

All Saints Day - 2nd November 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, Lancaster - All Saints, Moorside - St. Pius X, Shotley Bridge - Our Lady of the Rosary

For All the Saints

Our English word “saint” comes from the Latin word “sanctus”, which means “holy” or “belonging to God”. Traditionally therefore, Christians have identified saints with the “elect”, those souls—both human and angelic—which God recognises as kindred, and with whom he has chosen to share everlasting life.

The Roman Catholic Church has formally canonised several thousand people who have lived lives of outstanding holiness and whose closeness to God has been demonstrated by miraculous signs, often during the course of their earthly lives, and then also after their passing. But the Church also hopes and believes that God’s elect vastly outnumber those who have been formally recognised—that the saints include all those people whose holiness was, and is, very real, even if it never gained widespread acknowledgement. We probably all have departed loved ones who have shown us so much love and given us good examples and inspiration for our own spiritual lives. We can be very hopeful that they are also numbered among the saints. And this feast belongs to them just as much as it does to the great luminaries.

Furthermore, although we may feel that those who have come before us have set a pretty high bar, we can also hope to join the communion of saints one day ourselves. Two popular proverbs are worth noting: 1) “Every saint has a past, and every sinner has a future”; and 2) “Saints are sinners who keep trying.” Apart from Jesus and Mary, no soul in Heaven has lived an absolutely perfect life. The most important thing that marks a saint is that, in the course of life, they have **grown** into a deep love for God and for other people; a love that has expressed itself in word and deed; a love that has prepared them to receive the grace that will empower them share in God’s own perfect love for all eternity.

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. There will be Refreshments served in the Hall Lounge afterwards. All are welcome.

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 28th November.

Religious items: Thank you to everyone who contributed. At the back of the church is a poster explaining the ministry of 'The Host Apostolate'. I will begin collecting next spring. If anyone wants to offer monetary gifts the details are on the poster.

Edinburgh Trip: **Is now fully booked.** Travel details are to follow.

Pilgrimage to Medjugorje: Flying from Newcastle on Sunday 28th June return Sunday 5th July 2026. Cost £839 sharing, £979 single room. More details on the notice board or ring Margaret on 07944288655.

Partnership Christmas Lunch: Tuesday December 9th 12 noon to be held at the Jolly Drovers, 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 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.

Service of Blessing of Graves. On Saturday November 1st Father John will lead a prayer service at Blackhill Cemetery which will include Holy Rosary and reflections from scripture. Gather for a prompt start at 2.30pm outside the house at the main entrance. Car parking is very limited because we cannot block inward or outer traffic flow of other visitors. Nearest bus stop is the Cricketers Pub on the X45 bus route from Consett Bus Station. Come prepared for any adverse Autumn weather conditions!.

St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP): Is a caring and committed charitable organisation serving the West Derwentside Partnership area, based at St Mary's, Blackhill. SVP offers both practical and spiritual support to those who may be facing challenges or feeling isolated. If you know of a family or individual who might benefit from a regular visit in their own home, sheltered housing or a care home—whether for a friendly chat, a helping hand, or spiritual companionship. You can email us at: PresidentC210301@svp.org.uk or leave a message with your name and contact number on 07377 259724. We also warmly welcome anyone who feels

called to join us in making a meaningful difference in our community. Together, we can bring hope, comfort, and kindness to those who need it most.

The Bugle Comic and Exhibition. Father John and St. Patrick's parishioner Phil Bartle have written and drawn a comic book called The Bugle. Described as 'Slackdale's super comic for grown-up boys and girls', it should appeal to anyone who grew up reading The Beano or The Dandy. The Bugle will be launched with an exhibition of original artwork by Fr John and Phil, along with live entertainment on the evening of Friday November 14th at Consett Heart - Heritage and Arts Centre in John Street, Consett. All are welcome from 6.30pm onwards. The exhibition will run for two weeks and the comic book will also be available to buy online and in Partnership churches.

Around the Diocese

Significance Grand Draw: Thank you to all who have supported the Draw which closes on Friday 14th November. Ticket stubs and payment should be returned to Significance, Emmaus Village, Pemberton Road, Allensford, Consett DH8 9BA. Cheques payable to Significance. Payment can also be made by bank transfer: Significance Sort Code: 52-30-44 Account Number: 46107363. Please put your name as reference. The Draw, which will be live streamed, takes place on Youth Sunday 23rd November at St Mary's Hexham. Please email significance316@gmail.com for further information or to buy tickets.

Day of Consolation: At Minsteracres on Tuesday 11th November from 10am to 4pm. A poignant retreat day for people who have experienced bereavement, grief loss or significant change. This day will offer an opportunity to share a safe space, to be heard, to share with others who have had similar experiences and to hopefully find courage, hope and consolation. Lunch and refreshments are included. Suggested Donation £40 To book visit:

<https://minsteracres.org/product/day-of-consolation-with-chris-smith-november2025/>

St Mary's News

Collections: This Week -Clergy Training Fund Next week – The Clergy Training Fund
Legion of Mary: will say the Holy Rosary and Legion prayers on Tuesday evenings at 6pm.

Parish Council Meeting: Our next 'Joint Parish Council' meeting for St Mary's and Our Lady of the Rosary will take place in the presbytery at St Mary's on Tuesday 11th November at 7.15pm

Gaza Appeal Remembrance Tree: You might wish to remember a deceased loved one during November by making a donation in their memory and hanging a dove in their name on our remembrance tree. It will be situated in the entrance to our hall, and you can access it on Wednesday and Thursday mornings. All donations will go to CAFOD specifically to aid relief efforts in Gaza. Instructions, doves, pens and envelopes will be with the tree. Thank you.

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

Music Night: The Kennedy Care presents 'Whistle Testers' on Saturday November 15th, doors open 6.30pm. Bar, Bingo and Raffle. Tickets £5. There is a box at the back of the church for anyone wishing to donate a raffle prize. Thank you all.

Light a Candle on the Christmas Tree: remembering a loved one, cost £2 per name/s. All Names read out on 21st December Sunday Mass. Please see Joan Devanney.

Flowers For Christmas: Christmas flower demonstration by Val Guest in the JFK Centre on Wednesday 12th November at 2pm. Cost £9 (includes refreshments). There will also be a raffle for a flower arrangement/ hamper raffle and other donated gifts.

St Patrick's News

Collections: This Week: Clergy Training Fund

Next week – Clergy Training Fund

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.

300 Club Membership 2025/2026: **LAST CHANCE** Please renew your membership as soon as possible. Subscriptions are £1 per number to be paid yearly at £12.

St Patrick's Hall Tea on Tuesday: Come along and join us on Tuesday 4th November 2.00pm at St Patrick's Church Hall for Tea, Coffee and Cake bring your friends and family too as there will be bingo and a raffle everyone is welcome.

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. We are also looking for volunteers on the day please, any help is greatly appreciated.

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.

Knitted Baskets: Knitting patterns and wool are available at the back of St. Patrick's to make Christmas Gift Baskets. Thank you and well done to those who have already made some!

Red Boxes: We have this week banked £373.00 from our Parish. Empty boxes are in the entrance for collection.

Brooms - Our Lady and St Joseph's News

Collections: Next week - Clergy Training Fund

Next week – Clergy Training Fund

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 this week.

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.

St Pius News

Collections: This Week - Clergy Training Fund

Next week – The Clergy Training Fund

Lately Deceased: Michael Kilty. Please pray for him and his family at this sad time

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 24th November at 6.00pm.

Red Boxes: We have this week banked £492.00 from our Parish. Empty boxes are in the entrance for collection.

Our Lady of the Rosary News

Collections: This week – Clergy Training Fund

Next week – The Clergy Training Fund

Parish Council Meeting: Our next 'Joint Parish Council' meeting for St Mary's and Our Lady of the Rosary will take place in the presbytery at St Mary's on Tuesday 11th November at 7.15pm.

ANNIVERSARIES

St Mary's: Sheila Williams, Annie Kelly, Vera Longhorne, Mary Page, Edward M^cKie, Elsie Shannon, Ann Dodd, Christina Corr, Bridget Alderson, Alan Willis, Anne Lavery, Susan Bell, Rosetta May Gully, James Peter Anderson, Eileen Clare Watson, Michael McVeigh, Peter Mathew Cassidy, Joan Veronica Lewthwaite, (Baby) Luke John McCann, Anthony Grugan, Toby Rea

Our Lady of the Rosary: Anne Graham (nee Barron), Ted McKie, Annie Kelly, Lyndsay Morton, Ray Watson, Eileen Mary Carr (nee Nicholson), Joseph McKie, Mary Davison.

St. Patrick's: Dominic McGurk, Mary Burnage, Mary Theresa Hughes, Joseph Raw, Flora Nimmons, Tommy O'Neill, Mary Donaghy, Alan Foley, Gerard Slavin, Moira Reed, Brian Rogan, James Fail, James Kerr, Ellen Parker, Nancy Collins, John Harpin, Stephen Fenwick, John Haggon, Bill Kennedy, Betty Mitcheson, Jeanne Marie Philips, Frances Ronald Lovett, Margaret McArdle, Maureen Rose, Peter Boyle, Terence Curran.

St Pius: Michael Agnew, Leonard Crawley, Catherine Hall, Margaret Murray, Flora (Flo) Nimmons, James Walker

Our Lady & St Joseph's: Ged Doughan, Sydney Fountain, Norman Henderson, Laura Mallon, Graeme Dimmick.

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.

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:

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'