

## 7th Sunday of Easter - 17th 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

### The Glory of the Lord

In this weekend's Gospel Reading, at the Last Supper, Jesus prays to God the Father to glorify him. Later in the same passage, he says that he is glorified in those whom the Father has given to him. In our Second Reading, St. Peter also urges Christians to glorify the name of Christ, even if they have to suffer in order to do so. It seems clear that this is something that we should all be trying to do. So, perhaps the key question is: How? What sorts of things can we do to glorify the name of Jesus Christ?

Well, one thing that is imperative is to guard ourselves against the world by staying close to Christ. Jesus himself refers to the danger posed by the world in this weekend's reading. And in another part of the discourse that leads into this passage he tells his disciples that, if they wish to be fruitful, they must always abide in him. We see a practical example of them following this advice in our First Reading. After the Ascension, before they try to act on their calling to continue Christ's work, they first devote themselves to prayer. Prayer and worship come first. Empowerment follows from that.

Furthermore, in the Second Reading, St. Peter states that murderers, thieves, evildoers, and meddlers cannot give glory to Christ. The implication is that we must give glory to him not only by bearing witness to our Christian faith with our words, but also by setting a good example. We must show the love of Christ in action to those around us. As Christ himself said elsewhere in the Gospels, we cannot afford to hide our light. When other people see the good works that we are doing, we must clearly identify Christ as the source. And then, they will give the glory to God in his name.

**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 in Honour of Our Blessed Lady: to take place at St Mary's Blackhill on Sunday 21st June after the 9.15am Mass.

HOLY SPIRIT NOVENA PRAYER: The Novena to the Holy Spirit begins on Ascension Thursday. Let us join with Mary and all those gathered in the upper room and pray for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit on our families, our parish and our world.

'Come Holy Spirit and renew the face of the earth.'

'Mary, pure spouse of the Holy Spirit, pray for us'

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.

St Bede's Lanchester: To celebrate the **60th Anniversary of our school opening**, we are delighted to invite pupils, families, former students, and members of the community to our **School Open Day on Saturday 27th June, 10:00am – 2:00pm at the school site.**

West Pontop Partnership (SVP): On behalf of All Saints' & St Mary's SVP Conferences serving the West Pontop Partnership, I would like to extend a sincere thank you to everyone who supported last week's Race Night. Thanks to your generosity and enthusiasm, we are delighted to share that the event raised an incredible £1,564. This result would not have been possible without the support of so many people. A special thank you goes to St Bede's leadership team for sponsoring a race and winning the £100 lucky dip prize — and generously donating it back. The next event is a sponsored walk in aid of SVP & OISJ, Brooms. Fr John has kindly offered to join the walk with some of our members on Sunday 6th July - look out for the sponsor sheets.

## 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

Laudato Si': To celebrate Laudato Si' Week, Mass for the Care of Creation is to be celebrated at 10.00 am on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> May at St Augustine's Church, 30 Coniscliffe Road, Darlington DL3 7RG. The Diocesan Environmental Group wishes to extend an invitation to everyone in the Diocese to attend and to bring family and friends – everyone is welcome!

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 for a great time rock pooling, walking, arts, crafts 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  
interested!!check 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.

### **Ministeracres**

**Day of Consolation:** Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May. An opportunity to share a safe space, to be heard, to share with others who have similar experiences and hopefully to find courage, hope and consolation, Lunch and refreshments included. Suggested donation £45.

### **Groups**

**Friday Fellas Men's Group:** The next meeting of the Friday Fellas Men's Group will be at 6.30pm on Friday May 29<sup>th</sup> in the Lounge of St. Patrick's Hall, Consett. All are welcome.

### **Pilgrimages**

**Pilgrimage to Medjugorje:** Flying from Newcastle on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June return Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2026. Cost £839 sharing, £979 single room. More details on the notice board or ring 'Northern Star Travel' on 0161 773 2115.

**KNOCK Pilgrimage:** Blessing by Fr Vernatius - The 'Our Lady of Knock' banner, beautifully painted by Tony Quarzi, will be blessed and soloists will sing the 'Lady of Knock' hymn at the end of both masses – Saturday May 23<sup>rd</sup> 4.15pm St Teresa and Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May 9.30am All Saints. All are welcome.

**KNOCK pilgrimage Reminder** Monday May 25<sup>th</sup> approximate pick up times: Annfield Plain 8.00am, Stanley 8.10am, Lanchester 8.25am, Consett 8.40am and Blackhill 8.50am.

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

**Collections:** This Week – Little Sisters of the Poor Next week - Lay Training (open until 14 June)

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

**Sanctuary Candle:** will burn 'In Loving Memory of Frank Bradley'

**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.

**We would like to invite you to our first-ever Children's Enterprise Fair:** which will be held at St Mary's Primary School on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May at 3.30 pm in the school hall. Our children have been working hard at home since October to design and produce their crafts, and we are incredibly proud of their efforts. It would be lovely to see you if you are able to attend and support our children.

**The Sunday Breakfast Club:** will take place today 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.

**Thank you:** to everyone who supported the 'Neil Diamond Night' in the JFK Centre. Special

thanks to Brian Reily and the men in Black for their contribution to the entertainment. A total of £1323 was raised for the JFK Centre.

### St Patrick's News

Collections: This Week – Little Sisters of the Poor Next week - Lay Training (open until 14 June)

Children's Liturgy: The Children's Liturgy takes place on Sunday 7th June. 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 is user friendly and secure.

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

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

Collections: This Week – Little Sisters of the Poor Next week - Lay Training (open until 14 June)

*The recent collection for the Little Sisters of the Poor realised £286, thank you.*

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 Primary School is proud to offer high quality nursery provision for children from the term after they turn two. 15 and 30 hour places are available. We offer a welcoming and nurturing environment and we are especially proud of our woodland and outdoor learning experiences. Visits are welcomed and families are encouraged to come and see our nursery.

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 – Little Sisters of the Poor Next week - Lay Training (open until 14 June)

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.

### Our Lady of the Rosary News

Collections: This Week – Little Sisters of the Poor Next week - Lay Training (open until 14 June)

## **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, Joseph Rogan.

St Pius: Margaret Collins, Hector Hughes, William Kane, Catherine Mullen, Michael Murray, Veronica Robb.

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, Winnie Agnew.

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'*