

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 31st August 2025

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

Date	Feast	Saint Joseph's*	Saint Patrick's	Saint John Vianney's	Saint Mary's
Saturday 30th August	(Vigil) 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	3.30pm Rosary 4.00pm Mass Bob Mullins		2.00pm Wedding 6.00pm Mass Thanksgiving to the Sacred Heart	
Sunday 31st August	22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	10.30am Mass Bob Storer	9.00am Mass Paul Lennard		
Monday 1st September		10.00am Requiem Mass Peter Pearson 6.00pm Exposition & Confessions 6.30pm Mass Baby Matilda & her Great-Grandparents			
Tuesday 2nd September		12.05pm Mass Michael Maughan			
Wednesday 3rd September	St Gregory the Great	1.30pm Requiem Mass Theresa De Cunha		9.30am Mass Thanksgiving for Prayers Answered	
Thursday 4th September	Translation of St Cuthbert	1.00pm Funeral Service Anne 'Denise' Talbot	9.30am Mass Tyler Smalls		
Friday 5th September		12.05pm Mass Thelma Britto (4th Anniversary)			
Saturday 6th September	(Vigil) 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	10.00am Our Lady of Fatima Procession & Mass 11.15am - 12.00pm Rosary (incl Fatima Prayers) 2.00pm Enrolment & Investiture of the Brown Scapular 2.30pm Holy Hour / Benediction / Reconciliation 3.30pm Rosary 4.00pm Mass Wallace James Reed (14th Anniversary)		6.00pm Mass Coghlan Fund	
Sunday 7th September	23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	10.30am Mass Peter & Annie Allen	9.00am Mass Valerie Joynes		

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 9th September
Lunch Club @ Parish Centre Hall

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

Sat: As Announced
Coffee Evening @ St John Vianney's

THIS WEEK'S PARISH NEWS

JUBILEE 2025 - The opening times of the Holy Door this week are as follows:

Monday: 6pm – 7pm

Tuesday: 11.30am – 12.30pm

Wednesday & Thursday: By appointment only

Friday: 11.30am – 12.30pm

Saturday: 2.30pm – 5pm

Sunday: 9.30am – 12pm

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 October at 6pm, in the Parish Centre Hall at St Joseph's.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2026 - 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 17th September at 6.30pm in St Joseph's Church.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CATECHISTS - There is a meeting on 10th September at 6.30pm in the Parish Centre Hall for current FHC catechists and anyone who would like to be a catechist to discuss the upcoming intake.

GIFT AID - If you wish to join the scheme, please complete a Gift Aid form available at the back of church, and return it to the Parish Office. The Parish benefits greatly from those who are members of the scheme, there is no cost to parishioners as the diocese claims the tax paid by Gift Aid members on their offertory donations from the government. If you are a tax payer, please consider joining the scheme.

NATIONAL STATUE OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA - On Saturday 6th September, our parish will be welcoming the statue of Our Lady of Fatima and the Relics of SS Francisco and Jacinta Marto to St Joseph's Church before they make their way to St Mary's Cathedral. A timetable for the day is at the back of church. Please do join us for this celebration which will begin with a procession and Mass in the morning, and finish with Benediction before the usual Saturday Vigil Mass, with various other events to participate in during the day. Please do join us for the whole day if you can, or for any of the events during the day, no need to sign up.

CHRISTMAS SAVINGS CLUB - Please note that we will no longer be accepting cheques for Christmas Savings. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

CONTACTING THE PARISH - If you need to get in contact with the parish, all calls should be directed to Laura during office hours, unless in an emergency you need to get in contact with a priest, in which case one of us is always available on the presbytery phone number.

VILLA PALAZZOLA HELPERS - Villa Palazzola, Rome, is looking for young people over 18 to work in their hotel in the hills outside of Rome in September and October. If you would be interested, or know anyone who might be, please speak to Fr Joseph.

BISHOP STEPHEN JUBILEE MASS - Bishop Stephen will celebrate a Jubilee Mass at St Mary's Cathedral on Tuesday 9th September at 12pm. Please note that while there will be no Mass in the parish on that day, parishioners are warmly invited to attend this special celebration at the Cathedral to represent our parish community.

DAY OF RECOLLECTION FOR EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS - As is required of all Extraordinary Ministers as a condition of their renewal of commitment each year, we will be hosting a day of recollection for all parish ministers who renewed their commitment on Feast of Corpus Christi at St Joseph's Church on Saturday 13th September. For further details speak to Fr Joseph or Deacon Jeff.

NORTHERN CROSS - September's issue of the paper is due and our local team of volunteers is looking for a Holy Family car-owning parishioner willing to help for part of an afternoon once a month. Changed circumstances have made it impossible for one of our drivers to continue and our subs-bench stand-in may soon have to stop driving. We would love to hear from anyone willing to deliver Northern Cross parcels to HF parish office and four other church drops in Billingham and Stockton each month, starting October. Please email: admin@northerncross.org.uk or phone 01429 264625 to discuss the details.

Mass of Christ the Saviour

*Glory to God. Glory to God. Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth, peace 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,
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.

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full, are full of your glory.
Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes, who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest.

Jesus, Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Jesus, Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Jesus, 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 to make a one-off donation, or use our digital collection plate at the back of St Joseph's Church.

Thank you.

First reading: Sirach 3:17-18, 20, 28-29

‘Humble yourself so you will find favour in the sight of the Lord.’

My son, perform your tasks in meekness; then you will be loved by those whom God accepts. The greater you are, the more you must humble yourself; so you will find favour in the sight of the Lord. For great is the might of the Lord; he is glorified by the humble. The affliction of the proud has no healing, for a plant of wickedness has taken root in him. The mind of the intelligent man will ponder a parable, and an attentive ear is the wise man’s desire.

Response: In your goodness, O God, you provided a home for the poor.

Second Reading: Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24a

‘You have come to Mount Sion and to the city of the living God.’

Brothers and Sisters: You have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them. But you have come to Mount Sion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia.

Take my yoke upon you, says the Lord,
and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart.

Alleluia.

Gospel Reading: Luke 14:1, 7-14

‘Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.’

One Sabbath, when Jesus went to dine at the house of a ruler of the Pharisees, they were watching him carefully.

Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he noticed how they chose the places of honour, saying to them, ‘When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in a place of honour, lest someone more distinguished than you be invited by him, and he who invited you both will come and say to you, “Give your place to this person”, and then you, with shame, will take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, “Friend, move up higher.” Then you will be honoured in the presence of all who sit at table with you. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.’

He said also to the man who had invited him, ‘When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends, or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbours, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the just.’

REFLECTION

Over the last few weeks, the readings have been based on the qualities of those who follow Our Blessed Lord. Today we come to, perhaps, the most difficult of these qualities, Humility. Today we need to stop and consider just what it is that Christ is calling us to do. The passage from the Book of Sirach calls upon us to be humble. Pride is a malady, a failure to love others more than ourselves. Humility should be at the heart of all we do and speak. The greater we are, the more wealth we possess, the harder it is to be humble.

There is something majestic in the reading from Hebrews. It is a reminder that what we believe in is not small or insignificant but something so huge, so awesome that it passes beyond our understanding, something that may not even be touched. We are “the assembly of first born who are enrolled in heaven”. We are called to the heavenly Jerusalem. If we could only understand that, when we live in the love of Christ, we become the “spirits of the righteous”, then we would begin to recognise what His great gift to us truly means.

The parable in the Gospel reading reminds us that we should not be judged by the way the world looks upon us but by our actions. Jesus is teaching the rich people who are listening about humility. They, and we, may judge a person by his wealth or his looks and reputation; Jesus looks beyond these things into the heart and sees the motives behind the action. He urges us not to seek the highest place at the feast but be satisfied with the low place for then we will be judged as ourselves and not by our presumed status. We can then rise to our proper place and find our seat at the banquet of heaven.

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, Daniel Cosby, Betty Crane, James Daley, Neil Davis, Louise Dixon, Teresa Falkingham, Grace Fallow, Catherine Fawcett, Lorraine Galen, Dorothy Geen, David Geen, Catherine Gray, Mary Harris, Andrew Haygarth, Jamie Hitchen, Bella Hoey, Muriel Howe, Molly Hughes, Carol Hutchinson, Trish Jeffries, Peter Johnson, Christine Jones, Ceilia King, Isobel Knowles, Maureen Maguire, Baby Pippa Marie, Vera Marriott, Brenda Mathews, Ian Matthews, Owen McEneaney, James McGee, Lilian McGee, Fr Seamus McGivern, Jim McKenna, Christopher Mghee, Peter McNaughton, Paul Moore, Ann Mullins, Pat Ness, Kitty Newstead, June Nolan, Sylvice Notrianni, Joe O'Connor, Myra Pattison, Carol Price, Damian Rafferty, Pam Robertson, Eric Robinson, Joseph Robinson, Paula Rogers, Kathleen Royds, Hilda Ryan, Agnes Scully, Michael Christopher Sheeran, Corazon Simpson, Marie Spindlow, Matthew Steel, Brenda Stott, Brett Swain, Gail Symington, Melvin Thackeray, Lynsey Todd, Kieran Turnbull, John Twydale, Norma Twydale, Jonathon Vokes, Julie Wallace, Margaret Watt, Edith Wilson. **Through our prayers may the healing presence of Christ be with them at this time.**

Recently Deceased: Sheila Cope, Peter Pearson, Anne 'Denise' Talbot, Theresa De Cunha, Michael Gallagher. **May they rest in peace and rise in Glory.**

Anniversaries that occur at this time: Leo King, Margaret Wilkinson, Bill Rodriguez, Hector Kleinot, Elizabeth Siddell, John Flannery, Leo Joseph McGarry, Margaret Booth, John Mansen, Ann Harron, Margaret Watson, Sylvia McCall, Patricia Ward, Roger Hardy, Peter Connor, Stephen Hockett, Catherine Adams, Eric Gowler, Patrick Howard Sullivan, Ken Fawcett, Wendy Horseman, Kathleen Finney, Tyler Smailes, Marie Heslop, Marguerite Kirwan, Welford Rowbotham, Laurie Butler, Mary Ellen Hartin, Mary Gofton, Mary Mottram, Imelda Maria Farr, Mary Ellen Hartin, Jack Brannan, Walter Hay, Joyce McMorris, Kathleen Peacock, Norah Faulkner, Ray Worthy, Doreen Botham, John Elliott, Wallace Reed, Stephen Gibbon, James Neville, Michael Cooke, Mary Harper, Daniel O'Donovan, Peter Alan Liddle, Maurice Weegram, Christopher Hodgson, David Capocci, 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:

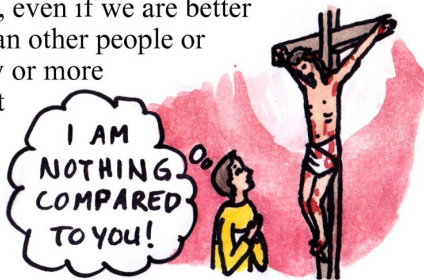
Taking the Lowest Place



In today's Gospel reading, Jesus was watching to see where the people sat when they were guests at a dinner. Some people thought they were important so they sat in the more important places. Jesus saw that they were proud, so He taught them about being humble.

When we are proud we think that we are more important than other people, and that we deserve to have better things. We start to look down on everyone else, and pretty soon we start thinking that God isn't so great either!

Being humble means knowing that we really are not all that important, even if we are better at some things than other people or have more money or more important jobs. It means we know that God gave us these things to help others, not so that we could be proud about them.



Luke 14:1,7-14

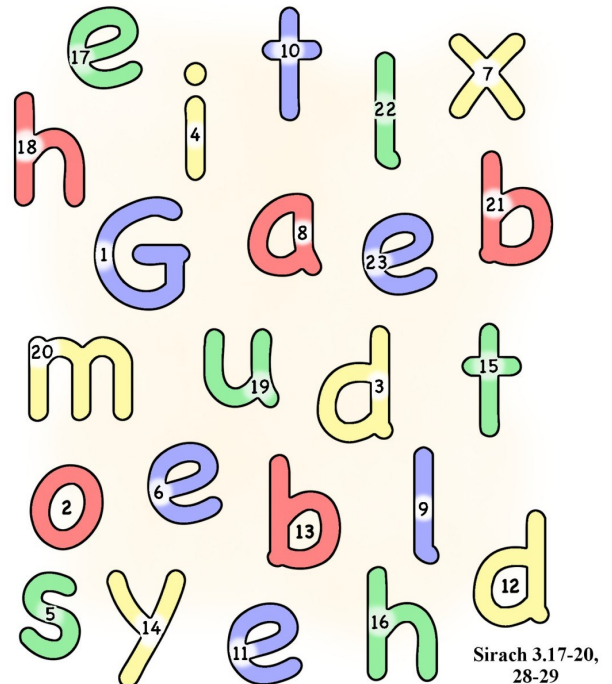
We can only give glory to God when we are humble.

Answers: front page: God is exalted by the humble.

www.thekidsbulletin.com

The Kids' Bulletin

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 31st, 2025



What can we learn from today's first reading?
Sort out the letters by their numbers to fill in the blanks.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	