

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 26th April 2026

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

Date	Feast	Saint Joseph's*	Saint Patrick's	Saint John Vianney's	Saint Mary's
Saturday 25th April	(Vigil) 4th Sunday of Easter	3.00pm Exposition & Confessions 3.30pm Rosary 4.00pm Mass Catherine Butler Anniversary		6.00pm Mass Megraw Fund	
Sunday 26th April	4th Sunday of Easter	10.30am Mass Kath Cooms, Rose Hughes & Family	9.00am Mass Kevin Walsh		
Monday 27th April		6.00pm Exposition & Confessions 6.30pm Mass Peter Garthwaite			
Tuesday 28th April		12.05pm Mass Tony Cawley			
Wednesday 29th April	St Catherine of Siena			9.30am Mass Kilvington Mass Fund	
Thursday 30th April			9.30am Mass Coghlan Fund		
Friday 1st May	St Joseph the Worker	9.30am Feast Day Mass Michael & Cecilia McCann 12.05pm Mass Jean Byrne			
Saturday 2nd May	(Vigil) 5th Sunday of Easter	11.30am - 12.30pm Baptisms 3.00pm Exposition & Confessions 3.30pm Rosary 4.00pm Mass Pat Waterland		6.00pm Mass Thelma & Ted Strickland	
Sunday 3rd May	5th Sunday of Easter	10.30am Mass Ralph Kidson	9.00am Mass David Frank 80th Birthday		

SCHOOL MASSES

St Bega's

Monday 27th April - 9.30am Mass

St Joseph's

Friday 1st May - 9.30am Feast Day Mass at St Joseph's Church

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

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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: 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

THIS WEEK'S PARISH NEWS

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 April 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 cannot leave boxes without supervision because it is important that the right person receives the correct box for tax purposes. 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.

"BRENDA'S BUSES" DAY TRIP - Please ensure monies are paid by Sunday 19th April for our Leeds day trip on Wednesday 29th April. The cost is £15 per person. Please see Brenda at the back of church or give her a call on 07599511066. Spaces are limited.

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.

CLEANERS WANTED - We're looking for a few helping hands to join our volunteers at St Joseph's Church on Friday mornings from 9.45am until Mass. Many hands make light work, and tea/coffee will be provided. Thank you for your support.

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.

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 from 27th April on the diocesan website (www.diocesehn.org.uk) or via the parish office.

MESSAGE FROM BISHOP STEPHEN: PASTORAL STRATEGY - Thank you to all parishes who have completed and returned their reflections as part of our diocesan pastoral strategy. I, together with others, look forward to reading and praying through your discernments in the Spirit. 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.

FUNERALS (EXTRA ECCLESIAM) - The funeral of Gina Stalley is on Thursday 30th April at 1pm at Stranton Crematorium.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS, 26 APRIL - Bishop Stephen invites us all to pray for vocations this Sunday. Please pray particularly for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life. Please pray every day that people will respond to the Lord's call to serve Him in ordained and consecrated life. They are intimate adventures in God's love. In our parishes and churches and schools and chaplaincies, please offer regular time in prayer for vocations. Pope Leo encourages us to offer time for Eucharistic adoration and to meditate faithfully on the Word of God. Prayer leads to vocations. This is not a last resort; it is the essential first resort. For more information, prayer resources, and for enquiries please contact: vocationspromoter@diocesehn.org.uk.

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 on 3rd May for St Joseph's Home, Little Sisters of the Poor, Newcastle.

First reading: Acts 2:14a, 36-41

‘God has made him both Lord and Christ.’

On the day of Pentecost Peter, standing with the Eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed the crowd: ‘Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.’

Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the Apostles, ‘Brothers, what shall we do?’ And Peter said to them, ‘Repent and be baptised, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.’ And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, ‘Save yourselves from this crooked generation.’ So those who received his word were baptised, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

Response: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:20b-25

‘You have returned to the Shepherd of your souls.’

Beloved: If when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia.
I am the good shepherd, says the Lord.
I know my sheep and my own know me.
Alleluia.

Gospel Reading: John 10:1-10

‘I am the door of the sheep.’

At that time: Jesus said, ‘Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.’ This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So Jesus again said to them, ‘Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.’

REFLECTION

When I was a boy my father sent me into the hills outside Bethlehem to look after his flock of sheep. There were a group of shepherds who walked those hills caring for the sheep and keeping them from harm. They taught me how to watch for wild animals that came to take the sheep, how to build sheepfolds to keep the sheep from harm and how to talk to the sheep so that they became familiar with my voice. I have never forgotten that wonderful night when that bright star appeared and we were woken by the sound of heavenly music in the skies above Bethlehem. I still do not understand what that was all about, but I remember following the shepherds into the town and to the stable and that beautiful baby boy.

It was many years later when I heard about Jesus the carpenter; my father had passed away, and the flock was now mine. I was their shepherd. I was watching my sheep one day when I came across a large crowd sitting in a green valley and I stopped to listen to the man who was speaking to them. Shepherds carry the smell of their sheep with them and are not welcomed into polite society, so I stayed on the outside of the crowd.

The man, Jesus, looked across and saw me, he waved and called to me, reluctantly I walked through the crowd until I was standing beside him, He smiled and greeted me with a kiss and put his arm round my shoulder: I have never felt so at ease, so welcome, in my entire life. Then he started to tell the people about a Good Shepherd and everything he said rang true. He told the crowd how the shepherd cared for his sheep and used his rod and his staff to protect them from harm. How they listened for his voice, and, if any of the sheep went astray, he would leave the others and search and find him and bring him back, on his shoulders, to the flock.

There are many things that can harm you in this life. Each of us needs someone to take care of them, a shepherd who will watch over them and find them when they are lost. We are each called to be shepherds, caring for our families, our friends and our neighbours. When we follow the shepherd’s example we are following Christ.

**Lord, teach me to be your shepherd today.
Amen.**

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 Follow, 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 Mgehe, Peter McNaughton, Owen Milligan, Paul Moore, Ann Mullins, Pat Ness, Kitty Newstead, June Nolan, Sylvie Notrianni, Joe O'Connor, John George Parsons, Myra Pattison, Carol Price, Mary Reed, Pam Robertson, Eric Robinson, Joseph Robinson, Paula Rogers, Jane Roorcroft, 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: Gina Stalley, Dennis Daniel Moore. *May they rest in peace and rise in Glory.*

Anniversaries that occur at this time: John 'Brendan' Mahoney, Ann Liddle, Pauline Charlton, Charles Archbold, Miriam Weegram, Tommy Flounders Waugh, Kathleen Rooke, Jim Neenan, Margaret Lines, Bartholemew Nealon, Michael Gunn, Raymond Allan, Veronica McDougall, Rex Harley-Smith, Anthony Gorman, Thomas Newlove, Jackie Reed, Patrick Hanson, Kathleen Noone, Lawrence Goulding, Elizabeth Crane, John Hand, Kathleen Rooke, Seamus McEaney, Michael Maughan, Margaret Lines, Joseph Daniel Monaghan, John Hanley, Margaret Huntley, Claire McClosekey, John Edward (Johnny) Larkin, Margaret Clifford, Mary Watson, Michael Ryan, Hilda Bruce, Nora Ward, Wilfred Storey, Ernest Butterfield, Jane Tulley, Michael Almond, Martin Mullins, Billy Corbett, Jessie Higgins, Eileen Scurrah, Brian Gleeson, Linda Dickinson, Judith Bushnell, George Brown, Alex Bell, Colin Riches, Harry McDonall, Frederick Rafferty, Lawrence Raw, Anthony Robinson, Ann McIntosh, Gerard Flannery, Hugh Wharton, Emily McEaney, Patricia King, Gerard Flannery, Mary Turner, Nora Wray, Janet Watt, Lawrence Marshall, Michael Ryan, Thomas Albert Sharp, Agnes Tindale, James Doherty, 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: The Good Shepherd



The readings in today's Mass talk about Jesus the Good Shepherd. In Jesus' time, and still in some parts of the world today, there would be flocks of sheep grazing in the pastures. The shepherds were the people who looked after the flocks and made sure none of the sheep got lost or hurt or attacked by wild animals.

The Church is the flock of Jesus, and He is the Good Shepherd. He guides the people in the Church so that their souls will not be hungry- He gives us grace, just like a shepherd makes sure his sheep have lots of grass to eat!

Like the shepherd protects the sheep from danger, Our Lord also protects us from harm. In the "Our Father" we ask God to deliver us from evil. When our souls are hurt by sin, the Good Shepherd heals us with forgiveness in Confession.

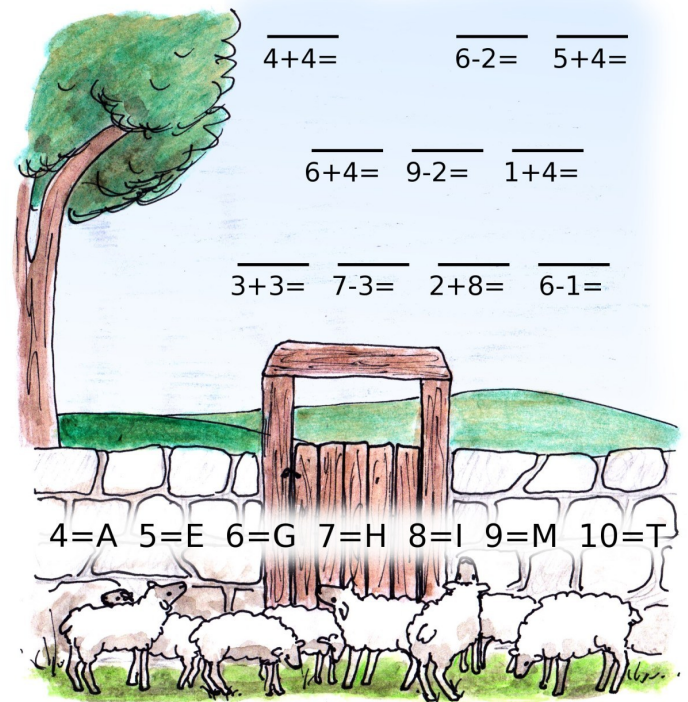


Answer to puzzle on front page:
I am the gate.

www.thekidsbulletin.com

The Kids' Bulletin

Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 26th, 2026



What did Jesus say about the sheepfold?
Figure out the math questions
and then fill in the blanks
with the letters the numbers represent.