

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 July 2026

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

Date	Feast	Saint Joseph's*	Saint Patrick's	Saint John Vianney's	Saint Mary's
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		
Monday 27th July		6.00pm Exposition & Confessions 6.30pm Mass Doreen Bennett			
Tuesday 28th July		12.05pm Mass Maureen & Allen Thomson	10.00am Funeral Service Carole Thomas		
Wednesday 29th July	SS Martha, Mary & Lazarus	1.00pm Funeral Service Graham Jewson		10.00am Mass at Hartfields Retirement Village Bernard & Margaret Robinson	
Thursday 30th July			12.00pm Requiem Mass Ann Parkinson		
Friday 31st July	St Ignatius Loyola	12.05pm Mass Margaret Costello			
Saturday 1st August	(Vigil) 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time	3.30pm Rosary 4.00pm Mass Jim & Joyce Kealy		6.00pm Mass Pat Boagey	
Sunday 2nd August	18th Sunday in Ordinary Time	10.30am Mass For the Ochuba Family: Thanksgiving for Chizaram's completion of Tina the Musical tour	9.00am Mass		

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
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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

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THIS WEEK'S PARISH NEWS

ANNUAL MISSION APPEAL—Every year we are required to hold an annual Mission appeal. This year the appeal will be given by the Columban Fathers and will take place next weekend the 1st/2nd August, please give Father Kevin a warm welcome.

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 on 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.

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 - We look forward to seeing you at the Parish BBQ this Sunday. Please remember to bring your own liquid refreshments and if you have a folding garden chair please do bring that also. Please pray for good weather.

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.

SVP - SVP are appealing for new members to join us in Holy Family Parish. Please come along to the next meeting in the Parish Centre Hall on Friday 31st July after 12.05pm Mass to find out what we do and how much we need you.

REFERENCES - If you wish Canon Paul to give you a reference, please speak to him before nominating him as referee. Many thanks.

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 celebration 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.

LOURDES PILGRIMAGE - This week sees the 100th Pilgrimage of the Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle. Please keep in your prayers our parishoners and young people who will be attending, some as registered helpers.



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 collection this weekend, Sunday 26th July, for the work of the SVP in Hartlepool.

This Sunday's Readings

17TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

First reading: 1 Kings 3:5-6a, 7-12

'You have asked for yourself understanding.'

In those days: The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, 'Ask what I shall give you.' And Solomon said, 'O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of your people whom you have chosen, a great people, too many to be numbered or counted for multitude. Give your servant, therefore, an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great people?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. And God said to him, 'Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life, or riches, or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you.'

Response: O Lord, how I love your law!

Second Reading: Romans 8:28-30

'He predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son.'

Brothers and Sisters: We know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

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 13:44-52

'He sells all that he has and buys that field.'

At that time: Jesus said to the crowd: 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.'

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.'

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into vessels but threw away the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

'Have you understood all these things?' They said to him, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house, who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.'

REFLECTION

Life is about making decisions; everything that happens to us, large or small, needs a decision to be made and we are judged by the decisions that we make. Each decision should be made after a thoughtful analysis of the problem unfortunately, I tend to make decisions quickly, and then I have to live with the consequences. How I wish I had the Wisdom of Solomon; then all my decisions would be well thought out, and nothing would go wrong!

Today's readings however have given me pause for thought. Wisdom is not beyond my ability; actually, it is within my grasp, all I need to do is to realise that I should never make decisions without considering the effects on others. I should listen to what is within my heart and not just in my head and never leave my faith out of the equation. Mind this is easy to say but oh so difficult to do.

Solomon prayed for wisdom; perhaps he already had the gift but, by opening his heart to God, he came to realise how he could change and become wiser in his judgements. If Solomon can achieve this through prayer, then it is within the grasp of each of us. Paul reminds us "that for those who love God all things work together for good". We are "called according to His purpose" and we each have the ability to become like God's Son. We do this by turning everything to good. We need to consider each situation from God's perspective; (What would Jesus do?) and then try to apply the love of God to our solutions. In this way Paul assures us we can share the glory of God.

The Gospel contains three parables. The first two about the treasure hidden in a field and the pearl of great value are reminders to me that trying to apply the Wisdom of Solomon would be something to be treasured and lead to a better place, God's Kingdom. The treasure is not found easily. It is found through working in the field of life and unearthing this great gift. It is in the searching that we change as people and become wise. The third parable is perhaps a warning to us that if we do not follow the path to wisdom then we are in danger of being the fish which are rejected and are thrown into the furnace.

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, 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, Sylvice 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, Peter Saint, 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: Ann Parkinson, Carole Thomas, Graham Jewson. *May they rest in peace and rise in Glory.*

Anniversaries that occur at this time: Cecil Lindsay, Kevin Hunter, Morton Stott, John Kevin Nealon, Morton Stott, Nora Slater, James Fitzgerald, Kevin Hunter, Kathleen Gooding, Margaret Griffin, Jessica Swales, John Bradwell, Annie Atkinson, Thomas McNaughton, Maria Miller, Jean Richardson, Jean Jacques, Ellen Wilson, Theresa Watson, Fredrick Turner, Gerard Gilfoyle, Eileen Weatherill, Jean Bates, Kathleen McNeil, Bill Burgon, Isabelle Morris, Fr Thomas Burke, Essie Cornforth, Doug Windsor, Kathleen Hodgson, Agnes (Ann) Day, Marie Port, Ethel Bell, Elizabeth Flounders, David Gofton, Chiara Griffiths, Claudia Steel, Catherine Powell, Peter Day, Terence Laffin, Thomas Bamford, Leo Collins, Kerrienne Thomas, Jenny Odell, Canon Patrick Lacey, Monica Lithgo, Michael & Christine Magee, Stella Nutall, Michael Vasey, Francis Connor, Frederick Vasey, Mark Crawford, Dennis Hanna, Catherine Gofton, James Edward Roche, John Meadley, Teresa Wearmouth, Hilda Walker, John Hall, Martin Emerson, 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:

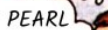
The Kingdom of Heaven is Like...



In today's Gospel reading, Jesus tells the disciples what the Kingdom of Heaven is like. He says it is like a buried treasure, that when a man finds it, he sells everything he has and buys the field where it is. It is also like a pearl of great price, that when a man finds it he sells all he has and buys it.

These parables tell us how precious the Kingdom of Heaven is. Jesus is explaining that it is more important than anything else in our lives. The men in the parables sold EVERYTHING they had to get the treasures.

But what is the Kingdom of Heaven? Is it a country with a king and subjects? Well it is, sort of, but you can't see it. Jesus is the King and His people are the people who choose Him as their King. The laws of the kingdom are God's laws, and the enemy is the devil who is trying to take all the souls. Always remember that belonging to God's Kingdom is more important than everything else in your life!



THIS PEARL IS PRICELESS! I MUST BUY IT!

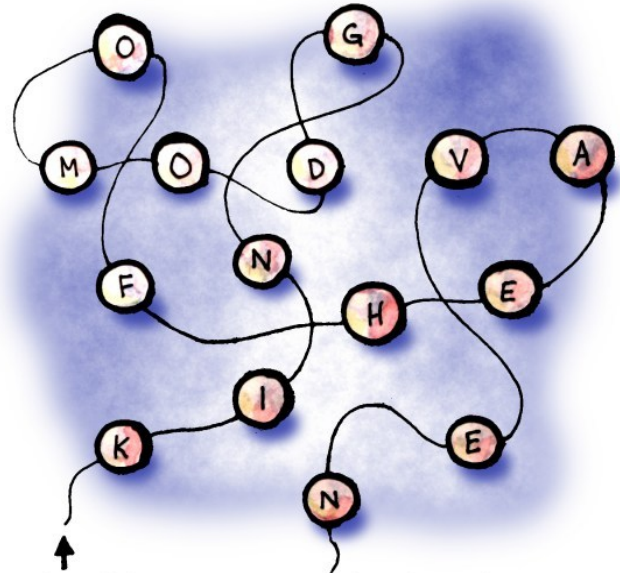


Answers to Cross-word:
Answer to front page: Kingdom of Heaven
across: 2, judge 4, at 6, who 7, wisdom
10, more 12, wrong 15, God 17, heart
18, servant 22, numbered 24, king
down: 1, how 3, understanding 4, able 5, 10
man 9, people 11, right 14, govern 16, give
18, serve 19, said 20, Lord 21, ask 23, me

www.thekidsbulletin.com

The Kids' Bulletin

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time
July 26th, 2026



*What did Jesus say was like a buried treasure
or a pearl of great price?*

Use the letters on the string of pearls
to fill in the blanks and find out!

The _____