

# 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 8th December 2024

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

Date	Feast	Saint Joseph's*	Saint Patrick's	Saint John Vianney's	Saint Mary's
Saturday 7th December	(Vigil) 2nd Sunday of Advent	11.00am - 12.00pm Baptisms 2.00pm Baptism 3.00pm Exposition & Confessions 3.30pm Rosary 4.00pm Mass Special Intention (J.B.)		1.00pm Baptism 6.00pm Mass George & Peggy Heal	
Sunday 8th December	2nd Sunday of Advent	10.30am Mass Charles & Elizabeth Hewitt	9.00am Mass Bill Perry		
Monday 9th December	The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	10.00am Requiem Mass Christine Priestley 6.00pm Exposition & Confessions 6.30pm Mass James V Gibson			
Tuesday 10th December		12.05pm Mass George Hoey (18th A)			
Wednesday 11th December		12.00pm Requiem Mass Bernadette Jackson		10.00am Mass at Hartfields Retirement Village For the Residents of Hartfields & Their Families	
Thursday 12th December			10.00am Requiem Mass Winnie Oliver		
Friday 13th December	St Lucy	12.05pm Mass Tony Wilkinson			
Saturday 14th December	(Vigil) 3rd Sunday of Advent	3.00pm Exposition & Confessions 3.30pm Rosary 4.00pm Mass Living & Deceased Fernie / Fearon Families		6.00pm Mass The Deceased Larkin & Weir Families	
Sunday 15th December	3rd Sunday of Advent	10.30am Mass Bob Storer	9.00am Mass Kathleen Nicolson		

### SCHOOL MASSES

No School Masses this week

### 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

**CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE** - Please save these dates for your diary over the Christmas period.

Date	Time	Service	Church
Tues 17 Dec	6pm	Civic & Secondary Schools Carol Service	St Joseph's
Wed 18 Dec	5pm	Primary Schools Carol Service	St Joseph's
Sun 22 Dec	4pm	Parish Carol Service	St Joseph's
Tues 24 Dec	4pm	First Mass of Christmas	St J.V.'s
Tues 24 Dec	4pm	First Mass of Christmas	St Joseph's
Tues 24 Dec	6pm	First Mass of Christmas	St Patrick's
Wed 25 Dec	10am	Christmas Day Mass	St Joseph's
Fri 27 Dec	12.05pm	Altar Servers Mass	St Joseph's
Sun 29 Dec	4pm	Mass for the Opening of the Holy Door	St Joseph's
Wed 1 Jan	11am	Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God	St Joseph's

**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 Wednesday 1th December at 6pm, in the Parish Centre Hall at St Joseph's.

**JUBILEE 2025 - PILGRIMS OF HOPE** - Pope Francis has announced that next years Jubilee will have the theme Pilgrims of Hope. Similar to the last Holy year, he has also enabled Bishops throughout the world to open Holy Doors in their own dioceses so that all of the faithful can participate. Bishop Stephen has asked our parish to welcome pilgrims during this Year of Jubilee and that a Holy Door be opened at St Joseph's Church.

**Further to our meeting in which we discussed the practicalities as a parish of hosting the Holy Door, we have established a team of volunteers for each day who will be able to act as welcomers. The welcomers will open the church, prepare for Mass and simply be a presence in the church whilst it is open. There is still need for further volunteers to join the teams, if you are able to help with this, please contact Laura in the office. In addition to our own volunteers, Bishop Stephen has requested for priests and laity from around the diocese to support us in welcoming pilgrims. Initially it is thought that the Holy Door will be open every day, Monday to Friday 11am-2.30pm, Saturday 1pm-5pm, and Sunday 9.30am-Noon.**

**CHURCH CLEANING AT ST PATRICK'S** - Due to retirements, we need more volunteers to help with keeping our church clean and tidy. Teams of two clean for about 2 hours in a four-weekly rota. Cleaning times are flexible and coordinated by Jane Barker. If you can help please contact Jane or see Dave Frank at Sunday Mass. Grateful thanks to those who have retired from cleaning after many years of great service.

**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 19th December inclusive. A donation of at least £3 to cover the cost of the candle is suggested. We will make every effort to provide the candle colour of your choice, however we cannot guarantee availability.

**MASS INENTIONS** - We kindly remind all parishioners that our intention list fills up quickly, and Masses are often booked well in advance. To secure your preferred date, we encourage you to give your intention as early as possible. Unfortunately we may be unable to accommodate intentions at short notice. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

**PIETY STALLS** - We now have a lovely range of Christmas cards, calendars and gifts available at the back of our churches. We also have Catholic Diaries for 2025. Please visit the stalls, before or after Mass, to view and purchase any items.

**CHRISTMAS SAVINGS CLUB** - Thank you to everyone who supported the Savings Club this year. We raised a total of £1709 for Holy Family Parish. It would be great if we could get some new members and beat this total next year! For every £1 you save, 5p goes to our Church. You do not have to save the same amount each week. Please put your money in an envelope with your name and amount on. In each Church, the following people will be available at these Masses to collect your savings:

St Joseph's- Vigil Mass: Ann Howe

Sun 10.30am: Mary Storer & Paul Johnstone.

St Patrick's- Sun 9am: Diane Gooding

St John Vianney's- Sat 6pm: Colin Gray

The Club will restart on Sunday 5th January 2025. Many thanks.

## ADVENT COURSE: JOURNEY TO THE CRIB WITH LUKE'S

**GOSPEL** - Many of us have heard the Christmas story so often we're sometimes in danger of taking it for granted or overlooking key parts of the story. But do we really know the story as Luke intended? In this series of four talks, we will look again and reflect on the Infancy Narratives of Luke, Chapters 1 and 2. We will meet characters such as Zechariah and Elizabeth, John the Baptist, the shepherd's, the angels, Anna and Simeon. We will look at the four great canticles of Luke's Gospel; the Magnificat, the Benedictus, the Gloria and the Nunc Dimittis. Join us in the Day Chapel on Monday evenings 7-8pm after the 6.30pm Mass. A great preparation for Christmas!

9th December: Antiphons

16th December: Arrivals

23rd December: Aftermath

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS** - The SVP would like you to let them know if the person you visit has no family or friends, and would benefit from a Christmas gift. Please get in touch with the parish office if so, and we will pass the details onto the SVP.

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



**EMS NOTICE** - EMS would love to invite parishioners to join us in celebration of the upcoming Christmas Season. We will be holding a coffee morning on Friday 13th December at 10.15am - 11.45pm. Parishioners will have the chance for a game of Bingo, Christmas Carols, and a mince pie or two.

**ADVENT HAPPENING** - Grateful thanks to all who helped at this event. It was a wonderful evening when friends across the Holy Family Parish came together to talk and enjoy each other's company with refreshments and entertainment. We raised £667 for Parish funds.

**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      **Thank you.**

**First Reading: Baruch 5:1-9**

#### God means to show your splendour to every nation

Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress, put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever, wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you, put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head: since God means to show your splendour to every nation under heaven, since the name God gives you for ever will be, 'Peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness.' Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights and turn your eyes to the east: see your sons reassembled from west and east at the command of the Holy One, jubilant that God has remembered them. Though they left you on foot, with enemies for an escort, now God brings them back to you like royal princes carried back in glory. For God has decreed the flattening of each high mountain, of the everlasting hills, the filling of the valleys to make the ground level so that Israel can walk in safety under the glory of God. And the forests and every fragrant tree will provide shade for Israel at the command of God; for God will guide Israel in joy by the light of his glory with his mercy and integrity for escort.

**Response: What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.**

**Second Reading: Philippians 1:4-6,8-11**

#### May you become pure and blameless in preparation for the day of Christ

Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy, remembering how you have helped to spread the Good News from the day you first heard it right up to the present. I am quite certain that the One who began this good work in you will see that it is finished when the Day of Christ Jesus comes; and God knows how much I miss you all, loving you as Christ Jesus loves you. My prayer is that your love for each other may increase more and more and never stop improving your knowledge and deepening your perception so that you can always recognise what is best. This will help you to become pure and blameless, and prepare you for the Day of Christ, when you will reach the perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for the glory and praise of God.

#### Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Prepare a way for the Lord,  
make his paths straight,  
and all mankind shall see the salvation of God.  
Alleluia!

**Gospel Reading Luke 3:1-6**

#### The call of John the Baptist

In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the lands of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas the word of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah: A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley will be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, winding ways will be straightened and rough roads made smooth. And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

*There is something about the night sky that speaks to me of creation. I cannot look up into the stars, those thousands of tiny dots, without thanking God. It is as if He communicates with me through His creation, his universe, without the need for words, and I can only gaze in wonder.*

*Communication is a basic human need, we are a people who need community, we cannot truly exist alone. We need someone to talk to, to share our hopes, our dreams, our lives. So, it is understandable that, when we turn to God, we begin with words. Words, however, have their limitations, they are only pale reflections of our true feelings. When Paul writes "Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy" he expresses something beyond the words; the emotion he feels transcends the message. He does not have to say "I love you" the very use of the word, joy, conveys that love.*

*Prayers are words that we use to convey a message that another can understand. There are many powerful prayers that express our emotions, our thoughts, our concerns, However, there are times when words cannot express how we feel. Sometimes we need to sit in silence and set our thoughts free and rely on the Spirit who speaks for us in our time of need.*

*Baruch is so overcome by the prospect of returning to Jerusalem, after many years of exile, that he is moved to write all that pain, joy and emotion into our first reading. Paul loves those who he has brought to Christ so much that they are always in his prayers. John, filled with the Spirit, gains the courage to begin making a way in the wilderness, tearing down the mountains of doubt, levelling the valleys of despair, creating a new road of mercy and forgiveness for the Messiah who is to come.*

*Advent should fill us with anticipation. It must renew us, refresh our minds, stretch our legs, prepare us for our journey with Jesus through the wilderness of life to a place of peace, of hope, of joy. Our prayer this Advent is that we are set free from the chains we create in our lives and stand ready for the challenges ahead filled with confidence that we journey with our loving God.*

*David Frankle*

#### 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.

Daily Readings



# OUR PRAYERS

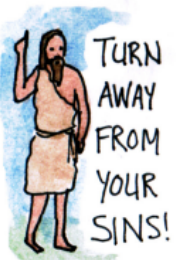
**The sick of the Parish:** Annie Airey, Stephen Anderson, Maureen Andrews, Neil Apedaile, Pat Baker, Kathleen Barlow, Carole Bew, Michael Blackford, Dennis Bratt, Ronnie Burnett, Kay Burns, Sarah Carroll, Rita Charlton, Veronica Cochrane, Daniel Cosby, Betty Crane, James Daley, Neil Davis, Louise Dixon, 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, Frank Kozorowski, Maureen Maguire, Baby Pippa Marie, Vera Marriott, Ian Matthews, Colin McDonald, Owen McEaney, Lilian McGee, Jim McKenna, Christopher Mgehee, 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, Matthew Steel, Brenda Stott, Brett Swain, Gail Symington, Melvin Thackeray, Lynsey Todd, Kieran Turnbull, John Twydale, Norma Twydale, Jonathon Vokes, Julie Wallace, Kay Wallace, James Walsh, Tony Wilkinson, Edith Wilson. *Through our prayers may the healing presence of Christ be with them at this time.*

**Recently Deceased:** Christine Priestley, Winnie Oliver, Bernadette Jackson, Doreen Booth, Ann Foster, Michael Liddell. *May they rest in peace and rise in Glory.*

**Anniversaries that occur at this time:** Sheila Dowson, John Joy, Sheila Breward, Frederick Magee, Pauline Beha, Ian Jackson, Delia Margaret Ingledew, Anne Hansen, Gordon Thomas Larkin, Fr Peter Smith, John Simpson, Francis Pattison, Mike Griffin, Helen Doherty, George H Young, Margaret Huntley, Terence Bone, Simon Taylor, Mary Gretton, John (Jack) Christie, James Patrick Cushlow, Bernadette Guy, Bernard John (Bernie), Nellie Bushnall, Arthur Huntley, Michael Windram, Fred Evans, Stephen Tierney, John Doherty, George Hoey, Edgar Stabler, Vincent Butler, Margaret Peart, Elizabeth Neil, Emily Hammerton, James Pender, James Kilraine, Brenda McGarry, 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:

### We Joyfully Wait for Jesus



Advent is a time of joy, when we happily look forward to the coming of Jesus. Today's Gospel reading tells about how Saint John the Baptist went around telling everyone to repent and prepare for the coming of the Messiah.

An Advent wreath is a symbol of the coming of Jesus, our Light, into the world. It has three purple candles and one pink candle. One candle is lit on the first week of Advent, and one more is added every week until Christmas. Every week it gets a bit brighter because we are getting closer to Jesus' coming at Christmas.

The purple candles stand for repentance- being sorry and making up for our sins. The pink candle represents joy. It is lit on the third week of Advent because we rejoice that the waiting is half over.



## The Kids' Bulletin

Second Sunday of Advent  
December 8th, 2024



In Advent we hear about Saint John the Baptist, Jesus' cousin, who prepared the way for Jesus' coming. He preached to the people, telling them to repent, and baptized them.

When Jesus came Saint John told the people to follow Jesus because He was the Messiah.

Can you find your way from Saint John to Jesus?