

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 23rd March 2025

*Live stream: www.youtube.com/@HolyFamilyHartlepool

Date	Feast	Saint Joseph's*	Saint Patrick's	Saint John Vianney's	Saint Mary's
Saturday 22nd March	(Vigil) 3rd Sunday of Lent	3.00pm Exposition & Confessions 3.30pm Rosary 4.00pm Mass Bernadette Jackson (BS) Megraw Mass Fund (CP)		6.00pm Mass Thanksgiving to Our Blessed Lady & Our Blessed Lord (BS) Coghlan Mass Fund (CP)	
Sunday 23rd March	3rd Sunday of Lent	10.30am Mass Simeon & Joan Fraser (BS) Guild Mass Fund (CP)	9.00am Mass Mel & Marie Thackeray 60th Wedding A (BS) Ord Mass Fund (CP)		
Monday 24th March		6.00pm Exposition & Confessions 6.30pm Mass David Denning			
Tuesday 25th March	The Annunciation of the Lord	10.00am Funeral Service John Robinson 12.05pm Mass Elizabeth & George Dixon			
Wednesday 26th March				9.30am Mass Buckley Mass Fund	
Thursday 27th March		6.30pm Stations of the Cross & Benediction	9.30am Mass at St Teresa's School Peter McClure		
Friday 28th March		12.05pm Mass Joanne Larkin (Healing)			
Saturday 29th March	(Vigil) 4th Sunday of Lent	3.00pm Exposition & Confessions 3.30pm Rosary 4.00pm Mass David & Eileen Knight		6.00pm Mass Pat Boagey	
Sunday 30th March	4th Sunday of Lent	10.30am Mass David Fraser	9.00am Mass Frances Bamford (100th B/Day Remembrance)		

SCHOOL MASSES

English Martyrs

Wednesday 26th March - 12.20pm Mass

St Teresa's

Thursday 27th March - 9.30am Mass

Prayer for Vocations

Heavenly Father, in Baptism You called us by name and made us members of Your family, the Church. Help all people to know their vocation in life and to respond by living a life of holiness. For Your greater glory and for the service of Your people, raise up dedicated and generous men who will serve as priests for the Church of Hexham and Newcastle. Send Your Spirit to guide and strengthen our communities, our seminarians and all who are discerning their vocation. Amen.

Parish Clergy

Parish Priest

Very Rev. Canon Paul Douthwaite
BA Hons PGCE

✉ pp.holyfamily.hartlepool@diocesehn.org.uk

☎ 01429 272985

Deacon Jeff Parkes

✉ jeff.parkes@diocesehn.org.uk

Parish Office

Secretary

Laura Dolan

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☎ 01429 866288

Opening Hours
10am - 2pm
Monday to Friday

Parish Centre
Grosvenor Street
Hartlepool
TS26 8DP

Churches

St Joseph's

St Paul's Road
TS26 9EY

St Patrick's

Owton Manor Lane
TS25 3QG

St John Vianney's

King Oswy Drive
West View Estate
TS24 9LX

St Mary's

Durham Street
TS24 0HD

Weekly Groups

Sun: After 9am Mass
Coffee Morning @ St Patrick's Hall

Sun: After 10.30am Mass
Coffee Morning @ Parish Centre Hall

Mon: 11am-12pm
Praise & Worship Prayer Group
@ Nazareth Room, Parish Centre

Tues: 12.30pm-2.30pm
Lunch Club @ Parish Centre Hall

Tues: 1pm-3pm
Over 60s Club @ St Patrick's Hall

Sat: As Announced
Coffee Evening @ St John Vianney's

THIS WEEK'S PARISH NEWS

HOLY WEEK - Last year, with the exception of the Easter Vigil, we celebrated the Sacred Triduum together as a Parish at St Joseph's Church. St Joseph's was chosen because of its centrality in the town and also because of its capacity. This year, at the Easter Vigil, we will welcome a number of new members into our community of faith. For this reason, it will not be possible to celebrate two Easter Vigils. So that each Church of our Parish can have a Mass on Easter Sunday, the times of the regular Sunday Masses will be adjusted slightly for Easter Sunday only. Please save these dates for your diary.

Date	Service	Church	Time
Maundy Thursday 17/04	Mass of the Lord's Supper	St Joseph's	6.30pm
Good Friday 18/04	Solemn Passion of the Lord	St Joseph's	3.00pm
Holy Saturday 19/04	Easter Vigil Mass	St Joseph's	6.30pm
Easter Sunday 20/04	Easter Sunday Mass	St Patrick's	8.30am
	Easter Sunday Mass	St Joseph's	10.00am
	Easter Sunday Mass	St John Vianney's	11.30am

VISITATION FROM BISHOP STEPHEN - This weekend, we welcome Bishop Stephen who will be making a formal visitation of the parish and will celebrate all of the Masses.

JUBILEE 2025 - The opening times of the Holy Door this week are as follows:

Monday: 6pm – 7pm
Tuesday: 11am – 1pm
Wednesday: By appointment only
Thursday: By appointment only
Friday: 11am – 1pm
Saturday: 2.30pm – 5pm
Sunday: 9.30am – 12pm

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM - Application forms for infant Baptism are available at the back of each Church. Please return completed forms to the parish office and come along to a Preparation Meeting to secure your booking. The next Preparation Meeting is on Wed 2nd April at 6pm, in the Parish Centre Hall at St Joseph's.

GIFT AID - We will be issuing envelopes for 2025/26. Please note those who use envelopes may find the envelope number has been changed. This is to try and simplify the issue of envelopes and reduce wastage. In future we will be unable to issue envelopes for those who are not in the scheme. There will be an opportunity to join the scheme in March, the Parish benefits greatly from those who are members of the scheme, there is no cost to parishioners as the diocese claims the tax paid by Gift Aid members on their offertory donations from the government. If you are a tax payer please consider joining the scheme. I can be contacted through the Parish Office. Many thanks, Dave

200 CLUB - Please note, subs are now due: £25 yearly, £12.50 half yearly, £6.25 quarterly. Thanks.

RED MISSION BOXES - Please empty your box into a bag with your name and address on, and bring it either to the parish office or to Mass to be counted. Thank you very much for your support.

PARISH COMMITTEES - As a parish, we now have two established committees: the Finance Committee and the Social Committee. Over the coming weeks, two further committees will be established for the practical running of the parish; the Liturgy Committee, and the Buildings Committee. Once these are established, we will then begin to look at the formation of a parish Pastoral Council, focusing on spiritual formation, it will direct the parish in its missionary apostolate. Please be generous in accepting an invitation to join these new committees.

OLD POSTAGE STAMPS - David & Theresa O'Neill have been raising funds to assist the nuns of Little Sisters of the Poor carry on their wonderful work caring for elderly people including retired clergy & religious. While we no longer collect stamps at church, please feel free to contact David and Theresa if you have any to donate: 0191 264 5771, david-oneill3@sky.com.

CAFOD LENTEN FAMILY FAST - Our Fast Day collection will take place on Sunday 30th March. Envelopes will be available at the back of the churches this weekend to take away and return for the retiring collection next week.

ST PATRICK'S GARDENS - We need help to clear the garden outside the church ready for sowing grass seed and we plan to come together on Saturday 29th March at 9.30am, weather permitting. Please join us if you can and bring your gardening tools.

YOUTH2000 HOLY HOUR WITH CARLO ACUTIS - Young people are welcome to join a Holy Hour during the tour of the Carlo Acutis relics. This will be held on Friday 28th March from 6-7pm as part of the vigil at St Michael's Church, Houghton le Spring. Praise and worship music provided by Set a Fire from Durham University and Sunderland University chaplaincy.

OVER 60S CLUB - On Tuesday 25th March, we will be joined by a special guest who will be selling a selection of high-quality clothing from popular brands such as M&S, River Island, Next, and more.

Mass of Christ the Saviour

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts.
 Heaven and earth are full, are full of your glory.
 Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest.
 Blessed is he who comes, who comes
 in the name of the Lord.
 Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest.

Jesus, Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
 Jesus, Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
 Jesus, Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

PARISH DONATIONS - Anyone wishing to provide regular giving, you can instruct your bank to set up a standing order using these details:



Beneficiary: DHN Holy Family Hartlepool

Account Number: 11173928

Sort Code: 40-34-45

We are also able to take contactless donations. Please scan the QR code to make a one-off donation, or use our digital collection plate at the back of St Joseph's Church.

Thank you.

First Reading: Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15

“I Am” has sent me to you.’

In those days: Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian, and he led his flock to the west side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. And the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush. He looked, and behold, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed. And Moses said, ‘I will turn aside to see this great sight, why the bush is not burned.’ When the Lord saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, ‘Moses, Moses!’ And he said, ‘Here I am.’ Then he said, ‘Do not come near; take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.’ And he said, ‘I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.’ And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. Then the Lord said, ‘I have surely seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters. I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey.’

Then Moses said to God, ‘If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, “The God of your fathers has sent me to you”, and they ask me, “What is his name?” what shall I say to them?’ God said to Moses, ‘I Am Who I Am.’ And he said, ‘Say this to the people of Israel: “I Am has sent me to you.” ’ God also said to Moses, ‘Say this to the people of Israel: “The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you.” This is my name for ever, and thus I am to be remembered throughout all generations.’

Response: The Lord is compassionate and gracious.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12

The way of life of the people with Moses in the desert was written down for our instruction.

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptised into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ. Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did, nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer. Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come. Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall.

Gospel Acclamation:

Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God.
Repent, says the Lord,
for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.
Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God.

Gospel Reading Luke 13:1-9

“Unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.”

There were some present at that very time who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. And he answered them, ‘Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans because they suffered in this way? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish. Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them: do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who lived in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.’

And he told this parable: ‘A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. And he said to the vine dresser, “Look, for three years now I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down. Why should it use up the ground?” And he answered him, “Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig round it and put on manure. Then if it should bear fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.” ’

REFLECTION

Lent is a time for repentance; it is a time to reflect on our lives and to start to make right those things that are out of harmony with God's love. There is a danger that we can lose the sense of what is sinful in our behaviour; that we take the mercy of God for granted. We have become familiar with the God of love, but we cannot just rely on His love to bring us to eternal life; we must live in a way that speaks to others of the love of God.

When I read the passages of scripture for this week, I am struck by the uncompromising message that they bring. The story of Moses and the burning bush always seemed very exciting; here was God choosing Moses to go to Pharaoh and demand freedom for the people of Israel. I had the image of Moses as a mighty warrior challenging the power of Egypt and bringing his people through the barren desert to a land of Milk and Honey. Then I read an article which described Moses as a murderer and a coward; one who killed an Egyptian and then ran away into the desert to hide from justice. I began to see that God chose him not out of his strength but out of his weakness, not because he was a hero but because he was a sinner. His strength came from repentance and through allowing God to transform him into someone who the people would follow, not through strength, but through faith.

Lent is also a time of transformation. Luke's gospel is a warning to the people of that time to change before it is too late. The people of Israel were heading towards a confrontation with the might of Rome and the way they were taking could only end in disaster. Jesus was trying to teach them a different way, but they would not listen. The parable of the Fig Tree is a reminder to us that we are given many chances to change and bear fruit; if we do not take these opportunities then we risk everything. God's love is there for each of us but if we turn away from that love then our fate may well be the same as the Fig tree.

David Franke

Daily Readings



OUR PRAYERS

The sick of the Parish: Annie Airey, Stephen Anderson, Maureen Andrews, Neil Apedaile, Pat Baker, Kathleen Barlow, Carole Bew, Michael Blackford, Dennis Bratt, Ronnie Burnett, Kay Burns, Sarah Carroll, Rita Charlton, Veronica Cochrane, Daniel Cosby, Betty Crane, James Daley, Neil Davis, Louise Dixon, Natalie Eglintine, Teresa Falkingham, Grace Fallow, Lorraine Galen, Dorothy Geen, David Geen, Catherine Gray, Mary Harris, Andrew Haygarth, Bella Hoey, Muriel Howe, Molly Hughes, Carol Hutchinson, Peter Johnson, Christine Jones, Ceilia King, Isobel Knowles, Maureen Maguire, Baby Pippa Marie, Vera Marriott, Brenda Mathews, Ian Matthews, Owen McEaney, James McGee, Lilian McGee, Jim McKenna, Christopher Mghee, Peter McNaughton, Paul Moore, Ann Mullins, Bob Mullins, Pat Ness, Kitty Newstead, June Nolan, Sylvice Notrianni, Joe O'Connor, Myra Pattison, Carol Price, Damian Rafferty, Pam Robertson, Eric Robinson, Joseph Robinson, Paula Rogers, Kathleen Royds, Hilda Ryan, Agnes Scully, Michael Christopher Sheeran, Corazon Simpson, Marie Spindlow, Matthew Steel, Brenda Stott, Brett Swain, Gail Symington, Melvin Thackeray, Lynsey Todd, Kieran Turnbull, John Twydale, Norma Twydale, Jonathon Vokes, Julie Wallace, Tony Wilkinson, Edith Wilson. *Through our prayers may the healing presence of Christ be with them at this time.*

Recently Deceased: John Robinson, Anthony Morrell, Mavis Garthwaite, Bernadette Horsfield, Jean Gallagher. *May they rest in peace and rise in Glory.*

Anniversaries that occur at this time: Ettie O'Hickey, Annie Purdy, Hilda Hay, Francis Moore, Laurence Faulkner, John Tomlinson, Jean Newbury, Anne Emerson, Patricia Smith, Frederick Gofton, Stephen Anderson, Mary Mathews, John Thomas Hughes, Mary Ann Clark, Robert Turner, Joseph Curren, Eileen Agnes Johnson, Baby Elizabeth Robinson, Anthony Tumilty, Margaret (Peggy) Parker, Dorothy Hiney, Michael Judd, Maureen Ballem, Ronald Harrison, Eva Railton, Michael Macdonald, Jimmy Docherty, Rev. John Jo Donnelly, Margaret Lamb, Linda Ainslie, Catherine Hadfield, May Mary Short, Erno Czeba, Jane Gofton, Harry Bentham, Margaret Eagle, John Joseph Graves, Celia O'Neil, Joan Tupman, 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:

What Kind of Fig Tree are You?



In today's Gospel reading, we hear a parable about a fig tree. The owner waited three years for it to grow some figs, but it still wasn't producing any. He told the gardener to cut it down. But the gardener said he would try just for one more year to get it to bear fruit- and if it didn't give any then he would cut it down.

The fig tree is like a person who can do good things but doesn't. The owner shows the justice of God- he has given the tree enough chances so its time is up. But the gardener is like God's mercy. He wants to give the tree one more chance. And he's going to give it extra fertilizer to try to help it.



Lent is a good time to look at our own life and see if we are doing all the good things we can. Maybe there's something nice that we know we could do for someone but we just never bother to. Or maybe we aren't praying quite as much as we know we should. God is giving us a chance to become better people this Lent, and it's your job to make it happen!

The Kids' Bulletin

Third Sunday of Lent
March 23rd, 2025



*What's wrong with this fig tree?
See what the two men want to do with it by
reading what they say in a mirror.*