

## Pentecost Sunday - 24th May 2026

Annfield Plain - St. Teresa, Blackhill - Our Blessed Lady Immaculate, Brooms - Our Blessed Lady & St. Joseph,

Stanley, St. Joseph

# PONTOP

Partnership

Corsest - St. Patrick,

Dipton - St. Patrick, Lancheater - All Saints, Moorside - St. Plus X, Shotley Bridge - Our Lady of the Rosary

### Receiving the Spirit

On Pentecost Sunday, we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit poured out upon the Church. In the Acts of the Apostles, the frightened disciples are transformed when “tongues as of fire” rest upon them and they begin to proclaim the mighty works of God in many languages. Pentecost is often called the birthday of the Church because, through the Spirit, the Gospel is sent out to all peoples and nations.

In St Paul’s letter to the Corinthians, we are reminded that the Spirit gives different gifts to each person, not for personal glory, but for the good of all. Though we are many and varied, we are united as one Body in Christ. The Church flourishes when each member offers their gifts generously in service, charity, and faith.

In the Gospel, the risen Jesus appears to His disciples and says, “Peace be with you.” He breathes on them and gives them the Holy Spirit. This moment recalls God breathing life into creation itself. The Spirit brings courage where there is fear, forgiveness where there is sin, and hope where there is despair.

Pentecost invites us to ask ourselves: are we open to the Holy Spirit at work in our lives? Are we using the different gifts the Holy Spirit gives us? This Sunday we are reminded that the same Spirit who strengthened the apostles is given to us today, guiding us to live as faithful witnesses of Christ in our families, in our parishes, and in our local communities.

**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): 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.

Billy Elliot Sunderland Empire matinee: The highly acclaimed theatre production of "Billy Elliott" is on at the Sunderland Empire and we are able to make a booking on Wednesday 18th November 2026. The cost is £90 per seat in the dress circle, centre block. Please give your expression of interest by putting your name on the poster at the back of church by the 30th June.

Holy Island: Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2026. Please sign the list at the back of the church which costs £15 adult, £5 child.

St Mary's Convent Ebchester: Afternoon tea Thursday 28th May at 1.30pm. Come and join us for tasty and sweet treats with a raffle too. All are welcome.

## 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 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 (New Date): Is to be held on Tuesday 2nd June. 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.

3 Day Walking Retreat: Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June from 10am – Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June at 5pm. Suggested Donation £250.

Quiet Day: Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> June from 10am to 4pm. 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 29th 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.

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 – Lay Training

Next week - Lay Training

Lately Deceased: Joan Rennoldson, Rose Kelly, and Shaun Donaghy. Please pray for them and their families at this sad time.

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

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.

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

260 Club May Winners: £20 – (39) C McElrue, £10 – (213) D Quinn, £10 – (77) R Oliver, £10 – (74) JP Holden.

## St Patrick's News

Collections: This Week – Lay Training

Next week - Lay Training

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.

St Patrick's Hall Tea on Tuesday: Come along and join us on Tuesday 9th June 2.00pm at St. Patrick's Church Hall for Tea, Coffee and Cake bring your friends and family too.

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

Collections: This Week – Lay Training Fund

Next week - Lay Training

*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.

Volunteer Appeal: We are looking for volunteer cleaners who can form a rota to clean the church. If you are able to help please let Fr John know.

## St Pius News

Collections: This Week – Lay Training Fund

Next week - Lay Training

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 – Lay Training Fund

Next week - Lay Training

## **ANNIVERSARIES**

St Mary's: Thomas Stobbs, Peter Ward, John McNally, Ruth Richardson, Catherine Aitchison, Mary Catherine Athey, Anthony McElrue, Tommie Page, Catherine Toner, Nancy Henderson, Mary Jane Thompson, Mary Townson, John Grimes, Margaret Bell, J Edward McElrue, John Jerome Grey, Edward Malpass, Norman Leslie Black, Alice Grogan, John McGuigan, Esther Lavery, Richard Nelson, Anne Marie Ryan, Rose Greenfield, Mary Campbell, Josephine Toner, Nicholas Boyle, Daniel Robinson, Keith Kennedy, Margaret Jones, Terence Clarke.

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: Vincent Armstrong, Neil Dobson, Margaret Murray, Mary Townson, Nicky Townson, Doreen Wilkes.

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, Roman Lawson (Aged 7), 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'*