

2nd Sunday of Lent - 1st March 2026

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. Flus X, Shotley Bridge - Our Lady of the Rosary

Listen to Him!

"This is my Beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; Listen to Him!" The voice on the Mountain of the Transfiguration, the voice of God the Father, who we hear today, was not speaking to Jesus. God's voice was not speaking to Moses and it was not speaking to Elijah. No, those words, "This is my Beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; Listen to Him," was directed to the disciples Peter, James and John. The voice is directed to all disciples. The voice is directed to each of us.

We have been called to be Christians. We have been called to listen to the voice of Christ and follow him in every aspect of our lives, until our part in God's plan is complete.

Whether we are married, single, working or retired we are all called to live our lives not just in an ordinary, run-of-the-mill way, but instead by following a better way, by listening to the voice and teaching of Jesus.

During this Sunday in Lent, we are reminded of the message on that mountain, the Mountain of the Transfiguration: "This is my Beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; Listen to Him." We remember the message. We can consider how well we have listened, how well we are listening. And we can leave the mountain with the other disciples, determined to complete the role set aside for each one of us - our role, in God's plan. We can leave the mountain this Sunday determined to embrace a life worth living.

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 502023.

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.

Homeless in Derwentside: there has been an increase in homelessness in Derwentside, so once more your generous help is needed for thermal wear/waterproofs/toiletries/thermal flasks. A 71yr old man has finally got a bungalow and is needing help with furnishing it. Any help would be greatly appreciated. For any information about this appeal please contact Jean Coates 07521 404924.

Events

Pontop Partnership at the Kennedy Care Centre: Presents an Irish Evening on Saturday 14th March 2026. Tickets £5. Bar/bingo/raffle. Doors open at 6.30pm. Donations for raffle can be placed at the back of St Mary's church. Thank you

Lourdes Youth Fundraiser: Saturday 21st March – Consett St. Patrick's Hall - Join us in supporting an Altar Server from St Teresa's Annfield Plain, as he prepares to travel to Lourdes this summer to serve the sick and assisted pilgrims with the diocese. Enjoy an evening of music with Consett Citizens Choir, plus bingo, a raffle, and a licensed bar. Tickets on sale from St Patrick's Parish Office and St Mary's after Mass £6. All are welcome.

World Day of Prayer 2026: World Day of Prayer is a global ecumenical movement led by Christian women who join in prayer and action for peace and justice. This year's annual World Day of Prayer Service will be held at **Consett Methodist Church at 2pm on Friday 6th March**. Representatives from Christian churches in the area, including St Patrick's, will lead the service. All are warmly invited.

Lenten Talks - Guest Speaker: - Wednesday 19th March - All Saints and Wednesday 25th March - St Teresa's. These talks will be delivered by a guest speaker **Fr Damian Cassidy a Carmelite Friar** and gifted preacher. **Each evening will begin with Mass at 6:30pm and the talk will follow in the hall after Mass.** Light Refreshments will be served. This is a great way to prepare ourselves for Easter. Donations will be collected to support the important work of the Carmelites in our diocese. Please support this great opportunity in our partnership. All are welcome.

Groups

Newsletter Volunteers: Help is needed with the compiling and printing of the weekly newsletter. It is hoped that with enough volunteers we can set up a rota of people to cover the month, so once every four weeks for anyone who is willing and able. Training will be given with the printers. Anyone who knows their way around a computer would be welcome in compiling the newsletter and, as with the printing, could go on a monthly rota.

West Pontop Partnership (SVP): We warmly invite anyone who may be interested in joining the St Vincent de Paul Society to consider becoming involved. Membership offers a rewarding opportunity to serve others, grow in compassion and friendship, and make a real difference within our local community. We also encourage anyone who may know individuals or families in need of support to get in touch, so that help can reach those who would most benefit. The SVP continues to visit individuals and families across the west PP, offering friendship alongside

practical and spiritual support. You can email us at: PresidentC210301@svp.org.uk or phone - 07377 259724.

Pilgrimages

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.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes: Friday 31st July – Friday 7th August 2026 Celebrating our Centenary Year. It would help our Tour Operator (Tangney Tours) greatly if you could fill in the pre-registration form on their website if you are contemplating travelling with them. Please note, this is pre-registration, it does not mean you have booked your place. Please follow the link below. <https://www.tangney-tours.com/dioces.../diocese-newcastle-2/> or phone 01732 886 666

Knock Pilgrimage: There will be a **meeting at Lanchester Parish Centre, Kitswell Road Lanchester, Thursday 19th March 2 p.m.** Payments of the final balance by cheque or cash – single £540 and Double/Twin £440 per person. Cheques made payable to **All Saints R.C. Church**. Details of timings, visits and arrangements issued. Contact: Michael, 07787726306, Lestrine:07778656662

Around the Diocese

Holy Island SVP Summer Camps 2026: Applications are now open for children in school Years 5-7 for Holy Island Summer Camps. The children spend a week in our centre on the island over the Summer holidays. Transport takes the children from Tyneside to our residential centre and all meals, accommodation and activities are included in the cost. For more information please visit our website: Holy Island SVP Vinnies Camp <https://svp.org.uk/microsite/ozanam-camp>

St Mary's News

Collections: This Week – CAFOD Family Fast Day

Next week - Lenten Alms

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

Volunteering: If you would like to give an hour or two by helping the various parish groups please drop a note or contact the parish office. *Flower Group:* a rota system is in place. *Church cleaning:* fortnightly. *Welcomer:* weekly on a Sunday. *Altar Server:* when available. *Sacristan:* rota system.

300 Club: 2026 Subs: are now due. Collecting after Masses for the next few weeks. New members are urgently needed, only £12 a year per number. Please see Jimmy or Julie.

St Patrick's News

Collections: This Week – CAFOD Family Fast Day

Next Week - Lenten Alms

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.

Church Hall Volunteers: We require Volunteers for the Church Hall to help with setting up for the many groups that use the Hall the more Volunteers we get we will be able to prepare a rota. Please contact the Hall Mobile Number 07517 929658 for more information.

Lenten Soup Lunches: This year the soup lunches will be held on each **Friday** in Lent following Stations of the Cross. Come into St Patrick's Hall Lounge for a bowl of delicious homemade

soup, tea/coffee and a chat. Donations of a pan of soup will be greatly received please bring to the hall lounge before Mass. All proceeds go to CAFOD and St Patrick's Church.

St Patrick's Hall Tea on Tuesday: Come along and join us on Tuesday 3rd March 2.00pm at St. Patrick's Church Hall for Tea, Coffee and Cake bring your friends and family too.

Sunday Coffee Morning: Sunday 29th March after 9.15am Mass all welcome in the Church Hall Lounge for Bacon Sandwiches, Tea and Coffee.

Novena to St Patrick: A Novena to St Patrick will be held after morning Masses from Sunday March 8th to March 16th. We hope to re-tell the life story of St Patrick via readings, symbols and prayers. All are welcome to join us.

Brooms - Our Lady and St Joseph's News

Collections: This Week – CAFOD Family Fast Day Next Week - Lenten Alms

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.

Lenten Soup Lunches: This year the Lenten soup lunches take place over 3 weeks in March. On **March 13th** the soup lunch will be held at Leadgate Methodist Church and hosted by the Methodist and St Ives. **March 20th** the Lenten lunch is hosted by Brooms at the Salvation Army Hall and on **March 27th**, the soup lunch is hosted by Salvation Army at the Salvation Army Hall.

St Pius News

Collections: This Week – CAFOD Family Fast Day Next Week - Lenten Alms

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: will be held on Monday 30th March at 6.00pm

Exposition on Wednesday: Commences at 5.45pm until further notice.

Stations of the Cross: Stations of the Cross will be held every Friday in Lent at 6pm. All are welcome.

Our Lady of the Rosary News

Collections: This Week – CAFOD Family Fast Day Next week - Lenten Alms

ANNIVERSARIES

St Mary's: Catherine Smyth, Bernadette Bell, Vera Quinn, John Richardson, Peter Grugan, Isabella Agnew, Anne Kathleen Jennings, Hugh Adams, William Eccles, Bernadette Maureen Wilson, Kevin Bewick, Annie O'Brien, Jean Elizabeth Robins, Betty Page, Kathleen Clarke, Sheila Clifford, James Clifford, Teresa Maureen Campbell, Norah Luck, Judith Anne Hagan, Frances Anne Kelly, Joseph Clifford, Margaret Regan, Adeline (Addie) Dick, Peter Murphy, Deborah Frances Clarke.

Our Lady of the Rosary: Edward Grogan, Anthony Fountain, Joseph Liddel Snr. Gerard McCabe, Doreen Peveller, Thomas Williamson, Brian Gregerson, Austin Laurie, Terese Hannon, Jade Elizabeth Robinson, Janice Hall.

St. Patrick's: Susan Boyle, Michael Jones, Charles Edwin Clark, Kathleen Veronica McNally, Joan Readman, Patricia Beattie, Lee John Wiles, Thomas Conroy, Alice McCourt, Catherine Clarke, Terry Reed, Alfie Lister, John McKean, Judith Kennedy, Peter Dodds, Mark Murphy, Carol Flynn, James Clarke, Jim McArdle, Claire Watson, Ann Clarke, Margaret Ellen Dodd, Anne McClafferty.

St Pius: Kathleen Agnew, Mary Ellen Akers, John Dorritt, Margaret Forster, Irene Theresa Glancy, Margaret Hull, Emily McGuigan, Gary Sharp, Linda Thompson, Sarah Watson.

Our Lady & St Joseph's: Bob Hewitson, Margaret Shannon, Jim O'Neill, Julie Tonks (Cullen), Marian Richardson, Michael Lucy, Margaret Storey, Sarah E. Fountain, Norma Clark, Maria Herdman, Les Slavin, Joseph Liddell Jnr. Andrew Farley, Owen Lee, Terence O'Loughrin, John Walls, Margaret Turnbull, Angela Cox, Aileen Bartle, Teresa Akers.

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, Kathleen Bowman, Teresa Kelly, Ronan Lawson (Aged 7).

Our Lady of the Rosary: James Baker.

St. Patrick's: Eileen Fish, Margaret Heslop, Anna Bradley, Cheryl Reily, Judith Hindmarsh, Andrew Bates, Sienna Jane McNestry, Joan O'Keefe, Joan Wilson, Alan McCullagh, Terry Maguire, Katrina Tuckwell.

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'