

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 27th September 2026

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

Date	Feast	Saint Joseph's*	Saint Patrick's	Saint John Vianney's	Saint Mary's
Saturday 26th September	(Vigil) 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time	11.30am Baptisms 3.00pm Exposition & Confessions 3.30pm Rosary 4.00pm Mass Peter Grieves 4th Anniversary	12.30pm Baptisms	6.00pm Mass Richard Powell, Billy & Margaret Thornton	
Sunday 27th September	26th Sunday in Ordinary Time	10.30am Mass Deceased Members of the Hodge & Feeney Families	9.00am Mass My Granddaughter (DG)		
Monday 28th September		6.00pm Exposition & Confessions 6.30pm Mass Frieda & John Jones Anniversary			
Tuesday 29th September	SS Michael, Gabriel & Raphael	12.05pm Mass In Thanksgiving			
Wednesday 30th September	St Jerome			9.30am Mass Fleurette Netto	
Thursday 1st October	St Thérèse of the Child Jesus	6.00pm Rosary for Peace 6.30pm Young Adults' Holy Hour	9.30am Mass at St Teresa's School Ellen McKenna 100th Birthday Memorial		
Friday 2nd October	The Holy Guardian Angels	12.05pm Mass Edmund Niland			
Saturday 3rd October	(Vigil) 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time	12.30pm Baptisms 3.00pm Exposition & Confessions 3.30pm Rosary 4.00pm Mass NHS Filipino Nurses 25th Anniversary		6.00pm Mass Bob & Nancy Garrahan	
Sunday 4th October	27th Sunday in Ordinary Time	10.30am Mass My Family 12.30pm Animal Blessing Service	9.00am Mass James Kitching & Thomas Lawson		

SCHOOL MASSES

St Teresa's

Thursday 1st October - 9.30am Feast Day Mass

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
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Parish Clergy

Parish Priest

Very Rev. Canon Paul Douthwaite
BA Hons PGCE KHS

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Parochial Vicar

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Parish Deacon

Rev. Deacon Jeff Parkes

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Parish Office

Secretary

Laura Dolan

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📍 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

THIS WEEK'S PARISH NEWS

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION - We will shortly begin preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation on 24th November. Application forms are available at the back of our churches and on our website. If anyone in Year 9 or above would like to be Confirmed, please return your completed application form to the parish office.

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 4th November at 6pm, in the Parish Centre Hall at St Joseph's.

MASS REQUESTS - Please place any Mass request envelopes in the collection basket at the offertory of the Mass, ensuring that all details are filled in (especially the telephone number). Mass intentions will be coordinated from the Parish Office. 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. There is often greater availability for Mass intentions at some of our churches, which may allow your intention to be offered sooner. If no date is requested or your requested date is unavailable, Masses will be said in the order they are received.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION - Could those ministers who visit our sick and housebound parishioners on behalf of the parish please ensure the parish office has up-to-date details about whom you are visiting. If circumstances or details change, please let Laura know as soon as possible so we can update parish records.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE - As part of our ongoing diocesan-wide discernment, the Parish Pastoral Council have identified various areas which we can develop as a parish. It is proposed that we establish our own parish marriage preparation course. We are looking for volunteers (married couples) to be trained to deliver this course. For further details, please contact the parish office or speak to Canon Paul.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP - The Parish Pastoral Council have also proposed that we establish our own bereavement support group. We are therefore looking for volunteers to be trained to deliver this listening support. For further details, please contact the parish office or speak to Deacon Jeff.

HOLY FAMILY YOUNG ADULTS - Join us on Thursday 1st October at 6.30pm in St Joseph's Church for our first parish young adults gathering. We will have a Holy Hour of adoration together before the Blessed Sacrament, followed by some time together in the hall. All over-18s welcome. Please speak to Fr Joseph for more information.

200 CLUB - The next draw will take place on Sunday 4th October.

PET BLESSING SERVICE - All pets and their owners are invited to join us for a special Blessing Service, on Sunday 4th October at 12.30pm, at the side of St Joseph's on the grassed area adjoining Hutton Avenue.

ROSARY FOR PEACE - Join us in prayer in union with Pope Leo XIV and children around the world as we pray the Rosary for peace. Pope Leo will be praying the Rosary with children in the Vatican on the same day, and we invite children, families and parishioners to join us at St Joseph's on Thursday 1st October at 6pm as we pray together for peace in our world. All are warmly welcome.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO ROME - For those who are participating in this pilgrimage, there will be a meeting at 1pm on Sunday 4th October in the Parish Centre Hall. This will be an opportunity to finalise arrangements.

FLAME 2027 - Flame 2027 takes place on Saturday 6th March. The theme is 'TAKE COURAGE'. It is open to anyone from school year 9 to University/young adult age. Under 18s must be part of an organised group. Please talk with the school chaplain, or Canon Paul if you would like to participate.

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 4th October, for CAFOD.

First reading: Ezekiel 18:25-28

‘When a wicked person turns away from the wickedness he has committed, he shall save his life.’

Thus says the Lord: ‘You say, “The way of the Lord is not just.” Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? When a righteous person turns away from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it; for the injustice that he has done he shall die. Again, when a wicked person turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he shall save his life. Because he considered and turned away from all the transgressions that he had committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die.’

Response: Remember your compassion, O Lord.

Second Reading: Philippians 2:1-5

‘Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus.’

Brothers and Sisters: If there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy; complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia.

My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord,
and I know them, and they follow me.

Alleluia.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 21:28-32

**‘He changed his mind and went.
The tax collectors and the prostitutes go into the kingdom of God before you.’**

At that time: Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, ‘What do you think? A man had two sons. And he went to the first and said, “Son, go and work in the vineyard today.” And he answered, “I will not”, but afterwards he changed his mind and went. And he went to the other son and said the same. And he answered, “I go, sir”, but did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?’ They said, ‘The first.’ Jesus said to them, ‘Truly, I say to you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes go into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him. And even when you saw it, you did not afterwards change your minds and believe him.’

REFLECTION

We are all capable of being reconciled to Christ. We need only recognise our faults and sins, ask for forgiveness and try not to fall back into sin again. Unfortunately, we are also capable of blaming God and other people for our own failings. In today's reading from Ezekiel this duplicity is examined, and the prophet leaves us in no doubt about who is the real sinner in this situation. He also reminds us that it is never too late to turn back to God.

Hypocrisy is defined as someone who falsely pretends to be virtuous and is a mark of insincerity. Jesus has dealings with a vast range of different individuals during his ministry, and he could see through hypocrites very clearly. Today's Gospel speaks of two sons; one who says no and then does something and another who says yes but fails to do anything. Jesus compares these two types of people as either tax collectors and prostitutes or chief priests and elders. However, Jesus is always capable of turning things upside down and the message in the Gospel is that it is the religious leaders who are failing the people and the tax collectors and prostitutes (who may well have been among his closest companions) are the ones who are doing His Father's will.

The passage from Paul's letter to the Philippians is in two parts. The first part is an appeal to us to live our lives in a way that pleases God; the second part is a hymn to the crucified Christ. The two are put together because Paul wants to emphasise that Jesus is our greatest example and that the attributes of a follower of Christ are manifest in the life and death of Our Lord. Paul speaks of a church which is united in faith and love, with a common purpose and mind. This is the church which we are called upon to build. Not a church of different factions, with favouritism and privilege for a few but one true church where everyone works for the good of all. Jesus is the Son of God; He did not have to die on the cross; he could have called upon His heavenly army to defend Him from His enemies. He died that painful degrading death on the cross out of love for each and every one of us in the hope we would follow his teaching and build a church worthy of his sacrifice. Are we worthy of so great a love?

David Frank

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.

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, 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, Dave Nugent, Joe O'Connor, Mick Olley, Myra Pattison, Carol Price, Mary Reed, Pam Robertson, Eric Robinson, Joseph Robinson, Paula Rogers, Jane Roocroft, Kathleen Royds, Nora Rumble, 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: Thomas Collins. *May they rest in peace and rise in Glory.*

Anniversaries that occur at this time: Monsignor Farrelly, Nora Dwyer, Fr Lawrence Murray, Peter Francis Ryan, Frieda Lee Jones, Frank Stothart, Margaret Kitching, Kathleen Gooding, William Lavender, Ava Turnbull, Alice McGarry, John Judson, Joyce Manson, Edward Gill, Francis Edward Cannell (Eddie), Linda Mary Johns, Sheila Williams, Peter Grieves, Sarah Kellett, Therese Day, Bryan Keenan, Annie 'Maura' Kelly, Joseph Larkin, Nancy Emmerson, Kitty Turnbull, Simeon Fraser Snr, Elizabeth Howard, Mary Howard, William Menary, Blanche Fraser, Thomas Higgins, Georgina Cawavan, Alec Wood, Catherine Jeffrey, Winnie Connor, Mary Wood, Isaac Carrol, Dorothy Northey, Peter Clark, Michael Donnelly, Pauline Webb, Nancy Garraghan, Bridget Howard, Terence Squire Rhoden, Joan Ackroyd, Anne Norah Talbot, Edmund Niland, 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:

Changing Your Mind

In today's Gospel reading, Our Lord tells the parable of the two sons whose father asked them to help in the vineyard. The first son told his father he wouldn't help, but then he changed his mind and did what he was asked. The second son said he would help, but he didn't.

In the end it doesn't matter so much if we say we are going to do what's right. What is important is that we do it. We call ourselves Christians because we believe in Jesus and the Church He gave us, but we only really are being Christians if we do what He says.



I should have done my homework... I'll do it now.



Sometimes we decide not to obey God. But if we are sorry afterwards and do what is right, God will not look at the bad things we did. On the other hand, if we do good things and then change to doing bad things, then we have decided to turn away from God, and we will be punished for our sins.

The Kids' Bulletin

**26th Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 27th, 2026**

In today's Gospel parable, a father asked his two sons to work in the vineyard.

Which one did what his father asked?

Use every second letter to fill in the blanks and find out the answer!



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

T _ _ _ _ _

H _ _ _ _ _

Answer to puzzle on front page: The one who said he would not.

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