30th Sunday of the Year (A) - 25th 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 Greatest Commandment

In the Gospel for the 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Matthew 22:34-40), Jesus is asked a question that many people of His day debated: 'Which is the great commandment in the Law?' His answer is both simple and profound. He says that we must love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, and mind, and love our neighbour as ourselves. Upon these two commandments, he says, hang all the Law and the Prophets.

At the heart of the Christian life is not a set of rules but a relationship of love. Everything we do as believers flows from our love for God and our love for others. Prayer, worship, fasting, acts of charity, and service all find their meaning when they are rooted in love.

Yet Jesus reminds us that these two loves cannot be separated. We cannot claim to love God while ignoring the needs of those around us. Nor can we truly love our neighbour without drawing strength from God's love. The more deeply we encounter the Lord in prayer and the sacraments, the more our hearts are transformed to reflect his compassion and mercy.

In everyday life, love is often expressed in simple ways: a word of encouragement, a listening ear, a gesture of forgiveness, an act of generosity, or patience with someone who is struggling. These ordinary acts become powerful signs of God's presence in the world.

As we gather for the Eucharist this week, let us ask the Lord to deepen our love. May he help us love him with our whole hearts and recognise his face in every person we meet. In living the commandment of love, we fulfil the heart of the Gospel and become authentic witnesses to Christ.

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 or Fr John at St Patrick's 01207 502196

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.

SVP - West Pontop Partnership: SVP - West Pontop Partnership: Thank you for the generosity shown across the parishes during the recent collections. We have been particularly busy supporting young families in need of furniture, school uniforms and help with food this year. We also supported six children in attending the Holy Island Camp for a week, where they enjoyed a wonderful experience during the summer holidays and created treasured memories. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you would like a visit, or if you are aware of someone who would. 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 07377 259724.

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.

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 – **CHANGE OF DATE**: Due to the popularity of this trip we have been able to book two buses but the date has been changed to **Thursday 5th November**. The Cost is £10 with a £5 non returnable deposit list for names is at the back of the St Patrick's and St Mary's. Details of pick up to follow later. If you are unable to go on this date please let Isobel English know on 01207 580169.

Blessing of Graves Service:The annual Blessing of Graves service will be led by Fr John at Blackhill Cemetery at 1pm on Saturday 31st October. The service includes Rosary, sprinkling of graves with holy water, lighting of candles and other prayers. Everyone is welcome but please wear suitable waterproof clothing and footwear in case of bad weather.

Medjugorje - Queen of Peace Prayer Group: Rosary, Meditation and Peace Prayer. To be held in St Mary's church on Wednesday 25th November at 6.15pm. All are welcome.

St Teresa's Autumn Fayre: Saturday 21st November from 11am with a Grand Raffle, Bottle Draw, New Gifts, Toys, Hot and Cold Food and much more. All are welcome.

St Patrick's Hall Tea on Tuesday: Come along and join us on Tuesday 2nd November at 2.00pm in St. Patrick's Church Hall for Tea, Coffee and Cake bring your friends and family too.

Glendale and Gibside Choirs: Joint Show in St Patrick's Church on Saturday 7th November at 7.00pm. Retiring collection only.

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.

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. The day runs 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. 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 – Clergy Training Fund Next Week – Clergy Training Fund

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.

Sunday Breakfast Club: Bacon and Sausage sandwiches, tea, coffee, raffle. Dates for future 1st and 15th November.

Dove of Peace: Once again we are inviting parishioners to remember their loved ones who have died, by placing a dove of peace on our memorial tree, which will be located outside the hall. All offerings made in their memory will go to the church restoration fund. Doves and donation envelopes will be available from the beginning of November. Thank you,

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.

JFK Church Hall: The Hall (JFK Centre) is available for hire, contact Isobel English for any bookings on 01207 580169. Please check the notice board for details of new groups in the hall.

St Patrick's News

Collections: This Week – Clergy Training Fund Next Week – Clergy Training Fund

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 and Tombola Prizes (no bric a brac required). The box is at the back of the church during mass times. Raffle tickets are on sale now after Sunday Mass for the Bottle Draw.

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 a small group of parishioners who help Fr John prepare and deliver liturgies throughout the year. The group is now in need of more help. 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 have paid for their subscription for 2026/2027. There's still time before the next draw to subscribe. For further information speak to or telephone one of the organisers Clare 591842 or Christine 504870

Energy Costs: We have now put the heating on in the church during mass. Please be mindful of the high costs of energy. If you could please ensure that you close the door behind you when you come into church. Also through the week we will be closing the main church doors and opening the side doors only.

Brooms - Our Lady and St Joseph's News

Collections: This Week – Clergy Training Fund Next Week – Clergy Training Fund

The recent collection for World Mission Sunday realised £90. Thank you for your support.

Lately Deceased: Margaret Ann Gartland and Kathleen Mary McNamee. Please pray for them and their families at this sad time.

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 from 9.10am in term time. Everyone is welcome.

St Pius News

Collections: This Week – Clergy Training Fund Next Week – Clergy Training Fund

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 – Clergy Training fund Next Week – Clergy Training Fund

ANNIVERSARIES

St Mary's: William Bell, James Williams, William Alton Storey, Edward Brown, Michael Carey, Maureen Mulholland, Christina Stella Elliot, Ernest Platt, Polly Alexandra Smith, Ann (Nancy) Miller, Margaret Mary McDonald, Mary Toner, Margaret Black, Steven Black, Rose Ellen Agnew, Nicholas Boyle, Elizabeth Page, Peter Cassidy, Genevieve St Clare Clarke, Maureen Connor, Brian Mckean, John McDonald, Mary Croney.
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: Thomas Bushby Snr.,William Creegan, Ethel Dickinson, Anne Fergus, Stuart Foster, Sheila Gibson, Mary Jeffreys, Ged. Kilty Jnr., Michael Kilty, Nancy McCourt, William McCurley, Joseph McNally, Margaret Southern.
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, Rose Corrigan, Fiona Bell, Simon Peter, Tina McAloon.
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'