

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 19th July 2026

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

Date	Feast	Saint Joseph's*	Saint Patrick's	Saint John Vianney's	Saint Mary's
Saturday 18th July	(Vigil) 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time	11.30am Baptisms 3.00pm Exposition & Confessions 3.30pm Rosary 4.00pm Mass Margaret Cecil & Alan Lindsay Birthday Remembrance		12.30pm Baptisms 6.00pm Mass Alfie, Ethel & Sheila McKenzie	
Sunday 19th July	16th Sunday in Ordinary Time	10.30am Mass Arsenia Aquino	9.00am Mass Father Patrick McGuigan		
Monday 20th July		12.00pm Funeral Service Dominic Robert Close 6.00pm Exposition & Confessions 6.30pm Mass Brian & Mim Fraser			
Tuesday 21st July		12.05pm Mass Elizabeth & George Dixon			
Wednesday 22nd July	St Mary Magdalen	12.00pm Funeral Service Sandra Fenwick		9.30am Mass Rand Netto	
Thursday 23rd July	St Bridget of Sweden		9.30am Mass Mary Harris	10.00am Funeral Service Benjamin Rogan	
Friday 24th July	Martyrs of the Diocese	12.05pm Mass The Brannan Family			
Saturday 25th July	(Vigil) 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time	3.00pm Exposition & Confessions 3.30pm Rosary 4.00pm Mass David Pesaña		6.00pm Mass David & Evelyn Gofton	
Sunday 26th July	17th Sunday in Ordinary Time	10.30am Mass Joseph Allen Hayes	9.00am Mass Arthur Vokes Wellbeing of Baby Rose		

Parish Clergy

Parish Priest

Very Rev. Canon Paul Douthwaite
BA Hons PGCE KHS

✉ pp.holyfamily.hartlepool@diocesehn.org.uk

☎ 01429 272985

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Father Joseph O'Brien
STB JCL

✉ pv.holyfamily.hartlepool@diocesehn.org.uk

☎ 07838247492

Parish Deacon

Rev. Deacon Jeff Parkes

✉ jeff.parkes@diocesehn.org.uk

Parish Office

Secretary

Laura Dolan

✉ holyfamily.hartlepool@diocesehn.org.uk

☎ 01429 866288

📍 Parish Office
Grange Road
Hartlepool
TS26 8JE

Opening Hours
10am - 2pm
Monday to Friday

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

T Restarts 8th^m
Lunch Club
September

Tues: 1pm-3pm
Over 60s Club
St Patrick's Hall

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

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.

✉ holyfamily.hartlepool@diocesehn.org.uk

🌐 www.holyfamilyhartlepool.org

✉ @HolyFamilyHP

📘 HolyFamilyHartlepool

📺 @HolyFamilyHartlepool

THIS WEEK'S PARISH NEWS

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2027 - 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, Wednesday 16th September at 6.30pm in St Joseph's Church.

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 29th July at 6pm, in the Parish Centre Hall at St Joseph's.

FR JOSEPH O'BRIEN - As announced recently, Fr Joseph has been appointed as Parochial Vicar (Curate) to the parish of Holy Family, Hartlepool. He will take up his appointment officially on 1st September 2026, however, Fr Joseph will be visible during the summer whilst on annual leave before taking up his appointment. Fr Joseph will be resident at St Joseph's Presbytery.

APPEAL FOR CATECHISTS - Our parish is seeking more catechists to help share the gift of faith with our children, as preparations are beginning for the 2027 First Holy Communion programme. Please consider this rewarding ministry and come to our meeting on Tuesday 21st July, at 6pm in St Joseph's if you would like to learn more.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO ROME - For those who have signed up and any others that are interested in this pilgrimage, there is a meeting on Tuesday 28th July at 6.30pm, in the Parish Centre Hall at St Joseph's Church.

HOLY FAMILY PARISH BARBECUE - Join us for a sizzling afternoon of food and fun at St John Vianney's Church grounds on Sunday 26th July from 2pm till 4pm. Tickets are available at £5 for adults and £2.50 for children. All are welcome. To help us cater for everyone, there will also be a sign up sheet available at the back of church, so please include any dietary needs.

200 CLUB - Quarterly subs (£6.25) are now due.

HARTLEPOOL FOODBANK - Bins are available at the back of our churches, taking donations for Hartlepool Foodbank. Any help would be greatly appreciated.

CHURCH GREETING ASSISTANCE - As you will be aware, we have a number of people who greet people on entering the churches of our parish at the Sunday Masses. This is a very important ministry of welcome. We would like to extend this ministry to other liturgical celebrations which take place in our churches. Particularly, we would be grateful if anyone could volunteer, on a rota basis, to welcome people attending the Baptisms at St Joseph's on Saturdays. If you wish to volunteer, please contact the parish office.

THANK YOU - Special thanks to all who have assisted and are continuing to assist in the gardening around our churches. It is much appreciated.

LUNCH CLUB - Our sincere thanks go to everyone involved in our Lunch Club for their hard work and dedication throughout the year. We are especially grateful for the wonderful afternoon tea that marked our final gathering before the summer break. Thank you to all our volunteers for everything you do to make the Lunch Club such a welcoming and valued part of parish life. We wish everyone a happy summer and look forward to meeting again in September.

FUNERALS (EXTRA ECCLESIAM) - The funeral of David Paul Wells is on Tuesday 21st July at 2pm, at Stranton Crematorium.

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 - Our next collection is on Sunday 26th July, for the work of the SVP in Hartlepool.

First reading: Wisdom 12:13, 16-19

‘You give repentance for sins.’

Neither is there any God besides you, whose care is for all, to whom you should prove that you have not judged unjustly. For your strength is the source of righteousness, and your sovereignty over all causes you to spare all. For you show your strength when men doubt the completeness of your power, and you rebuke any insolence among those who know it. You are sovereign in strength but you judge with mildness, and with great forbearance you govern us; for you have power to act whenever you choose. Through such works you have taught your people that the one who is righteous must be kind, and you have filled your sons with good hope, because you give repentance for sins.

Response: O Lord, you are good and forgiving.

Second Reading: Romans 8:26-27

‘The Spirit intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.’

Brothers and Sisters: The Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will 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 13:24-30

‘Let both grow together until the harvest.’

At that time: Jesus put another parable before the crowd, saying, ‘The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. And the servants of the master of the house came and said to him, “Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?” He said to them, “An enemy has done this.” So the servants said to him, “Then do you want us to go and gather them?” But he said, “No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, ‘Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’ ” ’

REFLECTION

The Book of Wisdom was written in the last century before the birth of Christ and it shows that, at this time, there was a debate among educated Jews about the nature of God and his relationship with humankind. We tend to believe that there was a great gap between the Old and the New Testaments, but this does not appear to be so. The people of the Old Testament were very like us in the way that they were seeking to know and love God and this book is part of that “seeking after God” that we continue today.

The reading itself is a very powerful examination of the forgiving nature of God and how that nature should affect our relationships with each other. If God is powerful and forgiving then we in our turn, even with our lack of power, have no real excuse when we fail to love and forgive each other. We are reminded that the compassion of God is there for us, for, “you have filled your sons with good hope because you give repentance for sins”.

There are many ways to pray but often we cannot find the words. Familiar prayers cannot cover the great need that we feel and cannot always express these needs in our prayer to God. There is great consolation, therefore, in this passage from Paul’s letter to the Romans. God knows what we need, He is all powerful, all seeing; all we need to do is to look for Him and He will listen. Paul sees in these intercessory prayers the hand of the Holy Spirit; there is a need in our prayer life for an open, honest expression of our needs and it is to the Holy Spirit that we look to guide us in our petitions.

The parables from Mathew’s gospel continue and this week we hear three parables concerning the Kingdom of Heaven. Each one is different; there is teaching about the good and evil that live side by side in our world, another about how the kingdom can grow from a tiny seed into a mighty tree and a third about how different things come together to make something new. Each parable would have been explained by Jesus to his disciples; we need to accept that the good seed and the darnel grow side by side and come to understand that this world is not perfect but, in the end, good will triumph over evil.

David Frank

Daily Readings



OUR PRAYERS

The sick of the Parish: Annie Airey, Stephen Anderson, Maureen Andrews, Nate 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, Michael Docherty, Teresa Falkingham, Grace Fallow, 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 McEneaney, Fr Seamus McGivern, Jim McKenna, Christopher Mghee, Peter McNaughton, Owen Milligan, Paul Moore, Ann Mullins, Pat Ness, Kitty Newstead, June Nolan, Sylvie Notrianni, Joe O'Connor, Mick Olley, Myra Pattison, Carol Price, Mick Readman, Mary Reed, Pam Robertson, Eric Robinson, Joseph Robinson, Paula Rogers, Jane Roocroft, Kathleen Royds, Hilda Ryan, Peter Saint, Agnes Scully, Michael Christopher Sheeran, Corazon Simpson, Marie Spindloe, Matthew Steel, Brett Swain, Gail Symington, Melvin Thackeray, 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: David Wells, Sandra Fenwick, Benjamin Rogan, Ann Parkinson, Dominic Close, Carole Thomas, Graham Jewson. *May they rest in peace and rise in Glory.*

Anniversaries that occur at this time: Mary Cannell, Mary Grayson, Joan Carney, Thomas Adams, Reginald Coles, Ethel McKenzie, Dorothy Dear, Frank Smith, Ethel Burnett, Jocelyn Lucas, Dawn Ryan, Robert Costello, Father Patrick McGuigan, Gordon Atkinson, William Henry Clark, Vera and Bill Guy, Sheila Tindall, Patrick McNicholas, Hugh John Rafferty, Greg Crangle, Kenneth Middleton, Mark Teal, Gladys Hoey, Eric Horsley, Kathleen Palmer, Andrew Lee (Andy) Close, Winifred Holmes, Jane Barnard, Phyllis Cook, Paul Linighan, Hetty Stevenson, Evelyn Gofton, Michael Connor, Pauline Mceneaney, Clare Belton, Pauline Ward, Malcolm Keith Walker, Richard Ward, Derek Edward Gordon Dettmer, Little Ralph Cawley, Mary Timlin (McCarthy, Nee Curren), Peter Wilkie, 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:

Weeds Among the Wheat

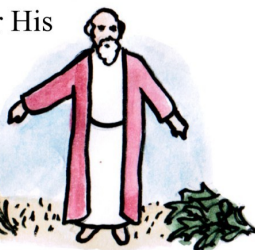


Weeds are plants that shouldn't be there. They use the sun and water that the good plants need. Have you ever helped pick weeds in the garden? In today's parable Jesus tells about a man who lets the weeds grow along with the wheat until harvest time, so that the good plants don't get pulled up along with the weeds.

The weeds represent the bad people, who will go to Hell at the final judgement. God lets them stay alive as long as the good people. He wants to give sinners lots of time to repent so that they can go to Heaven instead.



All the readings today are about God's mercy. God is the most powerful of all, but instead of destroying sinners He wants to give them more chances. When you think about it, you will realize God has already been merciful to all of us- because we have all sinned. We should thank God for His mercy, and if we do sin again we should show Him we are sorry by going to Confession.

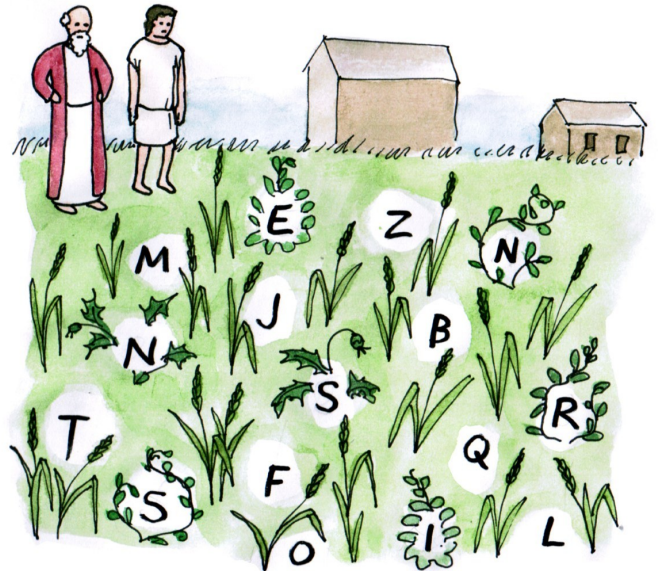


Answer to front page: sinners

www.thekidsbulletin.com

The Kids' Bulletin

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time
July 19th, 2026



What did the weeds in today's parable represent?
Find all the letters that are in the weeds and unscramble them to find out.



The weeds are any plant that doesn't look like this.