

# 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 22nd February 2026

\*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 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		
Monday 23rd February		6.00pm Exposition & Confessions 6.30pm Mass Joyce & Jim Kealy			
Tuesday 24th February		12.05pm Mass Mary, Rosie & Kathleen Nealon			
Wednesday 25th February			6.30pm Stations of the Cross & Benediction	10.00am Mass at Hartfields Retirement Village Eileen Connolly	
Thursday 26th February			9.30am Mass Victoria Lynas		
Friday 27th February		12.05pm Mass Kenneth Fletcher			
Saturday 28th February	(Vigil) 2nd Sunday of Lent	3.00pm Exposition & Confessions 3.30pm Rosary 4.00pm Mass George Hoey 80th Birthday Remembrance		6.00pm Mass Kathleen Gray	
Sunday 1st March	2nd Sunday of Lent	10.30am Mass Sheila Mary Hornby	9.00am Mass In Thanksgiving for 80th Birthday (EB)		

#### 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

**Restarts 3rd March**  
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

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY** - Throughout Lent, there will be Stations of the Cross and Benediction in our parish on a Wednesday evening. Please see below timetable for location. This year, at the Easter Vigil, we will welcome a number of new members into our community of faith. For this reason, it will not be possible to celebrate two Easter Vigils. So each Church of our Parish can have a Mass on Easter Sunday, the times of the regular Sunday Masses will be adjusted slightly for Easter Sunday only.

Date	Service	Church	Time
25/02/2026	Stations of the Cross & Benediction	St Patrick's	6.30pm
04/03/2026	Stations of the Cross & Benediction	St John Vianney's	6.30pm
11/03/2026	Stations of the Cross & Benediction	St Joseph's	6.30pm
18/03/2026	Stations of the Cross & Benediction	St Patrick's	6.30pm
25/03/2026	Stations of the Cross & Benediction	St John Vianney's	6.30pm
01/04/2026	Chrism Mass	St Mary's Cathedral Newcastle	11.00am
01/04/2026	Stations of the Cross & Benediction	St Joseph's	6.30pm
Maundy Thursday 02/04/2026	Mass of the Lord's Supper	St Joseph's	7.00pm
Good Friday 03/04/2026	Solemn Passion of the Lord	St Joseph's	3.00pm
Holy Saturday 04/04/2026	Easter Vigil Mass	St Joseph's	6.00pm
Easter Sunday 05/04/2026	Easter Sunday Mass	St Patrick's	8.30am
	Easter Sunday Mass	St Joseph's	10.00am
	Easter Sunday Mass	St John Vianney's	11.30am

**DIOCESAN VACANCY** - For an applicant pack for the role of Parish Finance Officer at St Vincent's Diocesan Offices, West Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE15 7PY, please contact Annie Leaver, Head of HR at [annie.leaver@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:annie.leaver@diocesehn.org.uk). The closing date is Wednesday 4th March 2026. The full advert can be viewed at <https://diocesehn.org.uk/job-vacancies/>

**CALL FOR SACRISTANS** - We are looking for a Sacristan who can commit to opening the church and preparing everything needed for the 12.05pm Tuesday Mass at St Joseph's Church. If you are able to commit to this important service each Tuesday, please contact the parish office. Thank you.

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL** - Thank you to everyone who participated in nominating parishioners to serve on the Parish Pastoral Council. Over the coming days, Canon Paul will approach those who have been nominated for their agreement and once this has taken place, the PPC will be formed.

**200 CLUB** - Annual subscriptions are due in March (£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, £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.

**LENTEN REFLECTION RESOURCES** - Lenten resources are available at [diocesehn.org.uk](http://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.

**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.

**ST PATRICK'S NIGHT SOCIAL** - We are planning a Social Evening on Friday 20th March in St Patrick's Hall. The evening will include a hearty serving of Mince and Dumplings, and we look forward to enjoying good food and great company together. Tickets will go on sale next week at £5 each. Due to the nature of the meal being served, we are aware that we may not be able to cater for all dietary needs. However, we very much want everyone to join us. If you have specific dietary needs, please feel free to come along and bring your own meal. Tickets for those bringing their own food will be £2 each. We hope you will join us for what promises to be a warm and friendly evening!

**CAFOD LENTEN FAMILY FAST** - Our Fast Day collection will take place on Sunday 1st March. Envelopes will be available at the back of the churches this weekend to take away and return for the retiring collection next week.

**GIFT AID** - As we are coming up to the end of the financial year, we will be issuing envelopes for 2026/27 soon. You may find your envelope number has been changed, this is to simplify the issue of envelopes and reduce wastage. 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 of Peace

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, for CAFOD, will be 1st March 2026.

**First reading:** Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7

### The creation and sin of our first parents.

The Lord God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature. And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed. And out of the ground the Lord God made to spring up every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, 'Did God actually say, "You shall not eat of any tree in the garden"?' And the woman said to the serpent, 'We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, but God said, "You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die."' But the serpent said to the woman, 'You will not surely die. For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.' So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

**Response:** Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned.

**Second Reading:** Romans 5:12, 17-19

### 'Where sin increased, grace abounded all the more.'

Brothers and Sisters: Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned. For if, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man; much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ. Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

### Gospel Acclamation:

Glory and praise to you, O Christ.  
One does not live by bread alone,  
but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.  
Glory and praise to you, O Christ.

**Gospel Reading:** Matthew 4:1-11

### Jesus fasts for forty days and is tempted.

At that time: Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry.

And the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.' But he answered, 'It is written, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."'

Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the Temple and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you"', and "On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.'" Jesus said to him, 'Again it is written, "You shall not put the Lord your God to the test."'

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. And he said to him, 'All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.' Then Jesus said to him, 'Be gone, Satan! For it is written, "You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve."' Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

## REFLECTION

There is a line from "The Lord's Prayer" which is linked to today's readings. We pray "Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil". We probably learned the "Our Father" as children and, as with other prayers we heard at that time, it stays with us but do we really pray the words or just recite them? Lent has begun, it is a time to review our spiritual and prayer life and learn, once again, the lessons we have experienced throughout our lives. As children we received them, as adults we now must put them into practice.

The Genesis reading reminds me that we received this passage in a simple way as children and now, perhaps, we listen with that same simplicity as adults. But the message is far from simple, it established from the beginning our relationship with Our Heavenly Father. We are given the gift of free will and how we use that gift is down to us. We can do wrong or right, we can be disobedient or righteous, the choice is ours. Eve and Adam choose to disobey God's warning of the fruit of the tree and so destroyed the harmony of Eden and brought sin into the world and, with it our deadliest enemy, death.

Paul usually wrote to those communities he had visited with words of encouragement or sometimes admonishment for error but his epistle to the Romans was to a people he had never visited and so the tone is somewhat different from normal. It is a teaching letter, a preparation for what is to come, and if you read this passage closely you will see a link between the first two readings. Paul sees the emergence of Jesus Christ as the blessing which will save mankind from sin as, through the cross, Jesus took our sins on himself and so we are forgiven. Jesus changes us from sinners into the righteous.

The Temptations passage from Matthew is filled with the Holy Spirit and is a gift to us when we are in danger of sin. It speaks to us of the Word; we cannot change stones to bread, but we can be guided by His word. We must not challenge the Lord by asking the impossible, but we can accept His gift of the possible. We may look to the world to provide for all our needs and be tempted by the false promises of prosperity and fame, but there is only one God and He is the only one who can fully satisfy us. Turn to Him.

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, Eileen Lyle, 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 Ntrianni, 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, 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:** Margaret Costello, Eileen Mulcahy, Joan Stevenson, John Arthur Smith, Michael Fearon, Olga Hamilton, Thomas Waites. **May they rest in peace and rise in Glory.**

**Anniversaries that occur at this time:** Agnes Reid, Elizabeth Crowe, Edward Garthwaite, Amy Rimington Angnes, Selina Popplewell, Michael Paul Dignen, Sheila Horseman, John & Annie Atkinson, Keir Harrison, John Croft, Marjorie Boagey, Theresa O'Connor, Fr Tom Cunningham, Mary Kathleen Keenan, Pat Thubron, Irene Nealom, Julia Patricia (Pat) Wilkinson, Annette Tunstall, Philip Coates, Joseph Michael Hannon, Catherine (Kitty) Tobin, Lena Bianco, John Wilkinson, Margaret Boagey, Barbara Watson, John Howe, Jean Courtney, Ted Strickland, Mary Boylen, Annie Cann, Pat Hurley, Anthony Henegan, Mary E Griffiths, Patrick (Pat) Northey, Oliver Cleary, Evelyn Connor, Gwendeline Hannon, Michelle Frise, Joseph McAllistair, Christine Swinburne, Margaret Waite, 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:

### What Happens in Lent?

In today's Gospel story, Jesus goes out into the desert to fast and pray for forty days. In the forty days of Lent, the Church asks us to fast, give alms, and pray.



In Lent we don't eat meat on Fridays. Many people give up things like candy or dessert for all of Lent. When we give up food that we like, it reminds us that food isn't the only thing we need- we need God too!



Giving alms means giving money or things to the poor or the Church. God lets there be people who need our help so that we can become better by helping them!

The third thing that we should do in Lent is praying. You could say an extra prayer every day- maybe an "Our Father" or a "Hail Mary" when you wake up or before you go to bed. Another good idea is reading a bit from the Bible, because when we read the Bible we let God speak to us.

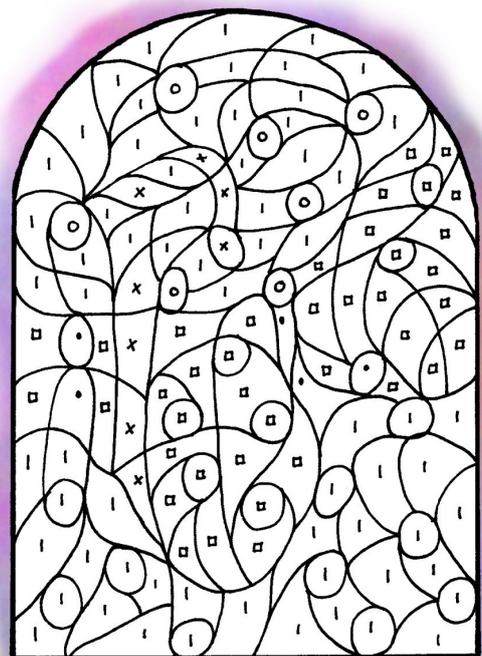
What are some little things you could do for Lent? Try to do things that will help you think a bit more about God every day.



## The Kids' Bulletin

**First Sunday of Lent  
February 22nd, 2026**

*Today's first reading tells us about sin.  
Use the code at the bottom to colour in the spaces  
and find out what the story was.*



■ blue      | green      x brown  
○ red      • skin colour

[www.thekidsbulletin.com](http://www.thekidsbulletin.com)

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The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (CSSA) and Diocese's policies and procedures at all times.  
Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Sarah Boagey, or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding Team can be contacted on 0191 2433305 or at [safeguarding@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@diocesehn.org.uk)