Fellas'** Thank you to those partnership members who have expressed an interest in attending a monthly men's social group in the lounge of St. Patrick's Church Hall on a Friday evening, 6.30 – 8pm. The first meeting will be held in September, date to be announced soon in this newsletter. We look forward to seeing you!

Walsingham Pilgrimage 8th – 11th August: 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. You can leave your cases in the Porch. Also please note that there is limited room on the bus if you could keep your luggage to a minimum using a small case. Thank you

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.

Job Vacancy Caretaker: 7.5 hours per week, some unsociable hours required. £12.21 per hour. Based at St Patricks Hall, Consett. To undertake a range of caretaking and security duties including opening and lock up for Hirers, setting up tables and chairs for user groups and clearing furniture after bookings when required, emptying hall bins and putting main bins out weekly. You will also identify repairs needed throughout the building and report these to the Hall Trustee. You will follow all security procedures, reporting misuse or deviation from policy to the Trustee immediately. You must be fully aware of Health and Safety procedures and policies and ensure that all chemicals used in performance of the job are securely stored. You will also be required to adhere to the provisions of the Data Protection Act 2018 and the GDPR 2016. For further information and to apply please email stpatrickshallconsett@gmail.com or contact the Hall Mobile Number on 07517 929658

Around the Diocese

Visitation of the Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima and the Relics of SS. Jacinta and Francisco: will visit St. Mary's Cathedral in Newcastle on Saturday, 13th September, 2025. Leaflets available with more information at the back of the Church.

"Alive In Hope: A Church For Mission": A Jubilee Day in our Diocese, will take place at Cardinal Hume Catholic School on Durham Road, Gateshead, NE9 6RZ, on Saturday, 27th September, from 10am-3pm. This will include: Exposition; Guest Speakers; a choice of Seminars; Music and a Marketplace showcasing Catholic groups and organisations. Free entry, BUT registration

is required. Please bring a packed lunch. For more information see the leaflet at the back of Church and/or email: formation.mission@diocesehn.org.uk

St Mary's News

Collections: This week – St Mary's school - Buddy Bench

St Mary's school children will be at back of church with a basket for the collection. Thank you for your kindness and generosity.

Lately Deceased: John McDonald, Patrick Smith and Catherine Corr. Please pray for them and their families at this sad time.

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

Fundraising for Starving Children: Eileen Willis would like any ideas parishioners have in aid to raise funds for the starving children in Gaza. Please come along to Orchard Cottage Spa grounds, Shotley Bridge DH8 0TN (near cricket club) on Wednesday September 10th at 7.30pm. Tea, biscuits and any ideas you have. Everyone welcome, thank you! Eileen Willis.

Summer Fete: thank you to all who helped in any way, and supported our summer fete. A total of £2550 was raised. Well done everybody.

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:" will resume on Thursday August 21st. Thank you for your continued support.

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

St Patrick's News

Collections: This week – Garden Care

Next week - Welfare Fund

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.

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 31st August after 9.15am Mass all welcome in the Church Hall Lounge for Bacon Sandwiches, Tea and Coffee.

300 Club Winners for July: £20. No. 89 Lorna Laxton £15. No. 58 Sheila Reed £10. No. 83 Ann Lumley £10. No. 39 Teresa Dawson

Brooms - Our Lady and St Joseph's News

Collections: This week – Cemetery Fund

Next week - Welfare Fund

The collection for the Brooms Cemetery Fund, raised £90, 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.

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.

Thank you: The family of the late Peter Walls would like to thank everyone for the collection at Peter's funeral which raised £212 for Willow Burn Hospice.

St Pius News

Collections: This week – Garden Care

Next week - Welfare Fund

Lately Deceased: Robert Nixon. Please pray for him and his family at this sad time.

Holy Rosary Hour: The next one will be held on Monday 25th August at 6pm.

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

Children's Liturgy: We will be having a break over the summer Holidays and return in September.

Our Lady of the Rosary News

Collections: This week – St Mary's School - Buddy Bench

Fundraising for Starving Children: Eileen Willis would like any ideas parishioners have in aid to raise funds for the starving children in Gaza. Please come along to Orchard Cottage Spa grounds, Shotley Bridge DH8 0TN (near cricket club) on Wednesday September 10th at 7.30pm. Tea, biscuits and any ideas you have. Everyone welcome, thank you! Eileen Willis.

ANNIVERSARIES

St Mary's: Joseph Clifford, Georgina Devanney, Mary Knowles, Ellen Veronica Armstrong, Donald Murray, James William Oliver, Elizabeth Jones, Francis Rogan, Maria Sullivan, Thomas Sydney Thirlwell, Marie McElhone, Ann (Nancy) McElrue, Kenneth McElrue, Sadie Anderson, William Kennedy, Raimund Johan Allan Miros, Monica Clifford, Margaret Lisle, Stuart Campbell.

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

St. Patrick's: Thomas Murray, Larna Hobson, Gus McArdle, Andrew Hanson, Maureen Fox, Ronald Harris, Brian Murphy, Margaret Joan Furness, Oswald Johnson, Dennis McDonagh, Moira Dyer, Patricia Colburne, Kathleen Goldsmith, Rose McElhatton, James Stanyer, James Bramwell, Mary Anne Mulligan, Lawrence Boyle, Dorothy Malone.

St Pius: Helen Beckham, Patricia Bell, William Campbell, David Collins, Ronald Kelly, Chris Matthews, Frank McGuigan, Brian Murphy.

Our Lady & St Joseph's: Noel Clarke, Mary Williamson, Betty Dodds, Jimmy Hayes, Kirsty Dixon, Bernadette McKenna, Gerard Cullen.

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, 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, 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'