



Catholic Parishes of ST. JOSEPH SACRED HEART ST. PATRICK

Stanley

Byermoor

Dipton

Pontop Partnership Dean: **Father Dermott Donnelly**
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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

15th May

Listen to the Word 5th Sunday of Easter Acts 13: 21-27 Psalm 144 Apocalypse 21: 1-3 John 13: 31-35

Stepping out into the unknown, clothed only with faith in Christ, Paul and Barnabas ventured into their first missionary journey. They took nothing with them but their faith, they had no safe havens to take comfort in, they, quite literally, put their trust in the Lord.

Have you ever thought about how you would have the courage to follow in the footsteps of Paul and Barnabas? Is your faith strong enough to give up everything to follow Christ wherever that may take you? I do not think that I could do such a thing. I am by nature cautious; I try to get as much information as I can before embarking on something new but sometimes, I do make a small leap of faith; I cannot understand why I do so, but I know that something deep within gives me the courage. Of course, my leap of faith does not leave me open to angry mobs that want to silence and kill me. Thankfully my journey is not like that, but we all need to consider what do we do when our faith is challenged; do we speak out or do we remain silent.

Jesus tells us that that “By this love you have for one another, everyone will know that you are my disciples”. He challenges us to show to the world our Faith in Him and our love for all His creation. This task may not appear to be as daunting as the challenges facing Paul and Barnabas but on a basic individual level it is a task that we are each called to fulfil. How do we appear to those in whom we come into contact: do they see in us true disciples of Jesus? If we have that love that Jesus speaks about then it will shine out and show, to those we meet, the love of Christ living within each of us.

David Frank

Saturday 14 th May	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 and Benediction
Monday 16 th May			
Tuesday 17 th May	St Joseph's Church	9:30am	Mass: CECILIA RIDLEY
Wednesday 18 th May	St Joseph's Church	9:30am	Mass: MONICA HEATON (BIRTHDAY)
Thursday 19 th May	St Joseph's Church	9:30am	Mass: BETTY BRADLEY Followed by Exposition Of The Blessed Sacrament
Friday 20 th May	PRIVATE		Mass: MURRAY
Saturday 21 st May	Sacred Heart Church	4:30pm	Mass: ALICE JOYCE & DMS OF FAMILY
Sunday 22 nd May 6th Sunday Of Easter	St Patrick's Church St Joseph's Church St Patrick's Church	9:00am 11:00am 5:00pm	Mass: MARY McDERMOTT Mass: PEOPLE OF THE PARTNERSHIP 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). World Communications Day (29th May).

FATHER DERMOTT'S ANNIVERSARY MASS **BOOKING TO ATTEND THE MASS IS ESSENTIAL** 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 entertainment. **Booking to attend the Mass is essential and owing to the lack of parking, transport will be provided.** There is a sign up sheet at the back of our Churches or contact St Joseph's Parish Office on either 01207 299012 or email inspire@ymt.org.

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. 31 St Joseph's schoolchildren will make their First Holy Communion at our Sunday Mass on 15th May. Our other schools will also be making their First Holy Communion on the 11th and 12th June and we look forward to welcoming them all into our parish family.

RETURNING TO MASS AT PENTECOST Since the beginning of the Covid pandemic, until the present time, we have shared with you our judgment that the situation of the last two years has meant that the Sunday Obligation has been impeded and has needed to be fulfilled in other ways. We thank God that this situation has now changed. The pressing challenges of the pandemic have lessened significantly. Most people have resumed the wide range of normal activities, no longer restricted by the previous Covid measures.

We therefore believe that the reasons which have prevented Catholics from attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation no longer apply.

However, we understand there will still be some members of our congregations who, for reasons of health, do not feel safe enough to return to Mass, because of situations such as ill health, care for the sick or legitimate fear, this is not a breach of the Sunday Obligation.

Looking forward to the forthcoming feast of Pentecost, we now invite all Catholics who have not yet done so to return to attending Mass in person.

Vacancy The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle has the following vacancy:

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.

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 08/05/22	Offertory totals 08/05/22	Weekly Standing Order	Sick & Retired Priests (NBF)	Little Sisters Of The Poor
St Joseph's	£568.21	£197.25	-----	£74.45
St Patrick's	£86.91	£157.15	-----	£45.55
Sacred Heart	£155.10	£57.69	£30.60	£6.50