

## 5th Sunday of Easter - 3rd May 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. Pius X, Shotley Bridge - Our Lady of the Rosary

### Diakonia for all

There is nothing new under the Sun. In our reading from the Acts of the Apostles we hear how the work of running the early church, of spreading the gospel, is starting to create strains on the Apostles. They realise, or are made to realise, that they need help and as a result the first seven Deacons of the church are appointed. They are given specific tasks so that the Apostles can focus on what they see as their primary mission. The Deacons are given the task of making sure that people are looked after. We see in this the beginning of one of the three ministries of a Deacon, that of charity. (The others are mysteries of the word and altar.)

There are obvious parallels with the situation that we find ourselves in at the present time, as we look towards the future. There is the obvious challenge that our priests cannot do it all themselves, or at least need more help to do the things that need to be done. We do have Permanent Deacons in our diocese that are increasingly picking up part of this challenge but it goes beyond that. More than ever, for those who have the time, energy and skills, it is a time to explore if there is any help that could be given. You may look around and think that all the bases are covered but for how long?

Diakonia is a Greek word that means service, and in our context reflects the humble service offered by Jesus. It is not something limited to the ordained but is an essential element of living a Christian life. In our Gospel passage we hear this call from Jesus himself as he says: "whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do."

**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**

### Parish e-mail addresses:

*stpatricks.consett@diocesehn.org.uk-*

*stmarys.blackhill@diocesehn.org.uk.*

St Patrick's Consett 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

Procession: to take place at St Mary's Blackhill on Sunday 21st June after the 9.15am Mass

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. Any help would be greatly appreciated. For any information about this appeal please contact Jean Coates 07521 404924.

## **Around the Diocese**

Message from Bishop Stephen: Pastoral Strategy: Thank you to all parishes who have completed and returned their reflections as part of our diocesan pastoral strategy. I, together with others, look forward to reading and praying through your discernments in the Spirit. It is not too late for returns to be made if you are yet to submit. We next move to a second phase as we invite local parishes to discern together in their partnerships, or with others in their neighbouring area. Information and updates will be shared on our website. Please keep this discernment in your prayers as we seek to respond to the Lord's call to worship Him and serve our communities in a flourishing and sustainable manner

SVP Camp – Holy Island: Calling all young adults 18+. Do you have a week to spare to spend on Lindisfarne this Summer helping out at the Holy Island SVP Camp? Volunteers are needed to work alongside the children who stay in the SVP purpose-built centre on the island. Weeks 3, 5 and 6 of the Summer have 60 children ready to have a great time rock pooling, walking, arts and crafting and enjoying outdoor activities but we need more helpers to ensure they have the best time!

- Week 3 Sat 1<sup>st</sup> August - 8<sup>th</sup> August
- Week 5 Sat 15<sup>th</sup> August - 22<sup>nd</sup> August
- Week 6 Sat 22<sup>nd</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> August

If you are interested have a look at the website <https://svp.org.uk/microsite/ozanam-camp> or email Barbara Taws [barbarat@svp.org.uk](mailto:barbarat@svp.org.uk)

All helpers receive training and will need to be DBS checked.

Minsteracres: Minsteracres are looking for Volunteers to help in the Dining Room, on the Estate and Driving.

## **Groups**

West Pontop Partnership (SVP): Join us at our upcoming fundraising Race Night, taking place on 8th May at Leadgate Club. Tickets will be available from SVP members after Masses at the back of the church or please contact Tel 07377259724 or email [presidente210301@svp.org.uk](mailto:presidente210301@svp.org.uk)

— do come along for what promises to be an enjoyable evening while supporting our work. Donations of Bottles for our stall will be greatly appreciated. Please place any donations at the back of the churches. If you know of anyone who might appreciate a visit, or if you feel called to become involved in this ministry, we would be delighted to hear from you. Please contact us on 07377259724. Thank you, for your continued support and prayers.

Friday Fellas Men's Group. The next meeting of the Friday Fellas Men's Group will be at 6.30pm on Friday May 1st in the Lounge of St. Patrick's Hall, Consett. All are welcome.

### **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 'Northern Star Travel' on 0161 773 2115.

### **St Mary's News**

Collections: This Week – Little Sisters of the Poor Next week - Little Sisters of the Poor

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

Sanctuary Candles: will burn 'I Loving Memory of Stephen Breen's Birthday on 24th April'.

Security: could key holders and volunteers please make sure the presbytery door is shut securely before they leave. Fr Tom has returned to an empty house and the main door wide open. Many thanks for your co-operation.

The Sunday Breakfast Club: will take today and on Sunday and 17<sup>th</sup> May after the 9.15am Mass. Tea/coffee and bacon and sausage sandwiches.

St Mary's Summer Fete: will be held on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2026. There will be a box at the back of the church for any donations.

Song Sung Blue: Neil Diamond Evening in the Kennedy Care Centre on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2026. This event is all sold out and due to health and safety regulations anyone attending without a ticket will not be allowed in.

### **St Patrick's News**

Collections: This Week – Little Sisters of the Poor Next Week - Little Sisters of the Poor

Children's Liturgy: The Children's Liturgy for May will take place on Sunday 10th May due to the First Holy Communion Mass on the 3rd. 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.

Card Donation Portal: We have 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.

Shaping Parish Life for The Future: Thank you for your responses to the Questionnaires handed in to St Patrick's and for attending the recent meeting. Your views and suggestions have now been collated and sent onto the next stage of the Diocesan discernment. We will keep you informed on the progress.

300 Club winners for April: £20 No. 73 Sharon Walton £15 No. 195 Christine Jackson £10 No. 74 Michael Curran £10 No. 81 Pauline Walls

## **Brooms - Our Lady and St Joseph's News**

**Collections:** This Week – Little Sisters of the Poor Next Week - Little Sisters of the Poor  
**Collection:** The recent collection for the Northern Brethren Fund raised £470. Thank you for your generosity.

**Lately Deceased:** Blanche Nixon. Please pray for her and her family at this sad time.

**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.

**Nursery:** Our Lady and St Joseph's Catholic Primary School in Leadgate is proud to offer high-quality nursery provision for children from the term after they turn two. 15- and 30-hour places are available. Our nursery is a welcoming and nurturing environment where our youngest children are given the very best start to their learning journey. The nursery provides a caring, supportive space in which children feel safe, valued and loved. We are especially proud of our woodland and outdoor learning experiences, which form a key part of our nursery provision. Our nursery offers a rich, stimulating curriculum that supports children's early development in communication, early reading and number, physical development and personal, social and emotional skills—laying strong foundations for a smooth transition into Reception and beyond. Visits to the school are very warmly welcomed, and families are encouraged to come and see our nursery in action, meet our staff and experience the caring, family atmosphere that makes Our Lady and St Joseph's such a special place to learn and grow.

**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 – Sick and Retired Priests Next Week - Little Sisters of the Poor

**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 25th May at 6.00pm

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

**100 Club:** Subscriptions are due for commencing the new year on the 1st May. There are some spare numbers available if you would like any please see Christina Parkin. Envelopes are available at the back of the church.

**Shaping Parish Life for The Future:** Thank you for your responses to the Questionnaires handed in to St Patrick's and for attending the recent meeting. Your views and suggestions have now been collated and sent onto the next stage of the Diocesan discernment. We will keep you informed on the progress.

## **Our Lady of the Rosary News**

**Collections:** This Week – Little Sisters of the Poor Next week - Little Sisters of the Poor

## **ANNIVERSARIES**

St Mary's: Thomas Hannah, Mary Gallie, Agnes Shannon, Alma Hanly, Robert Nixon, Michael Joseph Dick, Theophilus Joseph Steele, James Reilly, Winifred Shannon, Lawrence Brannigan, Joseph Grugan Peter Corniskey, Suzanne Jameson, Francis O'Hagan, Joseph H Bradley, Joyce Donaghue, Michael Nicholson, John Grimes, James Conney, Audrey Cox, Ann Hillery, Pat McGuigan.

St. Patrick's: Albert Huntley, Peter Hughes, Veronica McKenna, Norah Ward, Kevin McCurley Teresa Adams, David Stobbs, Hayden Coyle, Jean Cartmel, Kathleen Finnegan, Patricia Hutchinson, Dennis Aubrey, Valerie Glynn, Anthony Burns, James Martin, Mary Cosgrove, Therese Dixon, Joseph Grugan, Margaret Robinson, Shaun Andrew Gettings, Angela Rose, Angela Bramwell, Helen Stevenson, Pauline Dixon, Catherine Page.

St Pius: Emily Bennett, Sydney Brown, Henry Foster, Ann Hilary, Anne Hodgson, Alison Kirk, Joan McDonald, Pat McGilligan, Bobby Nixon, Margaret Toppin.

Our Lady & St Joseph's: Mary E. Suddick, Robert Fountain, Jack Appleby, Kathleen McCabe.

## **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, 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, Molly Glancy, Ian Clarke, Simon Quinn, Joseph Parisi, Teresa Easton, Kathleen Bowman, Teresa Kelly, Ronan Lawson (Aged 7), Francis Renwick, Michael Rogan.

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, Mary Cowie.

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'*

