

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 Clergy

Parish Priest

Very Rev. Canon Paul Douthwaite
BA Hons PGCE

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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: 10.30am-11.30am
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

Parish Diary — Week beginning 17th May 2026

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

Date	Feast	Saint Joseph's*	Saint Patrick's	Saint John Vianney's	Saint Mary's
Saturday 16th May	(Vigil) 7th Sunday of Easter	11.30am - 12.30pm Baptisms 3.00pm Exposition & Confessions 3.30pm Rosary 4.00pm Mass David McCann 1st Anniversary		6.00pm Mass Joan Cooper 6th Anniversary	
Sunday 17th May	7th Sunday of Easter	10.30am Mass Joseph Allen Hayes 4.00pm May Procession	9.00am Mass Alice McDonald		
Monday 18th May		6.00pm Exposition & Confessions 6.30pm Mass Jean Byrne			
Tuesday 19th May		12.05pm Mass Katy Linighan			
Wednesday 20th May					
Thursday 21st May					
Friday 22nd May		12.05pm Mass Michael & David Windram Birthday Remembrance			
Saturday 23rd May	(Vigil) Pentecost	3.00pm Exposition & Confessions 3.30pm Rosary 4.00pm Mass Thomas Carroll 100th Birthday		6.00pm Mass Thanksgiving to the Sacred Heart	
Sunday 24th May	Pentecost	10.30am Mass Mavis & Alf Garthwaite	9.00am Mass John Darnell Margaret & Michael Leck Wedding Anniversary		

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.

THIS WEEK'S PARISH NEWS

MAY PROCESSION - During the month of May, we celebrate in a special way Mary the Mother of Jesus and our Mother too. As a parish community we will honour Mary with devotions and a procession. The procession to Our Lady's statue, led by those who celebrated their first Communion the previous weekend, will culminate with laying flowers before her image. Join us this Sunday, 17th May at 4pm, in St Joseph's Church. After the procession there will be refreshments and cake in the Parish Centre Hall.

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

GIFT AID - If you have not received your box, please contact Laura for collection. We are unable to issue envelopes for those who are not in the scheme. To join the scheme, follow the instructions at the bottom of this page.

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.

MESSAGE FROM BISHOP STEPHEN: PASTORAL STRATEGY - We next move to a second phase as we invite local parishes to discern together in their partnerships, or with others in their neighbouring area. Information and updates will be shared on our website. Please keep this discernment in your prayers as we seek to respond to the Lord's call to worship Him and serve our communities in a flourishing and sustainable manner.

HOLY ISLAND BUS - Brenda Bland is organising a bus to Holy Island on Saturday 6th June, leaving from St Joseph's Church at 9am. Buffet lunch is included. Cost is £15 per person. Payments to be paid to Brenda by 23rd May. Please contact Brenda on 07599511066 for more information.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO ROME AND ASSISI - Led by Bishop Stephen, 22nd – 29th October 2027, £1725 per person. Places are limited to 50 pilgrims and places are allocated on a first come first served basis with payment of the deposit securing your place. The itinerary and booking details will be available on the diocesan website (www.diocesehn.org.uk) or via the parish office.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION - Thank you to all who assisted in preparing the children for their First Holy Communion. A special thanks to our Catechists across the parish for their generosity and commitment.

200 CLUB - Annual Subs are due (£25). The Club is always open to new members, the subscription can be paid yearly, half yearly or quarterly. Each month we draw prizes of £150, £100 and £50. Contact Laura to join, and one of the organisers will be in touch with you. Many Thanks to our supporters.

CLEANERS WANTED - We're looking for a few helping hands to join our volunteers at St Patrick's Church on a rota basis. It would only be once a month, and you can do it at any time during your allocated week that suits you. The cleaning usually takes around an hour and a half, and any help would be greatly appreciated. If you would be willing to help or would like more information, please get in touch. Thank you!

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 held this weekend for the work for the SVP in Hartlepool.

First reading: Acts 1:12-14

‘All with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer.’

After Jesus was taken up into heaven the Apostles returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s journey away. And when they had entered, they went up to the upper room, where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot and Judas the son of James. All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers and sisters.

Response: I believe I shall see the Lord’s goodness in the land of the living.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 4:13-16

‘If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed.’

Beloved: Rejoice insofar as you share Christ’s sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. But let none of you suffer as a murderer, or a thief, or an evildoer, or as a meddler. Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia.
I will not leave you as orphans, says the Lord.
I am going away and I will come to you, and your hearts will rejoice.
Alleluia.

Gospel Reading: John 17:1-11a

‘Father, glorify your Son.’

At that time: Jesus lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, ‘Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do. And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed.

‘I have manifested your name to the people whom you gave me out of the world. Yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you. For I have given them the words that you gave me, and they have received them and have come to know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them. And I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you.’

Today is the last Sunday in the season of Eastertide and we hear the final part of the Last Supper discourse. Jesus completes his teaching to the Apostles through a prayer to the Father for all who will follow Him. His time of sacrifice is now upon Him yet His thoughts, as always, turn to His followers and the trials they must endure for His sake. Whenever we say the “Our Father” we recall both the blessing of this prayer, which he has taught us through the Gospels, and these words at the Last Supper which repeat and expand the petitions of that prayer.

In the first reading the apostles take “a sabbath walk”, a Sunday stroll, in the warm afternoon air. The mood is sombre; silence is upon them. Their Lord has gone from them, ascended to His Father, and they are alone once more. We cannot imagine the mood; to have lost then regained their saviour and to have been parted from Him again, in what must seem a final time creates among them a feeling of sorrow but also of anticipation. Jesus has told them they are not as orphans, but members of a heavenly family united in spirit and truth, and though they will experience times of trial, times of joy, they will never feel alone and abandoned again. They return to the upper room, their place of safety. Instead of drowning in sorrow, they begin to pray. Whenever we feel lost and forgotten, their example should inspire us too, to turn to Our Father in prayer.

The psalms are the powerhouse of prayer passed to us from the Jewish scriptures. Today’s psalm begins “The Lord is my light and salvation, whom shall I fear?” There are times when situations overwhelm us. We all know people who are living with dementia, and often the burden of this illness falls not only on the sufferer but on those who care for them. This psalm calls to the Lord that they may “live in the house of the Lord”, when you enter into a prayerful communion with the Lord it can make it seem that you live in His house and His caring hands are holding you and giving you strength to carry on. The psalm ends with a beautiful phrase “Of you my heart has spoken, “Seek His face”. The power of prayer is always there for us, in whatever situation we find ourselves, turn to the Lord. “Seek His face”.

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, Michael Conroy, Daniel Cosby, Betty Crane, James Daley, Neil Davis, Louise Dixon, Teresa Falkingham, Grace Follow, Lorraine Gallen, Dorothy Geen, Catherine Gray, Andrew Haygarth, Jamie Hitchen, Bella Hoey, Muriel Howe, Molly Hughes, Nora Humble, Carol Hutchinson, Trish Jeffries, Peter Johnson, Christine Jones, Andrew Kenny, 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, Owen Milligan, 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 Roodcroft, Kathleen Royds, Hilda Ryan, Agnes Scully, Michael Christopher Sheeran, Corazon Simpson, Marie Spindloe, Matthew Steel, Brett Swain, Gail Symington, Melvin Thackeray, Carol Thomas, Christopher Thomas, Lynsey Todd, Kieran Turnbull, John Twydale, Jonathon Vokes, Julie Wallace, Margaret Watt, Kath Wilkinson, Edith Wilson, Jeff Wright, Margaret Wright.
Through our prayers may the healing presence of Christ be with them at this time.

Recently Deceased: Eileen Lyle, Mary Harris, Peter Kirk. *May they rest in peace and rise in Glory.*

Anniversaries that occur at this time: Patricia Mary Aird, Sarah Wallace, Elizabeth Hall, William Jenkins, Margaret Pegg, Peter Allan, Terrence Collins, Kenneth Morgan, Glen Turnbull, Mary Watson, James Doherty, Thomas Francis McCarthy, Gloria Pearson, John Rooney, Betty Wright, Dorothy Breckon, James Gibson, John Breward, Lawrence William Reynolds, Theresa Storey, Charles Collin, George Healey, Jean McDonald, Eric James Copeland, Pat Caley, Fr. Ciaran McDonnell, Kenneth Natt, Jane Ann (Jenny) Hart, Clare Marie Waugh, Mary Wilkie, Jessica Williamson, Terence (Ted) Allen, Anne Freda Larkin, Catherine (Kitty) Marine, Ronald Lawrence Vickers, George Henry Heal Watling, John Swift, John Darnell, Zena Smith, 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:

Jesus Ascended into Heaven



The Ascension is one of the great feasts of the Church. Jesus went up, Body and Soul, into Heaven to be with His Father where He is waiting for all of us. Can you imagine what it was like for the apostles to see their leader and best friend going up to Heaven? It would be pretty amazing, don't you think?



At the same time, doesn't it seem a bit sad that Jesus left? Well, He knew it was time for His disciples to start working on their own. It was kind of like having someone there to help you learn to ride a bike and then they let you go so you can learn to bike on your own.

But Jesus didn't go away and leave us without any help. Nine days after He went into Heaven

WOW! DID YOU SEE THAT?

He sent the Holy Spirit, who would help and guide His followers.



YES... WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO NOW?

Answers to True or False:
 1 True 2 False 3 False 4 True
 5 True 6 False 7 True
 mounts His throne to shouts of joy!
 Answer to puzzle on front page: God

www.thekidsbulletin.com

The Kids' Bulletin

Feast of the Ascension
 May 14th or May 17th, 2026

A G B O C D D M E O F U G N H T H S J H K
 I L S M T N H O R P O Q N R E S T T O U S
 V H W O X U Y T Z S A O B F C J D O E Y F



What does today's Psalm say about the Ascension? Use every other letter from the box of letters above to fill in the blanks below.

 G _____

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