

28th Sunday of the Year (Year A) - 11th October 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 Lord Has Prepared a Banquet for Us

The readings this Sunday remind us that God invites us to share in the joy of His Kingdom. Through the prophet Isaiah, we hear a wonderful promise: the Lord will prepare a banquet for all peoples, a feast of rich food and fine wines. More than that, He will wipe away the tears from every face and destroy death for ever. It is a beautiful picture of the hope God offers to all who trust in Him.

In the Gospel, Jesus tells the parable of a king who prepares a wedding feast for his son. The invitations go out, but some refuse to come. Others are too busy with their own affairs. The tragedy is not that the king has failed to provide a feast, but that those invited fail to recognise the wonderful gift being offered to them.

How easily we can do the same. Our lives are filled with responsibilities, worries and distractions. We can become so occupied with the things of this world that we overlook the invitation God offers us each day: to pray, to celebrate the Eucharist, to care for others and to grow in holiness.

The wedding garment in the parable reminds us that accepting God's invitation involves more than simply turning up. Our faith must be seen in the way we live, in our kindness, forgiveness and love for one another.

St Paul reminds us that, whatever our circumstances, Christ gives us the strength we need. God's invitation is offered to us today. May we have the wisdom to accept it, the faith to trust in His promises, and the love to prepare ourselves for the eternal banquet of His Kingdom.

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, 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 502320

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.

RCIA Journey in Faith: Blackhill and Shotley Bridge Area, the programme for St Mary's and Our Lady of the Rosary. 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.

Medjugorje - Queen of Peace Prayer Group: Rosary, Meditation and Peace Prayer. To be held in St Mary's church on Wednesday 28th 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,

Friday Fellas: The next meeting of the Friday Fellas Men's Group will be Friday October 30th. We meet at 6.30pm in the lounge of St. Patrick's Church Hall. New members are always welcome.

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 07340 922246 or leave at the back of Brooms or St Patrick's churches.

Aid to the Church in Need: Be part of ACN's first global advocacy campaign. Will you sign CAN's petition to call on every country to uphold your right to believe as set out in article 18 of the 'Universal Declaration of Human Rights'. Scan the QR code to take action. Urge governments to protect this fundamental freedom.

Calling all Christmas Knitters: We are hoping this Advent to distribute knitted baskets again which will contain a selection of religious novelties associated with the Christmas message. Please consider taking part in this project by taking a knitting pattern from church or from the parish office at St. Patrick's. Please use any spare wool you may have (of any colour) to create the baskets. Thank you in advance!

Trip to Heighly Gate Garden Centre: and Morpeth: on Wednesday 4th November. Please sign the form at the back of church. Cost £10 with a £5 non returnable deposit. Details of pick up to follow later.

Lanchester All Saints Centenary: 'Exhibition 100 – Architecture, Furnishings and Vestments'. Saturday 17th October 10am-2pm and Sunday 10.30am-2pm Refreshments in the Parish Centre.

World Day of Prayer Coffee Morning: Next year marks the Centenary the World Day of Prayer. As part of the celebrations a coffee morning will be held 1t 10am at Consett Salvation Army on Saturday 17th October. All are warmly invited.

Minsteracres

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.

A Quiet Day at Minsteracres: Thursday 29th 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. From 10am to 4pm and includes lunch and refreshments. Suggested donation: £45.

A Circle of Prayer at Minsteracres: Saturday 31st 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. 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 – SVP

Next Week – World Mission Sunday

Sanctuary Candle: will burn 'In Loving memory of Abby Devanney

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.

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.

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.

Christmas Fayre: Saturday 7th November at the Kennedy Care Centre 12.30 until 4.00pm.

Assorted tables, tombola, raffle, bottle bag, cake stall, refreshments all proceeds for St Mary's Restoration Fund. Help is also needed on the day along with any unwanted gifts, bottles and cakes on the day.

St Patrick's News

Collections: This Week – Aid to the Church In Need

Next Week – World 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.

St Patrick's Hall Tea on Tuesday: Come along and join us on Tuesday 3rd November at 2.00pm

in St. Patrick's Church Hall for Tea, Coffee and Cake bring your friends and family too.

Children's Liturgy: The next Children's Liturgy takes place on Sunday 1st November.

Christmas Fayre: Our Christmas Fayre will be held on 21st November from 1pm. We are looking for donations of Bottles of Wines & Spirits, Tombola Prizes (no bric a brac required).

St Patrick's Liturgy Group - Volunteers Needed: Last year Bishop Stephen launched the Diocesan Vision reminding us all that the Lord calls upon us to be a flourishing diocese, where people encounter Jesus Christ and where we live with justice and compassion, growing in faith. He drew our attention to the hopes and also the challenges facing our diocese in an ever-changing world. In our recent parish questionnaire many recognised the dedication and commitment of Fr John as well as acknowledging the need to support him further.

One of the suggestions for further development was to expand St Patrick's Liturgy Group which is small group of parishioners who help Fr John prepare and deliver liturgies throughout the year. The group is now in need of volunteers - of any age, established or new members of our community - to expand and develop its work. No experience or previous knowledge is required, only a willingness to give up time to help, to share ideas and to assist our Parish Priest. If you are interested in joining the group or simply want to find out more, please speak to Fr John or ring Bernadette on 07814 700242 or Geraldine 07525179618. Thank you.

300 Club Membership 2026/2027: Thank you to all who subscribed in 2025/2026. Please renew your membership as soon as possible. The first draw will take place at the end of October 2026 and then on the last Saturday of every following month. Subscriptions are £1 per number to be paid yearly at £12. envelopes are available at the back of the church please put through the presbytery letter box. Last year we collected £1,559. £910 was given out in prize money and £649 was donated to the church funds. For further information speak to or telephone one of the organisers Clare 591842 or Christine 504870

Brooms - Our Lady and St Joseph's News

Collections: This Week – Aid to the Church In Need Next Week – World Mission Sunday
The recent collection for SVP realised £275. Thank you for your generosity.

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

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.

Toddler Group: Brooms School Toddler Group will operate every Wednesday from 9.10am in term time. Everyone is welcome.

Cemetery Fund: The annual collection for the upkeep of Brooms Cemetery raised £1,045. Thank you for your generous donations.

St Pius News

Collections: This Week – Aid to the Church In Need Next Week – World Mission Sunday
Exposition on Wednesday: Commences at 5.45pm until further notice.

Holy Rosary hour: Will be held on Monday 26th October at 6.00pm.

Our Lady of the Rosary News

Collections: This week - SVP

Next Week – World Mission Sunday

ANNIVERSARIES

St Mary's: Annie Eley, John Grugan, David Bradley, Michael Williamson, Hugh McCusker, Margaret Jane Williams, Nellie Darroch, Theresa Cassidy, Carmela Graham, James Glancy, Bernard Toner, Joseph Robinson, John Robert Cavanagh, Elizabeth Marshall, Edward McGeoghan, Mary Brannigan, John Anthony McArdle, Cecilia Thirlwell, Ursula Bell, Thomas Campbell, Mary Hogg, Conor Robinson, Jane Smith, Ellen White, John William Barrie, James Ronald Johnson, Hannah Conney.

Our Lady of the Rosary: John Wilfred Smith, David Bradley, Neil McKie (snr), Desmond McNally, Alice Bell, Bill Storey, Jenny Clark, John Jack Walker

St. Patrick's: Madge Davis, Richard Harrop, Nancy McCourt, Mary Hogg, John Andrew Boyle, Hannah Conney, Michael Slee, John Lee, Annie Rowell, Terry Carr, Jane Pratt, Terence Sewell, Maria Rodrigues, Horace George Burr, Marie Rafferty, Michael Byrne, Joseph McKenna, Mary Wilson, Philomena Lee, David Webb, Margaret Alice Bowman, Joan Richardson, James Kenneth Makin, Kathleen James, Robert Young

St Pius: Sarah Brolly, James Glancy, Mary Hanson, Thomas Irving, Teresa Philipson.

Our Lady & St Joseph's: Michael Richardson, Owen Clark, Madge Price, Joseph Christopher Fountain, Richard O'Connor, Rose Callaghan, Jack Shannon, Austin Fail, Ann Gill, Rosemary Naylor, Marie Hughes, Brian Farley, Anne Moore, John Watson.

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, 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'