

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 17th August 2025

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

Date	Feast	Saint Joseph's*	Saint Patrick's	Saint John Vianney's	Saint Mary's
Saturday 16th August	(Vigil) 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time	11.30am Baptisms 1.00pm Wedding 3.00pm Exposition & Confessions 3.30pm Rosary 4.00pm Mass Special Intention (Anniversary)		6.00pm Mass Anne Cole	
Sunday 17th August	20th Sunday in Ordinary Time	10.30am Mass Mary Relton	9.00am Mass Jean Natt		
Monday 18th August		6.00pm Exposition & Confessions 6.30pm Mass Honor Snowdon	10.30am Funeral Service Barbara Horton		
Tuesday 19th August		12.05pm Mass Brian & Mim Fraser			
Wednesday 20th August	St Bernard	12.00pm Funeral Service Veronica Cochrane		9.30am Mass Gemma Hogarth & the Deceased Strickland Family	
Thursday 21st August	The Dedication of St Mary's Cathedral	1.00pm Requiem Mass Joseph Hayes	9.30am Mass Etty Jordan (103 rd Birthday Remembrance)		
Friday 22nd August	Our Lady, Mother and Queen	12.05pm Mass Colin & Carol Price Diamond Wedding Anniversary			
Saturday 23rd August	(Vigil) 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time	3.00pm Exposition & Confessions 3.30pm Rosary 4.00pm Mass Tony Cawley 1st Anniversary		6.00pm Mass Lawrence & Doreen Coulton	
Sunday 24th August	21st Sunday in Ordinary Time	10.30am Mass Nora Garthwaite Anniversary	9.00am Mass Kath Foster		

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

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☎ 01429 272985

Deacon Jeff Parkes

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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

Restarts 9th September
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

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

Monday: 6pm – 7pm

Tuesday: 11.30am – 12.30pm

Wednesday & Thursday: By appointment only

Friday: 11.30am – 12.30pm

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 Wednesday 1st October at 6pm, in the Parish Centre Hall at St Joseph's.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2026 - The programme is now closed for applications, thank you to all who applied. Over the summer holidays, we'll be working on finalising a plan and schedule based on the number of applicants. All the details will be confirmed and shared at the parents meeting on Wednesday 17th September at 6.30pm in St Joseph's Church.

GIFT AID - If you wish to join the scheme, please complete a Gift Aid form available at the back of church, and return it to 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.

NATIONAL STATUE OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA - Please see the poster on the noticeboards for information on the Visitation of the Centenary Pilgrim Virgin Statue of the Immaculate Heart of Mary and the Relics of SS Jacinta and Francisco, to St Joseph's Church on Saturday 6th September.

CHRISTMAS SAVINGS CLUB - Please note that from September we will not be accepting cheques for Christmas Savings. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

THANK YOU - A big thanks to some of our Altar Servers who have been doing jobs around the Churches of our Parish during their summer holidays including painting fences and clearing out cupboards. It is much appreciated.

JOIN OUR OVER 60S CLUB - Are you looking for a fun, friendly group to spend some time with? The Over 60s Club meets at St Patrick's Hall on Tuesdays from 1pm till 3pm, and we'd love for you to join us! We meet regularly to enjoy a lively game of bingo, play cards, have a good chat, and of course, sip a cuppa together. But that's not all! Each month, we've got something extra special planned that we promise will be something to look forward to. We'd love for you to come along and see what we're all about. The first session is completely free, so it's the perfect chance to join in, meet new friends, and enjoy the fun.

HOLY FAMILY PARISH BARBEQUE - A massive shout out to everyone who helped plan and organise our parish barbeque this month, your efforts made it an incredible success! Our chefs deserve special recognition for their hard work at the grill! It was fantastic to see so many smiling faces, great conversations, and good times shared by all. Events like these are a reminder of the amazing community we have here. There are 2 unclaimed raffle prizes, if winners could come along to St John Vianney's to collect their prize: number 494: Alex Marshall, and number 73: Pam George. Thanks.

DAY TRIP - Join us for a fun day out on a trip to the McArthurGlen Designer Outlet in York, followed by a couple of hours to explore York City at your leisure on Wednesday 24th September. The cost is £15 per person. To book your place, please see Brenda at the back of church or give her a call on 07599511066. Spaces are limited.

200 CLUB - The July Draw winners are: First Prize £150 No 71 Pat Bostock, 2nd Prize £75 No 181 Pauline Lynch, and 3rd Prize £25 No 24 Gerry Eagle. Congratulations!

DIOCESAN VACANCY - Education Operations Manager, Salary £35,000 to £37,323. Closing date 9.00am on 3 September 2025, applications received after this time cannot be accepted. If you would like to discuss the role or for an applicant pack, please contact either catherine.craig@diocesehn.org.uk / annie.leaver@diocesehn.org.uk

Mass of Christ the Saviour

*Glory to God. Glory to God. Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth, peace on earth, peace to people of good will.*

We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly king, O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand,
the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the most high, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.

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: Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10

‘You bore me, a man of contention to the whole land.’

In those days: The officials said to the king, ‘Let this man, Jeremiah, be put to death, for he is weakening the hands of the soldiers who are left in this city, and the hands of all the people, by speaking such words to them. For this man is not seeking the welfare of this people, but their harm.’ King Zedekiah said, ‘Behold, he is in your hands, for the king can do nothing against you.’ So they took Jeremiah and cast him into the cistern of Malchiah, the king’s son, which was in the court of the guard, letting Jeremiah down by ropes. And there was no water in the cistern, but only mud, and Jeremiah sank in the mud.

Ebed-melech went from the king’s house and said to the king, ‘My lord the king, these men have done evil in all that they did to Jeremiah the prophet by casting him into the cistern, and he will die there of hunger, for there is no bread left in the city.’ Then the king commanded Ebed-melech the Ethiopian, ‘Take thirty men with you from here, and lift Jeremiah the prophet out of the cistern before he dies.’

Response: Lord, make haste to help me!

Second Reading: Hebrews 12:1-4

‘Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us.’

Brothers and Sisters: Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or faint-hearted. In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia.

My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord,
and I know them, and they follow me.

Alleluia.

Gospel Reading: Luke 12:49-53

‘I have not come to give peace but division.’

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, ‘I came to cast fire on the earth, and would that it were already kindled! I have a baptism to be baptized with, and how great is my distress until it is accomplished! Do you think that I have come to give peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. For from now on in one house there will be five divided: three against two and two against three. They will be divided, father against son and son against father; mother against daughter and daughter against mother; mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law, and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.’

REFLECTION

There is something very sobering about today’s readings; they remind us in many ways that living the Christian life was never easy and there are sacrifices to be made if we are to follow Jesus.

If you have ever been in despair over something that you have tried to do, just remember that, unlike Jeremiah in the first reading, you are unlikely to be dropped into a muddy well. Life can be difficult, and sometimes muddy wells are of our own making, but you are never really alone. When things start to get you down, turn to Our Lord in prayer and tell him just how you feel. There is a lot of truth in the saying a trouble shared is a trouble halved.

Sometimes you may feel that the readings are a muddy well and you cannot see the sense of them, do not worry, you are not alone, there are often difficult passages to navigate but nothing good is ever achieved the easy way I am trying to study the Letter to the Hebrews, and I am finding it difficult but so rewarding. I used to think it was too “Jewish” and the message was not for me but, actually, the book speaks clearly to all Christians and contains many insights into our faith. The important message from today’s passage from Hebrews is that we must strive to live good lives in the face of whatever the world may throw our way. We have the supreme sacrifice of Our Lord on the cross as an example to follow in our war against sin.

Jesus warns us in the Gospel that His way is not an easy path to follow; his journey would bring Him to the cross, a source of shame to those who do not believe, but of glory to those who believe in Him. Our journey can lead us into great distress, but the rewards are there at the end. There are always companions on the way who lift us up when we fall. Remember, Jeremiah was rescued from the well by three of his friends so when you are struggling just think of Jeremiah and call out for help.

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, 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, Jamie Hitchen, Bella Hoey, Muriel Howe, Molly Hughes, Carol Hutchinson, Trish Jeffries, 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 Mgehe, Peter McNaughton, Paul Moore, Ann 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, Margaret Watt, Edith Wilson. **Through our prayers may the healing presence of Christ be with them at this time.**

Recently Deceased: Barbara Horton, Veronica Cochrane, Joseph Hayes. **May they rest in peace and rise in Glory.**

Anniversaries that occur at this time: Ethel Wood, Bryan Hanna, Katy Linighan, David Hegarty, Ingram Hutchinson, Bryn Mulchay, Hilary Bradbury, Brian Davidson, Michael Elsdon, Thomas Buckley, Margaret Myers, William McDonald, Francis Albert Keegan, Michael Edward Gray, John Patrick Ashurst, Ronald Fitzgerald, Joe Beha, Fr Isaac Carter ScJ, Sheila Spellman, Charles Cavanagh, Patricia Finn, Robena Doherty, Joan Nicholson, Patricia Tierney, John Thomas Shave, James Goss, John Briggs, Michael Kavanagh, Brian Allan, Beatrice Stevens, Norah Garthwaite, James Cooper, Philip Brian Fraser, Kathleen Daglesh, 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:

Fire in Our Hearts

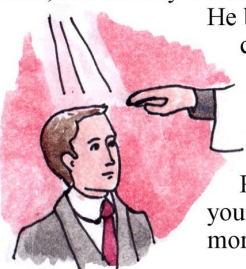


In today's Gospel reading Jesus says that He has come to set the earth on fire. Of course He didn't mean that He wanted everything to burn up. He meant that He wanted the flame of the Holy Spirit to burn in the hearts of people all over the world.

What do you think happens when the Holy Spirit is in someone's soul? The Holy Spirit pulls us closer to Himself and God the Father and Jesus. When we are closer to God that means we love Him more, and the more we love God the more we will love other people too. We were made to love God and be happy with Him, so we want the Holy Spirit to live in us and bring us close to Him!



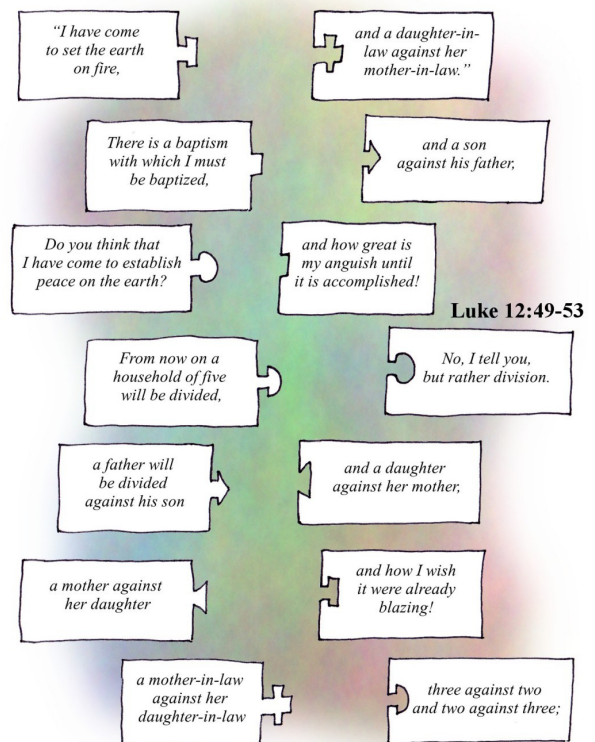
How does the Holy Spirit come into our souls? When we are baptized the Holy Spirit comes into us for the first time. He will stay with us unless we sin and close our hearts to Him. But when we go to Confession He comes back, and in Holy Communion and the other Sacraments



He becomes even stronger in us. He comes in a special way in the Sacrament of Confirmation, when He gives us grace and strength to live as grown-up Christians and soldiers for God. Pray to the Holy Spirit to live in your heart and make you love God more every day!

The Kids' Bulletin

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 17th, 2025



**What did Jesus say in today's Gospel reading?
Match the parts to find out!**