

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 15th February 2026

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

Date	Feast	Saint Joseph's	Saint Patrick's	Saint John Vianney's	Saint Mary's
Saturday 14th February	(Vigil) 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time	3.00pm Exposition & Confessions 3.30pm Rosary 4.00pm Mass Eileen & David Knight		6.00pm Mass Mary Stott	
Sunday 15th February	6th Sunday in Ordinary Time	10.30am Mass Nellie & Jimmy Elener	9.00am Mass Peter Lynch		
Monday 16th February		6.00pm Exposition & Confessions 6.30pm Mass Stanislaw Mrozek	2.00pm Funeral Service Hilda Goodhall	12.00pm Requiem Mass Irena Gibson	
Tuesday 17th February		12.05pm Mass Edmund Niland Birthday Remembrance 1.00pm Funeral Service Ronald Joseph Di Duca	6.30pm Vigil Mass of Ash Wednesday Shirley Burton		
Wednesday 18th February	Ash Wednesday	12.00pm Mass Ash Wednesday Sheila Cope		9.30am Mass Ash Wednesday Brendan Osborne	
Thursday 19th February		1.00pm Funeral Service Sheila Kidd	9.30am Mass at St Teresa's School Bernadette Jackson		
Friday 20th February		12.05pm Mass Joyce Kealy			
Saturday 21st February	(Vigil) 1st Sunday of Lent	11.30am Baptisms 3.00pm Exposition & Confessions 3.30pm Rosary 4.00pm Mass Bill Gaskarth	12.30pm Baptism	6.00pm Mass John Croft	
Sunday 22nd February	1st Sunday of Lent	10.30am Mass Bob Storer	9.00am Mass Bob & Edith Walters		

SCHOOL MASSES

St Teresa's
Thursday 19th February - 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

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☎ 01429 272985

Deacon Jeff Parkes

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Parish Office

Secretary

Laura Dolan

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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

2nd Sat of Month: After 6pm Mass
Coffee Evening @ St John Vianney's

THIS WEEK'S PARISH NEWS

ASH WEDNESDAY - This Wednesday, Ash Wednesday, marks the beginning of Lent. We enter into the desert for 40 days as did Jesus prior to his ministry in preparation for Easter. There will be Masses across the parish in each of our Churches with blessing and distribution of ashes.

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 April at 6pm, in the Parish Centre Hall at St Joseph's.

MASS REQUESTS - While we will do our best to accommodate your request, we cannot guarantee the availability of specific dates so we must ask for generous notice. If no date is requested or your requested date is unavailable, Masses will be said in the order they are received.

NORTHERN CROSS - This month's Northern Cross features on page 1 our annual Parish Mass for Altar servers which took place on 27th December. It is wonderful to see our parish and our young people being recognised. Once again, a big thank you to our servers for the contribution they make to the life of our parish.

GIFT AID - We are coming up to the end of the financial year and shortly we will be issuing envelopes for 2026-2027. 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. We are unable to issue envelopes for those who are not in the scheme. If anyone wishes to join the scheme, please follow the instructions at the bottom of this page. 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. Many thanks.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL - This weekend, there will be the opportunity to nominate a member of our parish for service on the Parish Pastoral Council. As you arrive at church, you will be given a slip on which you can place the name of whom you wish to nominate. There will be a box at the back of church to place your nominations. As you participate in this important event in the life of our parish, please pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

200 CLUB - Quarter 4 subscriptions are due: £6.25. The Club is always open to new members. The subscription due in April is £25 per annum and can be paid yearly, half yearly or quarterly. Each month we draw prizes of £150, £100, £50. If you would like to join, let Laura know in the Parish Office, one of the organisers will be in touch with you. Many thanks to our supporters.

NORTHERN CATHOLIC CALENDARS - 2026 calendars are available to buy for £4 each from the parish office or from our church piety stalls.

LENTEN REFLECTION RESOURCES - Lenten resources are available on the diocesan website (diocesehn.org.uk). This includes We Dare to Ask which is a resource for small group faith-sharing and for individual meditation, featuring five sessions on the theme of our Baptismal Vocation. Each session includes scripture, prayers and a reflection with questions. Please consider joining with others this Lent to use We Dare to Ask, as we prepare to renew our baptismal promises at Easter. The booklet, which includes a foreword by Bishop Stephen, is available to view and download now.

SVP COLLECTION - A collection will be taken this weekend for the work of the SVP in Hartlepool.

Mass of Peace

Glory to God in the highest, and 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 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.
Amen, Amen, Amen.

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest.

When we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim your death, O Lord, until you come again.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
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 on the left to make a one-off donation, or use our digital collection plate at the back of St Joseph's Church.
Thank you.

Gift Aid adds 25% to your donation at no extra cost to you. If you are a UK tax payer and wish to join the scheme, please scan the QR code on the right, or contact Laura in the Parish Office. The Parish benefits greatly from those who are members of the scheme.
Many thanks.



UPCOMING COLLECTIONS - A collection will be taken for the SVP this weekend. Our next collection, for CAFOD, will be 1st March 2026.

First reading: Sirach 15:15-20

‘He has not commanded anyone to be ungodly.’

If you desire, you will keep the commandments, and to act faithfully is a matter of choice. He has placed before you fire and water: stretch out your hand for whichever you wish. Life and death are in front of people, and whichever one chooses will be given to him. For great is the wisdom of the Lord; he is mighty in power and sees everything; his eyes are on those who fear him, and he knows a person’s every deed. He has not commanded anyone to be ungodly, and he has not given anyone permission to sin.

Response: Blessed are those who walk in the law of the Lord!

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:6-10

‘A wisdom God decreed before the ages for our glory.’

Brothers and Sisters: Among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written, ‘What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him’ — these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia.
I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,
you have revealed the secrets of the kingdom to little children.
Alleluia.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 5:20-22a, 27-28, 33-34a, 37

‘It was said to those of old; but I say to you.’

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, ‘I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

‘You have heard that it was said to those of old, “You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgement.” But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgement.

‘You have heard that it was said, “You shall not commit adultery.” But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

‘Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, “You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn.” But I say to you: Do not take an oath at all. Let what you say be simply “Yes” or “No”; anything more than this comes from evil.’

REFLECTION

There are two real choices in this world, and they are set before us today. We are free to choose to do good or to do evil. As Sirach tells us, “He has placed before you fire and water, stretch out your hand for whichever you wish”. Our loving Father knows us, “he is mighty in power and sees everything”; so, the choice is ours, we can follow Him and live in love, or we can turn away from Him and live in sin.

Lent is a time when we can turn away from sin and return to His loving presence. In scripture you can find inspiration which will lead you in the right path. One passage always comes to mind when I reflect on the path that leads to a Christian life, “This is what the Lord asks of you, to act justly, to love tenderly, to walk humbly with your God”. If you follow these three principles, then the way will be open to you to reconciliation with the Father and He will welcome you back with great joy.

Saint Paul speaks to us of the “secret and hidden wisdom of God. This is not a human wisdom, for many have proclaimed wisdom but changing times have proved the futility of their thoughts, it is a wisdom given to us from the beginning of the world and it will lead us to God’ glory. It is something that the eye has not seen nor heard or even imagined it is the glory that God has prepared for those who love him, and it is revealed to us through belief in the Spirit who dwells in us.

We are coming to the end of Matthew’s passage on the Beatitudes. We may have come to realise that at the centre of Christ’s teaching is the human Heart. It is in our hearts that the urge to do good or evil springs into life. Today’s extract goes into great detail concerning the Law that the Israelites have constructed through Moses and the prophets. The principle behind the laws is sound but it is the application of the many rules that leads us to man’s interpretations and lacks the love of God. If our actions spring from a heart of love, then we can rest in the hope that God sees our good intentions and blesses the humanity in our human hearts.

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, Michael Conroy, Daniel Cosby, Betty Crane, James Daley, Neil Davis, Louise Dixon, Teresa Falkingham, Grace Fallow, David Frank, Lorraine Gallen, Dorothy Geen, Terence Gollogly, Catherine Gray, Mary Harris, Andrew Haygarth, Jamie Hitchen, Bella Hoey, Muriel Howe, Molly Hughes, Nora Humble, Carol Hutchinson, Trish Jeffries, Peter Johnson, Christine Jones, Ceilia King, Isobel Knowles, Maureen Maguire, Baby Pippa Marie, Vera Marriott, Brenda Mathews, Ian Matthews, Owen McEaney, Fr Seamus McGivern, Jim McKenna, Christopher Mghee, Peter McNaughton, Paul Moore, Ann Mullins, Pat Ness, Kitty Newstead, June Nolan, Sylvice Notrianni, Joe O'Connor, John George Parsons, Myra Pattison, Carol Price, Mary Reed, Pam Robertson, Eric Robinson, Joseph Robinson, Paula Rogers, Jane Rookcroft, Kathleen Royds, Hilda Ryan, Agnes Scully, Michael Christopher Sheeran, Corazon Simpson, Marie Spindloe, Matthew Steel, Brenda Stott, Brett Swain, Gail Symington, Melvin Thackeray, Christopher Thomas, Lynsey Todd, Kieran Turnbull, John Twydale, Jonathon Vokes, Julie Wallace, Margaret Watt, Edith Wilson, Jeff Wright, Margaret Wright. **Through our prayers may the healing presence of Christ be with them at this time.**

Recently Deceased: Irena Gibson, Hilda Goodhall, Ronald Joseph Di Duca, Joyce Kealy, Margaret Costello, Sheila Kidd, Irene Mulcahy, Joan Stevenson, John Arthur Smith, Michael Fearon. **May they rest in peace and rise in Glory.**

Anniversaries that occur at this time: David Kemp, Harry Hay, Peter Lynch, Michael Hanley, Brian Maxwell, Brenda White, Nellie Elener, Sylvia Wormald, Sheila Griffiths, Terence McLoughlan, Robert Reed, Mary Ellen Elener (Nelly Lynch), Maureen Crowe, Frederick James Hunter, Alice Healey, Veronica Mary Mullins, Theresa McCarroll Campbell, Brian Longmoor, Mary Lynas, Raymond Nicholson, Rosina Dee, Annie Wright, Patricia Stewart, Timothy McCarthy, Maud Guerin, Peter Ditchen, Sheila Gordon, Jack James Langley, Doreen Coulton, Edward Sullivan, Janet Moore, Margaret Palmer, Margaret Burns, Maud Mary Guerin, John Bew, Vera Littlewood, Eileen Czeba, Brenda Cook, Richard Wilson, Philomena 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: Ash Wednesday



This coming Wednesday is Ash Wednesday, which is the first day of Lent. Lent is a special time in which we prepare to celebrate Jesus' death and resurrection on Good Friday and Easter Sunday.



Lent is a time of repentance. We make sacrifices and try to improve our lives to become more like Jesus. Jesus never sinned but He gave up His life to pay for our sins. That is why we make sacrifices - out of love for God and to make up for our sins. We offer our sacrifices to God the Father, just as Jesus on the cross offered up His life to God the Father.

On Ash Wednesday if you go to Mass you can receive ashes on your forehead. The ashes are a sign of repentance. They remind us that without God we are nothing and that someday we will die and be buried. But they can also remind us that if we do have God living in us, after we die we will rise from the dead, just as Jesus did on Easter, after He died on the cross.



The Kids' Bulletin

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 15th, 2026



Do not think that I came to abolish the law or the prophets...
Whoever opposes and teaches the commandments that will be called greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven.

Some people in Jesus' time thought that He was going to get rid of the old law. What does He have to say about the commandments in today's Gospel reading?

Look at this picture in the mirror to find out!