

25th Sunday of the Year - 20th 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

A Joyous Reward

Slowly but surely throughout the day the master of the vineyard goes out and finds labourers to enter it. At the end of the day the rewards for their labours are equal and it doesn't depend upon how long they have been in the vineyard. That becomes a problem for those who have been at work since the start of the day. Why is it that those who came along at the end are getting the same reward as they are? The master has to remind them that they are getting exactly what they agreed before they entered into the day's work: one denari. We aren't told if that calmed them down or not.

Remember of course that this is a parable about heaven and not a case study about fair employment remuneration. The question for each of us when we reach the end of our life's work isn't how much heaven will we get but whether we get into heaven at all. Our joy will be as complete as anyone else who arrives before or after us.

As a church we are continually acting like the master of the vineyard. We go out, we reach out to those who are, in their spiritual lives, sitting in the marketplace. This is particularly relevant at this time of year as we start our Journey of Faith programmes. Wherever they are on their own journey people join us to prepare to enter the church at Easter, as they hopefully journey towards Heaven. Not the end of the day's labour but more like being called into the vineyard. It is nevertheless a time of great joy, one where we welcome them as equals working towards the same full reward we all hope for.

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:

stpatrik.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,

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.

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.

St Patrick's Hall Tea on Tuesday: Come along and join us on Tuesday 6th October at 2.00pm in St. Patrick's Church Hall for Tea, Coffee and Cake bring your friends and family too.

Events around the Partnership

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 Minsteracres 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.

The Medjugorje Centre N.E.: Has organised a retreat at Ministeracres 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.

A Quiet Day at Minsteracres: Thursday 29 October 2026, 10am–4pm. When life is busy, it can be difficult to find time to stop, think and simply be. This Quiet Day at Minsteracres offers the opportunity to step away from everyday pressures and spend some time in peace and quiet. The day will provide space for personal prayer, reflection and contemplation, as well as the opportunity to enjoy the beautiful surroundings of Minsteracres. The day runs from 10am to 4pm and includes lunch and refreshments. Suggested donation: £45.

A Circle of Prayer at Minsteracres: Saturday 31 October 2026, 10am–4pm. Prayer does not always have to be about sitting still or finding the right words. This special day with Joyce McAndrew brings together music, gentle movement, reflective readings and prayer to create a different way of spending time with God. You may come away feeling refreshed, more peaceful and with a new way of approaching prayer. The day runs from 10am to 4pm and includes lunch and refreshments. Suggested donation: £45. For more information or to book: 01434 673 248

St Mary's News

Collections: This Week – Home Mission Sunday Next week – Flowers

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

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'.

RCIA Journey in Faith: The programme for St Mary's and Our Lady of the Rosary will begin in October. If you are thinking of becoming a Catholic or a Catholic wishing to learn more about their faith and would like to join the journey in faith programme please contact Fr Tom on 01207 502320.

First Holy Communion's: If you have a child who does not go to St Mary's school and would like them to join the communion programme please contact Collette. The programme begins in October with the 1st parents meeting held in St Mary's church on 8th October at 6.30pm.

The Breakfast club: the next breakfast club will be held today after the 9.15am Mass.

Thank you: to all who sponsored David on his long walk. A grand total of £1773 was raised for McMillan support. David would have liked to come and thank you personally, but is working the next few weeks.

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 – Home Mission Sunday Next week - Flowers

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.

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.

Sunday Coffee Morning: Sunday 27th September after 9.15am Mass all welcome in the Church Hall for Bacon/Sausage Sandwiches, Tea and Coffee.

Feast of St. Therese. The Novena to St. Therese begins on Tuesday September 22nd and her Feast Day Mass will take place on Thursday October 1st (time at St. Patrick's to be arranged), which will include 'The Blessing of the Roses'. There will also be a small selection of Teresian piety items for sale after Mass.

Brooms - Our Lady and St Joseph's News

Collections: This Week – Home Mission Sunday Next week - Flowers

Collections: The recent collection for Catholic education realised £170. Thank you for your generosity.

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. Ives Mass. The next Mass at St. Ives Church in Leadgate will be at 10am on Thursday 22nd October. All are welcome.

St Pius News

Collections: This Week – Home Mission Sunday Next week - Flowers

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 stpatrik.consett@diocesehn.org.uk

Our Lady of the Rosary News

Collections: This week - Home Mission Sunday Next week - Flowers

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: Irene Cheeseman, Mary McKenna, Sheila McGuigan, Christopher Higham, Mary Anne, Priscilla Cole, Anthony Curran, Vincent Farrell, Mary Theresa Doran, Elizabeth Walker, Norah Aubrey, Mary Harrison, John Quinn, Samuel Charles Love, Catherine McGuckin, Edward Shannon, Amy Margaret Jones, Stuart Aitchison, Francis Connor, Teresa Morris, William Glancy, Catherine Akers, Lloyd Nixon, Christopher Dodd.

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: Matthew Carter, Pauline Evans, John Kerr, Hilda Ratchford, Benjamin Townson.

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'