

24th Sunday of the Year - 13th September 2026

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

Stanley, St. Joseph

Consett - St. Patrick,

PONTOP

Partnership

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

Sharing God's Mercy

This Sunday's Gospel gives us one of Jesus' most memorable parables: the servant whose enormous debt is forgiven, yet who refuses to forgive a much smaller debt owed to him.

The message is clear. **We cannot receive God's mercy and then refuse to show mercy to others.**

The first reading from Sirach reminds us that anger and resentment can become a heavy burden. We can sometimes hold on to an old hurt for years, replaying what happened and thinking about what someone said or did. The other person may have moved on, but we remain trapped by the memory.

Forgiveness does not mean pretending that nothing happened. Nor does it mean that injustice doesn't matter. Sometimes forgiveness is a long process. But it does mean refusing to allow anger and resentment to have the final word.

Peter asks Jesus how many times he should forgive someone who hurts him – seven times? Jesus' answer, "not seven, but seventy-seven times," means that forgiveness is not something we simply count. It is a way of living.

St Paul reminds us in the second reading that whether we live or whether we die, **we belong to the Lord**. Our lives are ultimately held in God's hands. That gives us the freedom to let go of the debts we imagine others owe us.

Perhaps this week we might bring to prayer someone we find difficult to forgive. We can simply ask God for the grace to begin letting go.

And we can pray with the words we say so often: **"Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us."**

God's mercy is a gift. We are called to become people who pass that gift on.

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:

stpatrick.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

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.

RCIA / Journey in Faith. If you live in the Consett, Leadgate or Moorside areas and are thinking about becoming a Catholic, then weekly RCIA / Journey in Faith meetings are held on Thursdays at 6.30pm at St. Pius X Church, Moorside. Journey in Faith meetings are also helpful if you are already Catholic but just want to know more about your faith. Phone Sue McGee on 07962022636 for more information.

Medjugorje - Queen of Peace Prayer Group: Rosary, Meditation and Peace Prayer. To be held in St Mary's church on Wednesday 30th September at 6.15pm. All are welcome.

SVP - West Pontop Partnership. The St. Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) is here to offer friendship, support and companionship to those who may be feeling lonely, isolated, unwell or in need of a listening ear. If anyone is interested in joining the SVP, please contact [07377259724](tel:07377259724) or email, PresidentC210301@svp.org.uk

St Mary's Fellowship (Special Needs Club): We are a group providing social activities for those with additional needs within our parishes. At present we are looking for volunteer drivers for our minibus on a Friday evening on a rota basis. To comply with insurance drivers need to be over 25 and under 70 years of age. (DBS will be carried out) If this is something you would be interested in please contact us for more information. Thank you. Lisa 07807357820.

Joanne 07740335788

Friday Fellas: The next meeting of the Friday Fellas Men's Group will be on Friday 25th September, at 6.30pm in the lounge of St. Patrick's Church Hall. New members are always welcome.

Home Mission Sunday: On Sunday 20th September, we will celebrate Home Mission Sunday, a day for us as the Catholic community in England and Wales to celebrate our faith in these lands, and our shared commitment to communicate the beauty and the joy of knowing Jesus Christ. More details about this can be found on the Bishops' Conference website - [Home Mission Sunday - Catholic Bishops' Conference](#). The Second Collection next weekend will be to support the work carried out by the Bishops' Conference Mission Directorate. Through the Mission Directorate, we support our Church in a wide field of service and mission here in England and Wales.

The Medjugorje Centre N.E.: Has organised a retreat from Friday 9th-Sunday 11th October. Fr Martin Morris will be leading the retreat. Cost £205 with a deposit of £50 required. Booking forms in St Patrick's and St Mary's churches.

If anyone would like to attend a day retreat on Saturday, arrangements can be made with a reduced cost involved.

Religious Items: Statues, (no higher than 10ins), Rosaries, Prayer Books, Bibles etc. No Magnificat or day to day as they can't be sent. I can collect 073400122246 or leave at the back of Brooms or St Patrick's churches.

Events around the Partnership

The Rat Pack: an evening of music in the JFK centre (St Mary's church hall) on Saturday 26th September. Tickets £5. Doors open at 6.30pm. Please see Jimmy McCrory.

The Whistle Testers: will be performing In Blackhill Club on Friday October 9th for St Mary's to raise funds for the Restoration Fund. Bingo, Raffle Bar. Doors open at 6.30pm Entertainment starts at 7.30pm. Tickets £5.

Ministeracres

Midweek Lunches at Ministeracres Retreat Centre: If you're passing by, why not treat yourself to a relaxed lunch in peaceful surroundings? Booking is essential—just visit our website or call the office if you'd like more information

Pilgrimages

Pilgrimage to Krakow 14th-21st October: There is going to be a final information meeting for the pilgrims going to Poland in October. The meeting will be at 6pm on Tuesday 15th September in the upstairs lounge of St. Patrick's Church Hall. Details will be available about flights and transport pick up times to and from Newcastle Airport.

St Mary's News

Collections: This Week – Catholic Education Next week – Home Mission Sunday

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

Lately Deceased: Sarah Hughes (nee Bradley), Kathleen McGuinness and Jayne Akenhead.

Please pray for them and their families at this sad time.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: and Private Prayer on Thursday after the 10.00am Mass.

The Sanctuary Candle: will burn 'In Thanksgiving to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, St Raphael and St Jude'.

Joint 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 15th September at 7.15pm.

The Breakfast club: the next breakfast club will be held on Sunday 20th September after the 9.15am Mass.

JFK Church Hall: The Hall (JFK Centre) is available for hire, contact Isobel English for any bookings on 07818 559241. Please check the notice board for details of new groups in the hall.

St Patrick's News

Collections: This Week – Catholic Education

Next week - Home Mission Sunday

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 cards and is user friendly and secure.

300 Club August Winners: 1st No 10 Peter Walls £20, 2nd No 17 Reena Miller £15
3rd No 37 Fr Shaun Purdy, 4th No 62 Marion Clarke £10.

Last Recycling for good Causes: There is a box at the back of the church in which you can recycle any Jewellery, coins and currency, mobile phones, cameras, gadgets and stamps (see leaflet for items). When the box is full it will be collected and the money raised from the items in the box will be used for Good Causes. Our last collection raised £54.15 for Cafod.

First Holy Communion Programme 2026-27: If your child is baptised and in Year 4 or above, they may register for our First Holy Communion Programme beginning in October and ending in June 2027 with the First Communion celebrations. There will be an information and registration meeting for parents and children on Monday 28th September at 6.30pm in St. Patrick's Church.

Brooms - Our Lady and St Joseph's News

Collections: This Week – Catholic Education Next week - Home Mission Sunday

Thank you: The family of the late Julie Ackerman would like to thank everyone who contributed to the collection, which raised £140, for The British Heart Foundation.

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**

Cemetery Fund: The fund is open for donations until the end of September. If you Gift Aid your contribution please add your planned giving envelope number to the cemetery fund envelope.

St Pius News

Collections: This Week – Catholic Education Next week - Home Mission Sunday

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

Holy Rosary hour: Will be held on Monday 28th September at 6.00pm.

Consett Lions: Raffle tickets are now on sale. Tickets are £1 each. The church receives 70p for every ticket sold.

First Holy Communion Preparation: We will be starting First Holy Communion preparation lessons soon for catholic children (year 4 and above) who are interested in taking their First Holy Communion in 2027 with St Pius Church. If the parents of eligible children would contact Father John Bagnall by Sunday 20th September on 01207 502196 or email stpatrick.consett@diocesehn.org.uk

Our Lady of the Rosary News

Collections: This week - Catholic Education Next week - Home Mission Sunday

Joint 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 15th September at 7.15pm.

ANNIVERSARIES

St Mary's: Theresa Kegan, Michael Joseph Corrigan, Thomas Watson, Mary Thatcher, Catherine Waggott, Kathleen McCusker, Michael Telford, Catherine Harper, Irene Cheeseman, Mary McKenna, Sheila McGuigan, Christopher Higham, Mary Anne, Priscilla Cole, Anthony Curran, Vincent Farrell.

Our Lady of the Rosary: Hilda Mary Greash, Mary Underhill, Agnes Telford, Anne Robson, Margaret Healey, Elizabeth Haggon, Peter Paul Smith, Margaret Corr, Vincent Farrell, Maurice Paul, Denis McNally, Marian Golightly, Fr. David Condon, Jim Haggon, Bridie Walker.

St. Patrick's: Nancy McGurk, Sheila Campbell, David Agnew, Audrey Whales, Denis McNally, Maurice Rose, Peter Lockeron, Thomas Henderson, Yvonne Clare, Catherine Smith, Christina Scott, Ivan Wright, Mary Lydon, Alma Byrne, Denise Hunter, Winifred Gettings, Joseph Rennoldson, Joan Malpass, Mary Hutton, Dorothy Convery, Maureen O'Neill, Gerald Burns, Nora Gowland, Richard Sheekey, Thomas McDonald, Elizabeth (Lily) Loughran.

St Pius: Doreen Brown, Jane Haughey, Mary Ellen (Ella) Kerr, Bob Parkin, Jenny Welsh, Anne Young.

Our Lady & St Joseph's: Catherine Clark, Joseph Gill, Alby Allen, Ann Lucy, John Price, Tony McCallum, Sheila Henderson, Bob Parkin, Astrid Reeve.

THOSE WHO ARE SICK IN OUR PARISHES

We keep in our prayers

St Mary's: Paul Wass, Ryan McBeath, Amelia Burns, Ethan White, James Thomas English, Eileen Fannon, Mary Barnes, Arron Armstrong, Maddy Kennedy, Mark Adams, Jack Nugent, Donna Philips, Julianne Kennedy, Jimmy McGuigan, Sarah June Quinn, Thomas Eccles, Philip Robinson, Peter Doherty, Jakob English, Katelyn Howe, Ann Hester, Cecelia Moore, David Urwin, Barbara Bennison, Molly Glancy, Ian Clarke, Joseph Parisi, Teresa Easton, Kathleen Bowman, Teresa Kelly, Roman Lawson (Aged 8), Michael Rogan, Rose Corrigan, Fiona Bell, Simon Peter.

Our Lady of the Rosary: James Baker.

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

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'