

28th Sunday of the Year - 12th October 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, Lanchester - All Saints, Moorside - St. Pius X, Shotley Bridge - Our Lady of the Rosary

Giving Thanks

Joni Mitchell, the great singer-songwriter, wrote, "You don't know what you've got 'til it's gone." In a single line, she captured the unfortunate reality that we all take so many things for granted. Instead of being aware of, and grateful for, what we have, we often only appreciate things when they're missing – or perhaps when we've lost someone or something.

We can say the same about the practice of gratitude – we recognise its importance when we experience its absence or its opposite. There's something lovely about gratitude, just as there's something ugly about ingratitude or an arrogant sense of entitlement.

Today's Gospel story of the ten lepers is a great illustration of how important expressing our gratitude is. "One of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks." This man expresses his gratitude at the top of his voice, happy for all to hear.

He has no qualms about letting the world know that something wonderful, unexpected and undeserved has happened. His thanksgiving is wholehearted and joyful, and he freely recognises that he owes the Lord a huge debt of gratitude. He realises that God is present and active both in his healing and in the person of Jesus, the one who healed him by the power of God.

This can be our approach in life, too. After all, everything we have and are comes to us as an undeserved gift from God, not because we've earned it or are entitled to it. As the Trappist monk Thomas Merton said, "To be grateful is to recognise the love of God in everything God has given us – and God has given us everything."

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.

Bereavement Mass: To be held on 8th November 2025 at 10am at St Patrick's Church Consett for those family and friends that have died in the previous twelve months and their funerals have been held at St Patrick's Consett, St Pius X Moorside and Brooms Our lady & St Joseph Leadgate. This is an opportunity for families and friends who have experienced bereavement to gather and receive prayerful support from the parish community and from one another.

Mass for the Deceased: In memory of loved ones who have died over the last year from St Mary's and Our Lady of the Rosary parishes, will be held in St Mary's church on Tuesday 4th November at 6.30pm.

Mobile Phones: Kind Request to please remember to put your mobile phones on silent when you are in church. Ring tones and messaging sounds disturb people who are trying to pray.

Friday Fellas Men's Group: The next meeting in the lounge of St. Patrick's Hall will be on Friday 31st October and then every last Friday of the month.

Religious items: Wanted for the developing World. Rosaries, Holy Pictures, Statues no bigger than 12" Prayer books and bibles. Drop off at your local Church. We can also arrange collection. Please contact Catherine Williamson 07340 922246.

Edinburgh Trip: Wednesday November 19th a trip to Edinburgh Including Christmas Market cost will be £20 per person. Book early as places are limited. £20 fare - telephone St. Patrick's 01207 502196 to book a place, on Monday, Thursday or Friday. Pay later using envelopes from church.

Partnership Christmas Lunch: Tuesday December 9th 12 noon to be held at the Jolly Drivers, Leadgate. £5 deposit per person on booking. 2 Courses £24.95 or 3 Courses £29.95. Menus are available (starter to be chosen when paying a deposit) at the back of church along with envelopes which can be handed into the Parish Office at St Patrick's and St Mary's. Please Book Early Number of Places are Limited.

SVP Raffle Tickets for the National Summer SVP raffle: Thank you to everyone who purchased the raffle tickets for the draw. £90K was raised nationally! Your efforts and generosity really do make a difference. The draw has been made and the winning numbers are:

£5,000 – 300859, **£1,000** – 365653, **£100** (x15) - 322506, 322507, 307650, 407959, 361369, 361365, 350426, 306077, 348289, 404253, 410944, 432230, 418101, 315958, 374951.

SVP Christmas Cards: are on sale on the piety stall at the back of church, including the National Youth SVP Christmas card winner from St Bede's. (Leyla, Year 12)

SVP Information: The Saint Vincent de Paul (SVP) is a Charitable Voluntary Community Group based at St Mary's Blackhill who serve the West Derwentside Partnership with support and kindness. They are available for home visits and assistance. If you feel that you need the help of the SVP their telephone number is 07377 259724.

World Day of Prayer: Coffee Morning Saturday 25th October at 10am at Consett Methodist Church. Tickets £1 available from Geraldine Brown or Bernadette Bowley at St Patrick's. All are Welcome.

Make Your Giving Go Further with Gift Aid: Did you know that if you're a UK taxpayer, your donations to the parish can go even further at **no extra cost to you**? With Gift Aid, the

government adds 25% to your gift, helping us support our church, ministries, and community projects even more! It's simple to sign up and makes a huge difference: Your regular donations go further. You help the parish care for our community and facilities. It costs you nothing extra! Sign up today by contacting your local parish Gift Aid Organiser or visit <https://forms.office.com/e/BrxQTPnn3a?origin=IprLink> Together, we can strengthen our parish and continue our mission to serve God and our community. Thank you for your generosity!

Around the Diocese

"All Saints' Day: Brunch by the Sea" – 1 November 2025: An invitation for women in the Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle to come together to share brunch and a time of prayer and reflection led by Sr Sheila McNamara. '11am – 1pm on Saturday 1st November at St Cuthbert's, Albion Road West, North Shields, NE29 OJB'. Please bring pastries, fruit or other to contribute to the bring and share brunch table. To RSVP or for more information please contact: Mary (mmadziva@ymt.org) or Amy (formation.mission@diocesehn.org.uk).

St Mary's News

Collections: This week – SVP

Next week – World Mission Sunday

Lately Deceased: Audrey Johnson and Mary Helsby (nee Lux) Please pray for them and their families at this sad time.

Sanctuary Candle: will burn 'In Loving Memory of Sara Jayne Quinn (birthday remembrance)'

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

Sunday Breakfast Club will be operating after Mass on Sunday 19th of October. Tea/Coffee, Toast, Sausage and Bacon sandwiches.

Thursday Welcome Group: has resumed on Thursdays with lunch and entertainment. Thank you for your support.

Music Night: on Saturday 15th November with music and singing by the 'Whistle Testers'.

More information later.

Fundraising for Starving Children Appeal: Christmas Fayre in aid of the appeal on Saturday 1st November at the Kennedy Care Centre. Tables to hire £10 each.

St Patrick's News

Collections: This Week: CAFOD Family Fast

Next week – World Mission Sunday

Lately Deceased: Kathleen James. Please pray for her and her family at this sad time.

Children's Liturgy: The Children's Liturgy takes place at St Patrick's on the first Sunday of each month. Please encourage your children to join in as they will enjoy learning and understanding about the Gospel. A special thank you goes to those who support and lead the liturgy.

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. Money raised from the items in the box will be used for Good Causes. Please make sure that you only put in the box the items listed.

300 Club Membership 2025/2026: Please renew your membership as soon as possible. The first draw will take place at the end of October 2025 and then on the last Saturday of every following month. Subscriptions are £1 per number to be paid yearly at £12.

300 Club September Winners: 1st £20 No 86 Mary Slee 2nd £15 No 74 Michael Curran
3rd £10 No 38 Veronica O'Neill 4th £10 No 77 Max Walls

Red Mission Boxes: Please bring your box to Church for counting. I would be grateful if you could make sure your name is on the box, together with a note of which church you attend to

enable the boxes to be returned once emptied. Thank you. Sue McGee.

Christmas Fayre: Our Christmas Fayre will be held on 22nd November from 1pm. We are looking for donations of Bottles of Wines & Spirits, Tombola Prizes (no bric a brac required). We would also like donations of nearly new (or new) toys and games. Raffle tickets will be on sale at the back of the church for the Bottle Draw at £1 each.

New Card Donation Portal: We have decided to move into the 21st Century and have installed a Card Portal Contactless or Chip & Pin Terminal at the back of the church. This will allow you to swipe your card donating your chosen amount. You can even gift aid your donation. The portal accepts all major payment cards and it is user friendly and secure.

Brooms - Our Lady and St Joseph's News

Collections: Next week - CAFOD Family Fast Next week – World Mission Sunday

The collection for the Daughters of Divine Love raised £335, thank you for your very generous support.

Lately Deceased: Anne Moore. Please pray for her and her family at this sad time.

People's Kitchen: 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.

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 has now closed and thanks to your very generous support raised a grand total of £1,593.

Astrid Reeves: Some Brooms parishioners will remember Astrid Reeves, who was the Broom's church organist for some years. Her funeral Mass will take place at Our Lady & St. Thomas church, Wolsingham at 10am on Monday 6th October.

St Pius News

Collections: This Week - CAFOD Family Fast Next week – World Mission Sunday

Children's Liturgy: Our Children's Liturgy is held every Sunday. If you would like to volunteer to help or lead the Liturgy please see Lisa Hicks.

Holy Rosary Hour: The next one will be held on Monday evening 27th October at 6.00pm.

Red Mission Boxes: Please bring your box to Church for counting. I would be grateful if you could make sure your name is on the box, together with a note of which church you attend to enable the boxes to be returned once emptied. Thank you. Sue McGee.

Lions Club Raffle: Tickets on sale at the back of the church on Sunday. £5 a book or, £1 Ticket. Profits go to our parish funds. Thank you.

Our Lady of the Rosary News

Collections: This week – SVP Next week – World Mission Sunday

Holy Rosary: will be said on Tuesday 14th October at 9.30am, Mass at 10.00am, followed by the Coffee Morning, tea/coffee/raffle

ANNIVERSARIES

St Mary's: Margaret Jane Williams, Nellie Darroch, Theresa Cassidy, Carmela Graham, James Glancy, Bernard Toner, Joseph Robinson, John Robert Cavanagh, Elizabeth Marshall, Edward McGeoghan, Mary Brannigan, John Anthony McArdle, Cecilia Thirlwell, Ursula Bell, Thomas Campbell, Mary Hogg, Conor Robinson, Jane Smith, Ellen White, John William Barrie, James Ronald Johnson, Hannah Conney, Mary Campbell, Ada Malone, Ellen Shotton, Peter McGuckin, Mary Hogg, Morris Atkinson, George Teasdale Rutter.

Our Lady of the Rosary: John Wilfred Smith, David Bradley, Neil McKie (snr), Desmond McNally, Alice Bell, Bill Storey, Jenny Clark, John Jack Walker.

St. Patrick's: Madge Davis, Richard Harrop, Nancy McCourt, Mary Hogg, John Andrew Boyle, Hannah Conney, Michael Slee, John Lee, Kevin Curley, Kitty Westgarth, Bryan Woods, Sheila Gibson, Terry Carr, Jane Pratt, Terence Sewell, Maria Rodrigues, Horace George Burr, Marie Rafferty, Michael Byrne, Joseph McKenna, Mary Wilson, Philomena Lee, David Webb, Margaret Alice Bowman, Joan Richardson, James Kenneth Makin.

St Pius: James Bramwell, Doreen Brown, Matthew Carter, Billy Cosgrove, Hazel Cousins, Hilda Eve Davis, Arthur Donaghy, Pauline Evans, William Fairbairn, Jane Haughey, Ella Kerr, John Kerr, Margaret E Newton, Bob Parkin, Gerard Pinkney, Thomas Phillips, Hilda Ratchford, Paddy Thorpe, Benjamin Townson, Nicholas Townson, Ann Watson, Jenny Welsh, Bernard White

Our Lady & St Joseph's: Michael Richardson, Owen Clark, Madge Price, Joseph Christopher Fountain, Richard O'Connor, Rose Callaghan, Jack Shannon, Austin Fail, Ann Gill, Rosemary Naylor, Marie Hughes, Brian Farley.

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, 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, Teresa Easton, John Haney.

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, 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.

Our Lady & St Joseph's: John Watson.

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'