

# 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 3rd May 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 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		
Monday 4th May	English Martyrs				
Tuesday 5th May		12.05pm Mass Veronica Readman 6th Anniversary			
Wednesday 6th May				9.30am Mass Coghlan Fund	
Thursday 7th May			9.30am Mass Arthur Hadfield		
Friday 8th May		12.05pm Mass Thomas & Sarah Dwyer			
Saturday 9th May	(Vigil) 6th Sunday of Easter	12.00pm First Holy Communion  3.00pm Exposition & Confessions  3.30pm Rosary  4.00pm Mass Deceased Members of the McPartland Family	2.00pm First Holy Communion	10.00am First Holy Communion  6.00pm Mass Brian & Betty Thompson	
Sunday 10th May	6th Sunday of Easter	10.30am Mass Margaret & Gary Gollaglee	9.00am Mass Austin Flanagan		

#### 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: 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

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS** - Next weekend our children, who have been preparing, will celebrate their first Holy Communion. We congratulate our young people as they reach the next stage in their faith journey. Please remember them in your prayers.

**MAY PROCESSION** - During the month of May, we celebrate in a special way Mary the Mother of Jesus and our Mother too. As a parish community we will honour Mary with devotions and a procession. The procession to Our Lady's statue, led by those who celebrated their first Communion the previous weekend, will culminate with laying flowers before her image. Join us on Sunday 17th May at 4pm, in St Joseph's Church. After the procession there will be refreshments and cake in the Parish Centre Hall.

**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 July 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 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 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** - The April draw has been made. The winners are 1st Prize £150 No 71 Pat Bostock, 2nd Prize £100 No 24 Gerry Eagle, 3rd Prize £50 No 186 Cathy Newstead. Congratulations to our winners! 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.

**MESSAGE FROM BISHOP STEPHEN: PASTORAL STRATEGY** - 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.

**HOLY ISLAND BUS** - Brenda Bland is organising a bus to Holy Island on Saturday 6th June, leaving from St Joseph's Church at 9am. Buffet lunch is included. Cost is £15 per person. Payments to be paid to Brenda as soon as possible. Please contact Brenda on 07599511066 for more information.

**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](http://www.diocesehn.org.uk)) or via the parish office.

**LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR APPEAL** - A special collection will be held this weekend for St Joseph's Home, Little Sisters of the Poor, Newcastle. Every act of kindness helps to ensure that residents continue to receive the care, dignity, and love they so deeply deserve. Thank you.

## 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 17th May for the work for the SVP in Hartlepool.

**First reading: Acts 6:1-7**

**‘They chose seven men full of the Holy Spirit.’**

In those days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. And the Twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, ‘It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brothers and sisters, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.’ And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the Apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them. And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

**Response:** May your merciful love be upon us, as we hope in you, O Lord.

**Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:4-9**

**‘But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood.’**

Beloved: Come to the Lord, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious. You yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in Scripture: ‘Behold, I am laying in Sion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.’ So the honour is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone’, and ‘A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence.’ They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.

**Gospel Acclamation:**

Alleluia, alleluia.  
I am the way, and the truth, and the life, says the Lord.  
No one comes to the Father except through me.  
Alleluia.

**Gospel Reading: John 14:1-12**

**‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life.’**

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, ‘Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going.’ Thomas said to him, ‘Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?’ Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.’ Philip said to him, ‘Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, “Show us the Father”? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves. ‘Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father.’

For many years now the church has been quietly changing; in my youth the church was mainly a place of worship, there were numerous priests serving the community and the opportunity for lay service was limited, today the lay people are called more and more into service. The place of the priest at the centre of worship is still paramount but the lay people are called now into roles as Deacons, Ministers, Catechists and Volunteers by a church which recognises their contribution in both pastoral and spiritual dimensions.

This is nothing new. In today’s first reading we hear that the apostles are being overwhelmed by the many calls on their time. The church was growing and those in positions of responsibility were finding it difficult to cope. One answer was to appoint

deacons who would be responsible for the distribution of food and for the pastoral needs of the people. The second answer was for priests called from the temple to be part of the growing “Jesus” movement. From these beginnings we can see the infant structure of the church changing the lives of its believers; that response to emerging problems continues in our church today.

We must never forget that at the centre of our spiritual and pastoral life is Jesus, the cornerstone. Peter reminded his readers in his day and speaks to us today across the centuries. We are baptised as “a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession” and we are called to live out that role. The need for service in the church in all sorts of ways, humble and great, is growing and you are part of that need. Peter speaks of being “called out of darkness into his marvellous light”; it is for each of us to share that light with those around us.

I find it comforting to know that the apostles, who were close companions of Jesus, always had questions and doubts. The questions they ask are questions I need the answer to; “Lord how can we know the way”, “Lord show us the Father”. John in this beautiful passage explains so much to us about Our Lord; John sees our doubts and questions and throughout his gospel he tries to reassure us. “There are many rooms” takes on a significance far beyond our local church; the words have a cosmic dimension which opens for us a vision of a church which has no boundaries to worship and service. This is the church of the first and the twenty first century.

*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, 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, Owen Milligan, 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 Rookcroft, 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:** Dennis Daniel Moore, Rita Hegarty. *May they rest in peace and rise in Glory.*

**Anniversaries that occur at this time:** 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, Sheila Brown, Kay Thomas, Olive Gallegher, Brian Thompson, John Stevenson, Norah Leck, Raymond Frankland, Alan Parkes, Denis Coull, Elizabeth Dwyer, Terence Bryan Wynn, Edna Vasey, Audrey Pyitt, Catherine Larkin, Ralph Kidson, Peter Dobson, Veronica Readman, Patricia Sawden, Peter Higgins, Stephen Carroll, Henry Gofton, Margaret Lines, Olivia Abbot, Mary Cope, Herbert Healey Snr, Michael Ryan, Gladys Sarah Kelleher, Arthur Hadfield, Anne Marie Ferguson, Ann Beatrice Marley, Fr Hugh McCann, Kathleen Crangle, John Bone, Robert Healey, Margaret Rose Hill, 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:

### Jesus is the Way to Heaven

In today's Gospel reading Jesus tells the disciples that He is the way to the Father in Heaven.

Jesus is the way for us to go to Heaven. But how can a person be a way to get somewhere? Jesus is always with the Father in Heaven, so the closer we are to Jesus the closer we are to Heaven!

How can we be close to Jesus? Here are some ways:

**Pray to Jesus.** Prayer is talking with God. When we want to be friends with someone we talk with them a lot.



**Try to be like Jesus.** Always do the right thing. When you need to decide what to do, think: "What would Jesus do in this situation?" Stay close to Mary, His mother. She will keep you close to Jesus.

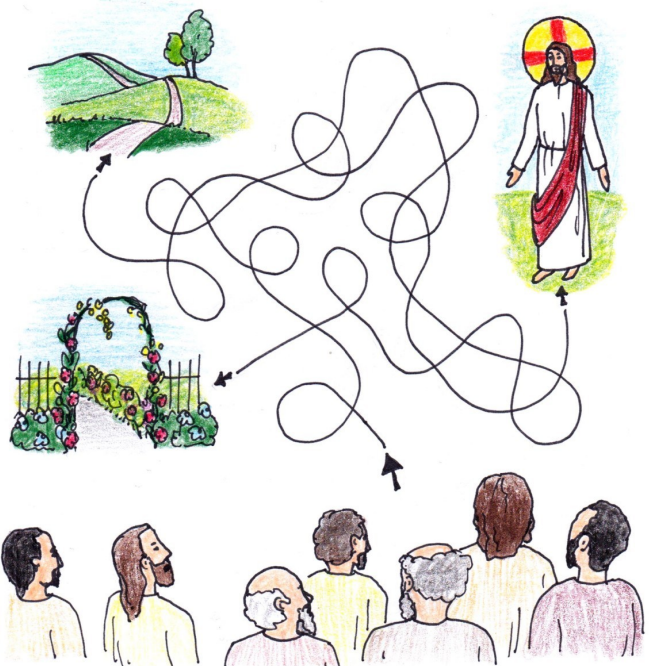


**Receive Jesus in Holy Communion.** The Eucharist is an amazing gift. It is Jesus coming to us so that we can receive Him into our bodies and souls. Communion is the closest we can be to Jesus until we get to Heaven.



## The Kids' Bulletin

Fifth Sunday of Easter  
May 3rd, 2026



*In today's Gospel reading, Jesus tells the disciples the way to the Father in Heaven.  
Do you know which is the way?  
Follow the squiggly line to find out!*

[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)