

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 6th April 2025

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

Date	Feast	Saint Joseph's	Saint Patrick's	Saint John Vianney's	Saint Mary's
Saturday 5th April	(Vigil) 5th Sunday of Lent	11.30am Baptisms 12.30pm Baptisms 3.00pm Exposition & Confessions 3.30pm Rosary 4.00pm Mass Terry Collins		6.00pm Mass Margaret Lee	
Sunday 6th April	5th Sunday of Lent	10.30am Mass In Thanksgiving	9.00am Mass Steven Tierney (In Remembrance)		
Monday 7th April		1.30pm Funeral Service Edith Martin 6.00pm Exposition & Confessions 6.30pm Mass The Brannan Family			
Tuesday 8th April		12.05pm Mass Soul of Josephine Rebello	10.00am Funeral Service Brian Hoey		
Wednesday 9th April				10.00am Mass at Hartfields Retirement Village 2.00pm Funeral Service Lynne Morrow 6.30pm Stations of the Cross & Benediction	
Thursday 10th April			9.30am Mass Catherine Hadfield (In Remembrance)		
Friday 11th April		12.05pm Mass Bernadette Jackson			
Saturday 12th April	(Vigil) Palm Sunday	3.00pm Exposition & Confessions 3.30pm Rosary 4.00pm Mass Vera Flanagan (Portugal)		6.00pm Mass Ernie Watson	
Sunday 13th April	Palm Sunday	10.30am Mass Alan Willgress	9.00am Mass Terry Jeffries		

SCHOOL MASSES

English Martyrs
Wednesday 9th April - 11.30am 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

✉ holyfamily.hartlepool@diocesehn.org.uk

☎ 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

ALTAR SERVER PRACTICE - In preparation for Holy Week, there will be a practice for all servers who will be assisting at the ceremonies on Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil. The practice will take place on Tuesday 15th April at 4pm in St Joseph's Church.

HOLY WEEK MINISTRIES - As there is only one Sacred Triduum in our Parish this year there will be an opportunity for volunteers from across the parish to participate in the various ministries. In each church there will be a list of required duties - please be generous in volunteering.

LITURGY COMMITTEE AND BUILDING COMMITTEE - Many thanks to all who responded so generously to the invitation to serve on these committees. The first Liturgy Committee Meeting will take place on Saturday 12th April, 2pm in the Nazareth Room at St Joseph's. A Buildings Committee Meeting will be called after Easter.

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 7th May at 6pm, in the Parish Centre Hall at St Joseph's.

GIFT AID - If you have not collected your envelopes for 2025–26, they are available at the back of the church you regularly attend. If you wish to join the scheme please contact Laura in the Parish Office. 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.

We are now at the end of the tax year and we will be making a return to the Diocese on Gift Aid contributions. If you are a member of the scheme and have not paid tax this year you must inform the Parish Office.

200 CLUB - The draw took place last Sunday. Winners – 1st Prize £150 No 100 Sheila Simmons, 2nd Prize £75 No 6 Kath Lavelle, 3rd prize £25 No 71 Pat Bostock. Congratulations to all our winners. Please note, subs are now due: £25 yearly, £12.50 half yearly, £6.25 quarterly. Thanks.

NORTHERN BRETHREN FUND - This weekend, there will be a collection for sick and retired priests (NBF).

SVP BEFRIENDERS - We are looking for more helpers so that we can visit more lonely people. Can you spare an hour or two a week to visit lonely people in a care home or in their homes? Support is available to new befrienders. If you would like more information then please contact Pauline Hunter on 07769358861 or Geraldine Martin on 07776210099. If you know of anyone who would benefit from this service please contact the Parish Office.

HYMN BOOK AMNESTY - If you have inadvertently taken a Hymn Book home on leaving church, could you please return it as the number of hymn books we have at St Joseph's and St John Vianney have diminished.

PARISH KEY AMNESTY - If you were issued a key for any of the Churches or Presbyteries of the Parish (past and present) and you no longer require it, could you please return it to the Parish Office. The keys are light gold in colour and have a distinctive shape.



ST JOHN VIANNEY COFFEE - There will be coffee available after the evening Mass on Saturday 5th April. All are welcome.

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: Isaiah 43:16-21

‘Behold, I am doing a new thing and I will give drink to my chosen people.’

Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, who brings forth chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: ‘Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old.

Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. The wild beasts will honour me, the jackals and the ostriches, for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, the people whom I formed for myself that they might declare my praise.

Response: What great deeds the Lord worked for us!
Indeed, we were glad.

Second Reading: Philippians 3:8-14

‘For the sake of Christ I have suffered the loss of all things, becoming like him in his death.’

Brothers and Sisters: I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith — that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on towards the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation:

Glory to you, O Christ, Son of the living God.
Even now, says the Lord,
return to me with all your heart,
for I am gracious and merciful.
Glory to you, O Christ, Son of the living God.

Gospel Reading John 8:1-11

‘Let him who is without sin among you be the first to throw a stone at her.’

At that time: Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. Early in the morning he came again to the temple. All the people came to him, and he sat down and taught them. The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery, and placing her in the midst they said to him, ‘Teacher, this woman has been caught in the act of adultery. Now in the Law, Moses commanded us to stone such women. So what do you say?’ This they said to test him, that they might have some charge to bring against him. Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground. And as they continued to ask him, he stood up and said to them, ‘Let him who is without sin among you be the first to throw a stone at her.’ And once more he bent down and wrote on the ground. But when they heard it, they went away one by one, beginning with the older ones, and Jesus was left alone with the woman standing before him. Jesus stood up and said to her, ‘Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?’ She said, ‘No one, Lord.’ And Jesus said, ‘Neither do I condemn you; go, and from now on sin no more.’

REFLECTION

The call in Lent is to reconciliation and to change. In today’s first reading we are reminded of the great blessings we receive from the Sacrament of Reconciliation; we are urged “Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old”. We need to believe we can be forgiven. God promises that he will provide a new thing, a way in the wilderness, that all we need to do is open our eyes to perceive it. He will take us from the wilderness of our lives and create a new road for us to follow.

Paul is making a journey from obedience to the Law and living as a devout Jew to living as a Christian and following a crucified Christ. This is not an easy choice, it is a difficult road to follow but Paul says “I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord”, He realises that he does not walk alone, that without the guidance of the Spirit and his faith in the resurrection of Jesus he would not be able to walk this road. But he tries, just like an athlete; he strives for the finishing line. Paul speaks to from the heart; this is a personal testimony in which he accepts that he can only do this with the help of Christ.

The Gospel is also speaking about our attitude to others who we judge as sinners. This time it is a woman who is in trouble; as an adulterer she is under sentence of death by stoning; a cruel punishment in a male dominated society. The Jews use this as a test against Jesus, hoping to trap him into an indiscretion. Jesus sees through their motives he says a few words then turns his attention to marks he is making in the sand. The mob is challenged by the words of Jesus “Let him who is without sin throw the first stone at her” and one by one they walk away unable to face their own sins. Often, we judge others; we apply to them rules which we do not apply to ourselves. We need to learn to hate the sin but love the sinner. Change is always necessary; real change makes a difference in our lives, and this is the change that Jesus wants us, and the woman taken in adultery to make.

David Frank

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 McEneaney, James McGee, Lilian McGee, Fr Seamus McGivern, 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, Edith Wilson. *Through our prayers may the healing presence of Christ be with them at this time.*

Recently Deceased: Edith Martin, Lynne Morrow, Brian Hoey, Tony Wilkinson, Derek Hubbert, Terence O'Connor, Hilda Johnson. *May they rest in peace and rise in Glory.*

Anniversaries that occur at this time: Marjorie Neenan, Amelia Dickinson, Breda Cockburn, Sandra Heron, William Perry, Marie Baxter, Marlene Crowther, Enda Hildrith, Thomas McGarry, Joan Smith, Marie-Jeanne Storm, Peggy McPherson, Maureen Aisbitt, Catherine Gillen (Kitty), Peter Garthwaite, Matthew Gregory (Matty) Purcell, Joe McKie, Winifred Stokle, Margaret Lee, Canon John Bell, Thomas Harvey, Dennis Grieveson, Bernard Decosemo, Stephen Littlewood, Allen Littlewood, Rita Malcolm, James Taylor, Ann Irene Wharton, John Cavanagh, Margaret Hooks, Ellen Williams, Derek Snowdon, Frederick Parker, Carole Hills, Susan Dickson, Gerardo Cesarano, Thomas Edwin Heal, Alan Cooper, 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:

How Does Jesus Treat Sinners?



In the Old Testament, God gave His people rules that said they should punish the people who sinned. That's why in today's Gospel the Pharisees and scribes brought a sinful woman to Jesus to see what He had to say about the law.

Instead of telling them that they should punish her according to the law, Jesus told them that they should only punish her if they themselves had never sinned.



Sometimes we hear about a sin that someone else did. God does not want us to be mean to that person because of what they did. Does that mean that they didn't do a sin? No. Jesus told the woman to go and not sin again. That means that she did sin, but He was giving her another chance. We should try to be merciful like Jesus, and we should be kind to sinners because we are sinners too.

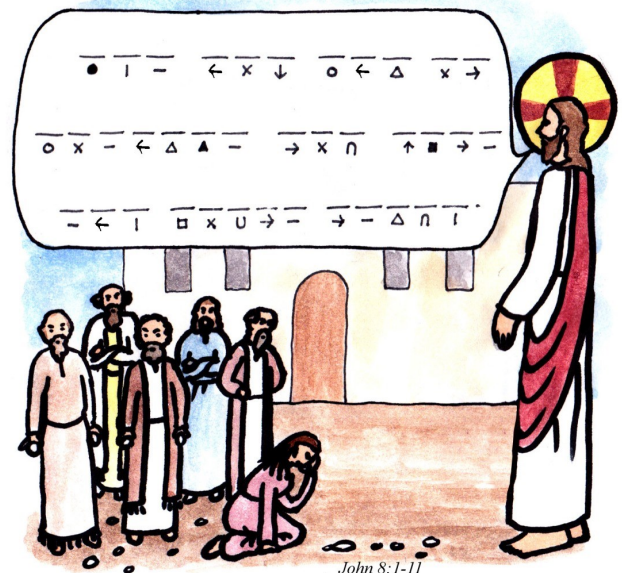


Answers: front: "Let him who is without sin cast the first stone."

www.thekidsbulletin.com

The Kids' Bulletin

Fifth Sunday of Lent
April 6th, 2025



In today's Gospel, the Pharisees ask Jesus whether they should obey their law and stone a woman who was a sinner. What did Jesus say to them? Use the code to find out!

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