



Catholic Parishes of ST. JOSEPH SACRED HEART ST. PATRICK

Stanley

Byermoor

Dipton

Pontop Partnership Dean: **Father Dermott Donnelly**
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 Deacon Paul Nichol (07906 489152)

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

8th May

Listen to the Word 4th Sunday of Easter Good Shepherd Sunday Acts 13: 14, 43-52 Psalm 99 Apocalypse 7: 9, 14-17 John 10: 27-30

We had a visitor to our church last week, we have had a spate of vandalism and have some broken windows, so a pigeon decided to take advantage of our hospitality and flew in. The man doing the brasses was very surprised when the bird flew past him. I managed to evict the bird the following day, after a chase and, with all the doors of the church wide open, the pigeon realised he was not welcome and flew out into the sunshine. It reminded me of that old story from Bede, about life being like a bird that flies into the master's hall, stays a few minutes then disappears again and no one knows where he comes from or where he goes.

Christ today speaks of His image as that of a Good Shepherd, one who knows his sheep and whose sheep know him. Life is short and there are all manners of dangers that we need to face but, with faith in God's care for each of us, we do not need to worry, His love will protect us if we listen for his voice. The shepherd's task was often dangerous, he lived outside of society and spent many months in the wilderness caring for his sheep. The book of the Apocalypse speaks of the huge number of people who have given their lives for their faith in God; they have found their reward in heaven where they live by springs of living water and where God has wiped away all tears from their eyes.

Paul and Barnabas are "a light for the nations", they have listened to the call from God to go out into the world and spread His word. They do so fearlessly, inspiring the Jews and Converts of Antioch who, like lambs among wolves, have been faithful to Christ and when they are forced to leave the city they leave their disciples, the faithful followers of the Word, filled with joy and the Holy Spirit.

Lord, send Shepherds to lead your people, to fill us with joy and bring us safely to you. Amen

David Frank

Saturday 7 th May	Sacred Heart Church St Joseph's Church	4:30pm PRIVATE	Mass: CARMEL DONNELLY Mass: PEOPLE OF THE PARTNERSHIP
Sunday 8 th May 4th Sunday Of Easter	St Patrick's Church St Joseph's Church St Patrick's Church	9:00am 11:00am 5:00pm	Mass: KEVIN McCORMICK Mass: JUNE ROUSE Rosary and Benediction
Monday 9 th May			
Tuesday 10 th May	St Joseph's Church	9:30am	Mass: SARAH MURPHY
Wednesday 11 th May	St Joseph's Church	9:30am	Mass: BETTY BRADLEY
Thursday 12 th May	St Joseph's Church	9:30am	Mass: REPOSE OF THE SOULS OF JAMES & MARY BOYLAN Followed by Exposition Of The Blessed Sacrament
Friday 13 th May	PRIVATE		Mass: CECILIA RIDLEY
Saturday 14 th May St Matthias Apostle	Sacred Heart Church	4:30pm	Mass: MARGARET McHUGH (A)
Sunday 15 th May 5th Sunday Of Easter	St Patrick's Church St Joseph's Church St Patrick's Church	9:00am 11:00am 5:00pm	Mass: PEOPLE OF THE PARTNERSHIP Mass: TERRY TAGGART Rosary & Benediction

PRAY FOR THOSE THAT NEED HEALING IN OUR PARISHES:

Anne Kennedy, Margaret Convey, Maureen Dixon, Danny Fagan and Mark Pinkerton

MASS INTENTIONS for our parishes are most welcome. Please be aware that weekend Masses are booked at least 2 months in advance. At Sacred Heart Church, there are Masses in for the next 3 months-please let us know if you are content for Mass to be said in either of our other 2 churches.

MAY SPECIAL COLLECTIONS Sick and Retired Priests (24th April open until 15 May). Little Sisters of the Poor (8th May). World Communications Day (29th May).

WELCOME FATHER PETER We welcome Father Peter who has arrived from Myanmar and has been appointed to work with us in our family of parishes. Father Peter has taught in the Diocesan Minor Seminary and was priest-in-charge of St Michael's Church Pyin Oo Lwin in Myanmar. Father Peter has also served as Editorial Board Member of Radio Veritas Asia, Metro Manila, Philippines (Representing Myanmar online Language Service) (2018 – 2021).

FATHER DERMOTT'S ANNIVERSARY MASS The special Mass for Father Dermott in celebration of the 30th anniversary of his ordination will take place on **Saturday 25th June at 3pm at the Emmaus Youth Village**, Pemberton Road, Allensford, Consett. This will be an opportunity for us to come together and build community and also for parishioners from across our parishes and other places where Father Dermott has served to come together and celebrate our faith. Arrivals from 2:45pm, Mass will be at 3pm followed by a barbecue and live music. **Owing to the lack of parking, transport will be provided. Booking will be essential**-if you would like to book a place to attend and for transport, please either sign up at the back of Church (there are sign up sheets provided) or contact the parish office.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS Over the coming weeks, our parish communities will come together with our schools to celebrate the First Holy Communion of our children so that we get a sense of one parish, one community. 30 St Joseph's schoolchildren will be making their First Holy Communion at our Sunday Mass on 8th May and 31 will make their First Holy Communion at our Sunday Mass on 15th May. Our other schools will also be making their First Holy Communion during the next few months and we look forward to welcoming them all into our parish family.

Vacancies The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle has the following vacancies:

Property Surveyor – Full-time, fixed term contract – 2 years. Flexible working is available. Closing date for applications: 12 May 2022. **Hexham, St Mary Parish Secretary** – 20 hours a week. Closing date for applications: 18 May 2022 Please visit www.diocesehn.org.uk for full details or contact us 0191 243 3301.

MISSIO send their thanks to supporters in Sacred Heart Parish, who have donated £957.89 during 2021. They assure us that our support of Missio changes lives for the better.

NORTHERN CROSS NEWSPAPER is the independent newspaper for the Catholic Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle. The newspapers are being printed again and are available monthly at the back of our Churches. Please support the newspaper by buying a copy-only £1.50.

The Society of St Vincent de Paul (SVP) is an international charitable organisation working with people in need. St Joseph's Conference of the SVP works within our family of Parishes, visiting housebound, sick and lonely people in their own homes, or care homes. We may also be able help families in need. Do you have a family member or friend who would like SVP members to visit them for a friendly chat? Or do you have a couple of hours to spare, and would like to volunteer to visit parishioners with us? To find out more please telephone Christine in the Parish Office or Barbara on 237910. Thank you.

FAITH WITNESS AGAINST HASSOCKFIELD A monthly faith witness against Hassockfield is held at the barrier to Hassockfield on the first Sunday of each month at 3:30pm.

Parish Collections	Offertory totals 01/05/22	Weekly Standing Order	Sick & Retired Priests (NBF)
St Joseph's	£445.23	£197.25	£22.00
St Patrick's	£119.13	£157.15	£23.20
Sacred Heart	£135.81	£57.69	-----