

# Holy Family

## Roman Catholic Parish

St Mary's, St John Vianney's, St Patrick's and St Joseph's Churches

Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle



Parish Diary — Week beginning 11th December 2022

\*Live stream: [www.facebook.com/HolyFamilyHartlepool](http://www.facebook.com/HolyFamilyHartlepool)

Date	Feast	Saint Joseph's	Saint Patrick's	Saint John Vianney's	Saint Mary's
Saturday 10th December	(Vigil) 3rd Sunday of Advent	3.00pm - 3.30pm Exposition/Confessions  4.00pm Mass George Hoey			6.00pm Mass David Crisp
Sunday 11th December	3rd Sunday of Advent	*10.00am Mass Barry Hogan  <u>No Coffee after Mass</u>	9.00am Mass Mark & Matthew Lennard  Coffee after Mass	11.00am Mass Deceased Garraghan & Davison Families  Coffee after Mass	
Monday 12th December		6.30pm Mass Deceased Members of the Ord Family			10.00am Mass Fearon & Fernie Families
Tuesday 13th December	St Lucy	12.05pm Mass Audrey McDonald	10.15am/10.30am Exposition/Rosary  6.30pm Mass Roisheen Hunter (Birthday)		2.00pm Rosary
Wednesday 14th December	St John of the Cross	6.00pm - 6.25pm Exposition/Confessions  6.30pm Mass Michael Windram		9.00am Mass Frank & Graham Connor	10.00am Requiem Mass Elizabeth Parker
Thursday 15th December			9.30am Mass at St Teresa's School Emily McPartlin		6.15pm Novena to Our Lady  6.30pm Mass Coghlan Mass Fund
Friday 16th December		12.05pm Mass Nora Butler			
Saturday 17th December	(Vigil) 4th Sunday of Advent	3.00pm - 3.30pm Exposition/Confessions  4.00pm Mass Brigid Carroll			6.00pm Mass Ian Liddle, Ray & Mark Crawford
Sunday 18th December	4th Sunday of Advent	*10.00am Mass Annie & Peter Allen  Coffee after Mass	9.00am Mass Kathleen Nicolson  Coffee after Mass	11.00am Mass Kenny Coull  Coffee after Mass	

### Parish Clergy

#### Parish Priest

Very Rev. Canon Paul Douthwaite  
BA Hons PGCE

✉ ppholyfamilyhartlepool@gmail.com

☎ 01429 272985

Rev. Father Jim Angus

☎ 01429 266734

Deacon Jeff Parkes

✉ deaconhollyfamilyhartlepool@gmail.com

### Parish Office

#### Secretary

Laura Coxon

✉ holyfamilyhartlepool@gmail.com

☎ 01429 866288

**Opening Hours**  
10am - 2pm  
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

Parish Centre  
Grosvenor Street  
Hartlepool  
TS26 8DP

### Holy Family Youth

#### Coordinator

Ric Slatter

✉ ric@hollyfamilyyouth.co.uk

☎ 07741162085

### Churches

**St Joseph's**  
St Paul's Road  
TS26 9EY

**St Mary's**  
Durham Street  
TS24 0HD

**St John Vianney's**  
King Oswy Drive  
West View Estate  
TS24 9LX

**St Patrick's**  
Owton Manor Lane  
TS25 3QG

# THIS WEEK'S PARISH NEWS

**COFFEE AFTER MASS** - Please note, there will be no coffee after Mass at St Joseph's this Sunday, as the hall is booked for a private event.

**CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES** - will be as follows:-  
Saturday 24th December 2022 – Christmas Vigil Masses  
4pm Saint Joseph's  
4pm Saint John Vianney's  
6pm Saint Mary's  
6pm Saint Patrick's  
Sunday 25th December 2022 – Christmas Day Masses  
9am Saint Patrick's  
10am Saint Joseph's  
11am Saint John Vianney's

**GIFT AID** - If any returning parishioners wish to restart their Gift Aid donations, please contact the Parish Office with your name and address and we will be happy to provide you with envelopes or a Banker's Order form. If you are a taxpayer and wish to join the scheme, we will provide you with an application form. Remember we can claim an extra 25% on top of your donation as a tax free benefit to the parish; a welcome bonus in the present climate of inflation!

**BAPTISM APPLICATIONS** - Application forms for infant baptism are available at the back of each church and from the parish office. Please return completed forms to the parish office.

**SCHOOL SERVICES** - On Wednesday 14th December, a Mass will be said at EMS at 12.30pm. All are welcome.

**CHRISTMAS LITURGY** - Join us at St Joseph's on Monday 19th December, at 6pm, for the EMS Christmas Liturgy.

**ALTAR SERVERS MASS** - Traditionally, a mass is celebrated on the Feast of Saint Stephen, the Patron Saint of Altar Servers. As this follows immediately after the Christmas festivities, instead we will have an Altar Servers Mass on Friday 30th December at 1205pm at St Joseph's Church. This will be a celebration for all of the servers of the parish, an opportunity to invest new servers into the Guild of Saint Stephen and to thank our servers for their faithful service at the altar. Please do join us for this celebration.

**CHRISTMAS CANDLE INTENTIONS** - Each of the Churches of our Parish will be illuminated over the Christmas period with Candles representing the intentions of our parish community. The Candle Intentions will be received at the back of each Church of our Parish until the 21st December inclusive. A suggested donation of at least £3 to cover the cost of the candle is suggested.

**SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS** - What better way to get into the Christmas spirit than a service of lessons and Carols for families of all ages? Our parish primary schools will be joining together at St Joseph's Church for a service of lessons and carols led by our pupils. The service will begin at 5pm on Wednesday 14th December and last just under an hour. It will also be live streamed for those unable to join us.

**SACRISTANS FOR ST JOSEPH'S** - There is an urgent need for reliable people to act as Sacristans at St Joseph's so every Mass is covered. To be a Sacristan involves preparing the altar for Mass and clearing up afterwards. If you feel that you would like to explore this possibility, please speak to Canon Paul.

**CHRISTMAS RAFFLE** - Tickets will be on sale from 4th December, available from St John Vianney's Church. Various gift vouchers and prizes to be won. The raffle will be drawn on Sunday 18th December in the annexe after Mass.

**LOCAL CHURCH COMMITTEES** - Further to Canon Paul's previous note regarding the establishment of Local Church Committees for each church of the parish, he would like to hear (ppholyfamilyhartlpeool@gmail.com) from those who would wish to be considered for membership on the LCC of St Joseph's, St Mary's and St Patrick's churches. St John Vianney already has an established LCC following its reopening earlier this year.

**PARISH CHRISTMAS SOCIAL** - Many thanks to all who supported this event – we had a wonderful evening, the entertainment, the food, and the company all combined to make it a lovely night. Thanks also to those who prepared everything – you are a truly great team.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** - to Roisheen Hunter who will be 70 on Monday 12th, and Mary Reed 93 on Tuesday 13th. Congratulations from both families and many friends in Holy Family Parish.

**ADVENT REFLECTIONS** - The Vicariate for Faith & Mission have produced a series of reflections on the readings used throughout our Advent preparations. The reflections have been written by members of the Diocese and offer an opportunity to pause and reflect. The reflections for the third and fourth weeks of Advent can be downloaded from [bit.ly/DHNAdvent2022](https://bit.ly/DHNAdvent2022) or by searching for #DHNAdvent2022 on Facebook.

**PARISH DONATIONS** - Anyone wishing to provide regular giving, you can instruct your bank to set up a standing order using these details:  
Beneficiary: DHN The Holy Family      Account Number: 11173928      Sort Code: 40-34-45      **Thank you.**

**First Reading: Isaiah 35:1-6,10**

## God himself is coming to save you

Let the wilderness and the dry-lands exult, let the wasteland rejoice and bloom, let it bring forth flowers like the jonquil, let it rejoice and sing for joy. The glory of Lebanon is bestowed on it, the splendour of Carmel and Sharon; they shall see the glory of the Lord, the splendour of our God. Strengthen all weary hands, steady all trembling knees and say to all faint hearts, 'Courage! Do not be afraid. Look, your God is coming, vengeance is coming, the retribution of God; he is coming to save you.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, the ears of the deaf unsealed, then the lame shall leap like a deer and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy for those the Lord has ransomed shall return. They will come to Zion shouting for joy, everlasting joy on their faces; joy and gladness will go with them and sorrow and lament be ended.

**Response: Come, Lord, and save us.**

**Second Reading: James 5:7-10**

## Do not lose heart; the Lord's coming will be soon

Be patient, brothers, until the Lord's coming. Think of a farmer: how patiently he waits for the precious fruit of the ground until it has had the autumn rains and the spring rains! You too have to be patient; do not lose heart, because the Lord's coming will be soon. Do not make complaints against one another, brothers, so as not to be brought to judgement yourselves; the Judge is already to be seen waiting at the gates. For your example, brothers, in submitting with patience, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

## Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!  
The spirit of the Lord has been given to me.  
He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor.  
Alleluia!

**Gospel Reading Matthew 11:2-11**

## 'A greater than John the Baptist has never been seen'

John in his prison had heard what Christ was doing and he sent his disciples to ask him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or have we got to wait for someone else?' Jesus answered, 'Go back and tell John what you hear and see; the blind see again, and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor; and happy is the man who does not lose faith in me.'

As the messengers were leaving, Jesus began to talk to the people about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swaying in the breeze? No? Then what did you go out to see? A man wearing fine clothes? Oh no, those who wear fine clothes are to be found in palaces. Then what did you go out for? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and much more than a prophet: he is the one of whom scripture says:

'Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way before you.

'I tell you solemnly, of all the children born of women, a greater than John the Baptist has never been seen; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he is.'

## REFLECTION

*It makes our hearts beat a little faster, it raises our spirits, it makes the day and all its doubts and uncertainties disappear, it fills us with the feeling that nothing else can, it's name is Joy and Advent is full of this great gift. If we look carefully, we can see it breaking out all around us. Christianity is not for those who have no faith in the future, it is about the joy in what is to come, and it is enkindled in our hearts each Advent season.*

*It was joy that inspired Isaiah to write the words we hear in our first reading. There is no cause for concern in his words. They are full of expectation. He sees all creation crying out with joy for what is to come. The deserts will bloom with the promise of that day, and all will see the glory, the splendour of God. Our willing spirits will be raised through the promise of the season. Those who suffer will find healing, the blind, the dumb, the lame, the deaf, all will see the mercy of God.*

*James tries to throw caution on our joy, he is living through the time after the resurrection; he trusts in the prophesy of Isaiah, but he also recognises that all is not well in his world. He calls on the people to be patient. He has seen the seed of Christ sown in the world, but he knows it will need autumn and spring rain to bring forth its harvest. He urges us to live in peace with our neighbours, to wait patiently on the Lord.*

*John, too, is impatient, cast down into his gloomy dungeon he finds it difficult to see any joy in his situation. He hears the stories of a man, Jesus of Nazareth, who is walking the dusty roads of the land, bringing consolation and healing to the people. These stories gladden his heart, he needs to know more, can this be the promised one of God? Then word filters back, Jesus sends to tell John that Isaiah's prophesy is being fulfilled, the blind see, the lame walk, the dead are raised to life and the Good News is being proclaimed to the poor. In the midst of despair, John finds hope, his spirit is raised, and joy fills his heart giving him, the greatest of men, the strength to endure whatever is to come.*

*David Frank*

Daily Readings



# OUR PRAYERS

**The sick of the Parish:** Stephen Anderson, Maureen Andrews, Neil Apedaile, Pat Baker, Kathleen Barlow, Michael Blackford, Hilary Bradbury, Dennis Bratt, Margaret Burke, Kay Burns, John Cann, Sarah Carroll, Rita Charlton, Veronica Cochrane, Daniel Cosby, Betty Crane, James Daley, Neil Davis, Lottie Docherty, James Doherty, Natalie Eglintine, Teresa Falkingham, Emily Flannery, Alison Foster, Lorraine Galen, Dorothy Geen, David Geen, Christine Hansell, Mary Harper, Mary Harris, Andrew Haygarth, Bella Hoey, Muriel Howe, Molly Hughes, Peter Johnson, Christine Jones, Etty Jordan, Moira Kelly, Ceilia King, Margaret Kirkpatrick, Ken Knight, Frank Kozorowski, Marie Lydon, Maureen Maguire, Vera Marriott, James Marshall, Mary Mason, Ian Matthews, Colin McDonald, Owen McEaney, Lilian McGee, Jim McKenna, Christopher Mghee, Paul Moore, Veronica Morrell, Pat Ness, Kitty Newstead, Sylvice Notrianni, Winnie Oliver, Myra Pattison, Colin Price, Christine Priestly, Damian Rafferty, Jean Richardson, Pam Robertson, Joseph Robinson, Paula Rogers, Hilda Ryan, Agnes Scully, Corazon Simpson, Matthew Steel, Brenda Stott, Brett Swain, Gail Symington, Melvin Thackeray, Lynsey Todd, Jonathon Vokes, Kay Wallace, James Walsh, Anthony Weegram. *Through our prayers may the healing presence of Christ be with them at this time.*

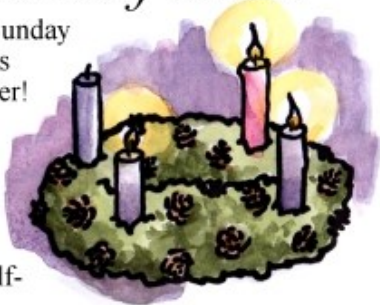
**Recently Deceased:** Elizabeth Parker, Greta Healey. *May they rest in peace and rise in Glory.*

**Anniversaries that occur at this time:** Mary Gretton, Bernadette Guy, Bernard John, Michael Windram, James Pender, James Gormley, Brigid Carroll, Maurice Costello, John Goulding, Eileen Wright, Elizabeth Horwood, Julia Bosworth, William Spence, Dorothy Birkbeck, Doreen Miller, Fred Evans, Stephen Tierney, John Dobing, George Hoey, Edgar Stabler, Vincent Butler, Margaret Peart, Elizabeth Neil, Emily Hammerton, James Pender, James Kilraine, Brenda McGarry, George H Young, Nellie Bushnall, Elsie Close, Father Joe Travers, Terence Bone, Jack Christie, James Patrick Cushlow, Patricia Measor, Kathleen Waugh, Anne Wilkinson, Ray Crawford, Glen Watson, James Duffy, Simon Taylor, Mary Louise Parpa, and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time. *Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. Amen.*

## Kids Corner:

### Advent is Half Over!

Today is the third Sunday of Advent. That means that half the wait is over! If you have an advent wreath, this is the week to light the pink candle. Pink is a symbol the joy we have because we're half-way to Christmas.



In today's Gospel, Jesus tells the people that John the Baptist was a prophet and messenger. A prophet is someone who tells the truth. In the Old Testament the prophets told God's people the truth about God. Saint John was a prophet because he told the people that the Messiah, or saviour, was coming soon, and that they needed to repent of their sins.

Saint John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus by calling people to repentance. You can help prepare for Christmas by thinking and talking about how Jesus came to earth on the first Christmas. Can you tell somebody the story of the first Christmas today?



Answer to front page: St. John was in prison.

[www.thekidsbulletin.com](http://www.thekidsbulletin.com)

## The Kids' Bulletin

Third Sunday of Advent  
December 11th, 2022



*Saint John the Baptist was the messenger who prepared the world for Jesus' coming.*

*Where was he in today's Gospel reading?  
Connect the dots to find out!  
Then you can finish colouring in the picture.*