

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 7th September 2025

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

Date	Feast	Saint Joseph's*	Saint Patrick's	Saint John Vianney's	Saint Mary's
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		
Monday 8th September	Birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary	6.00pm Exposition & Confessions 6.30pm Mass Thanksgiving			
Tuesday 9th September					
Wednesday 10th September				9.30am Mass Megraw Fund	
Thursday 11th September			9.30am Mass In Thanksgiving for a Happy Marriage		
Friday 12th September		12.05pm Mass Robert Banks 23rd Anniversary 1.00pm Requiem Mass Michael Gallagher			
Saturday 13th September	(Vigil) The Exaltation of the Holy Cross	11.30am Baptisms 3.00pm Exposition & Confessions 3.30pm Rosary 4.00pm Mass Jimmy Marshall	12.30pm Baptisms	6.00pm Mass David Lythe Thanksgiving for Heart Transplant 31 years	
Sunday 14th September	The Exaltation of the Holy Cross	10.30am Mass Jimmy Dobing Anniversary	9.00am Mass Kath Foster		

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 16th September

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

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 parents meeting for applicants is 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 ENVELOPE NO 9 - Due to an administrative error, we need the holder of Gift Aid Envelope No 9 to contact the Parish Office to confirm your details. Sorry for the inconvenience. Many thanks, Dave Frank

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.

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.

DAY TRIP - Please ensure all bus money for the upcoming trip to York is paid to Brenda by next Sunday at the latest. Thanks for your cooperation.

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.

PARKING AT ST JOSEPH'S - If parking in St Joseph's car park is unavailable, the nearest parking is available on Hutton Avenue or the Medical Centre car park. Please note that parking is done at your own discretion, and you must abide by parking regulations as set by the council.

BEFRIENDERS - Members of the SVP have been visiting residents in local care homes, offering companionship and support. We're currently updating our list and would love to know if you have a family member or friend in a care home who would appreciate a visit. Perhaps you yourself may be interested in joining us to visit care home residents yourself? It's a rewarding way to share kindness and brighten someone's day. If you have someone in mind or would like to get involved, please speak to Deacon Jeff, contact the parish office, or speak to any SVP member.

LUNCH CLUB - Due to the Jubilee Mass at St Mary's Cathedral on September 9th, the Lunch Club will now restart on September 16th.

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.

200 CLUB - August winners are: 1st prize no. 87 Vanessa Gooding, 2nd prize no. 150 Pat Wright, 3rd prize no. 78 Mike Dolan. Congratulations!

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: Wisdom 9:13-18b

‘Who can discern what the Lord wills?’

What human being can learn the counsel of God? Or who can discern what the Lord wills? For the reasoning of mortals is worthless, and our designs are likely to fail, for a perishable body weighs down the soul, and this earthly tent burdens the mind full of thoughts. We can hardly guess at what is on earth, and what is at hand we find with labour; but who has traced out what is in the heavens? Who has learned your counsel, unless you have given wisdom and sent your holy spirit from on high? And thus the paths of those on earth were set right, and people were taught what pleases you.

Response: O Lord, you have been our refuge, from generation to generation.

Second Reading: Philemon 9b-10, 12-17

‘Have him back no longer as a bondservant but as a beloved brother.’

Beloved: I, Paul, an old man and now a prisoner also for Christ Jesus — I appeal to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I became in my imprisonment. I am sending him back to you, sending my very heart. I would have been glad to keep him with me, in order that he might serve me on your behalf during my imprisonment for the gospel, but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your goodness might not be by compulsion but of your own accord. For this perhaps is why he was parted from you for a while, that you might have him back for ever, no longer as a bondservant but more than a bondservant, as a beloved brother — especially to me, but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. So if you consider me your partner, receive him as you would receive me.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia.

Let your face shine forth on your servant,
and teach me your decrees

Alleluia.

Gospel Reading: Luke 14:25-33

‘Any one who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.’

At that time: Great crowds accompanied Jesus, and he turned and said to them, ‘If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother, and wife and children, and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, saying, “This man began to build and was not able to finish.” Or what king, going out to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and deliberate whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace. So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.’

REFLECTION

We all live busy lives, often finding that we have to sacrifice one thing for another or one person needs to be put off while we give our time to someone else. We are faced, daily, with choices in the knowledge that, whatever choice we make someone will have to go without. Was life always like this or have we, in our 21st century lives, finally ran out of time?

There is a cost to the choices we make, and this is evident from the readings this Sunday. The choice today is; how do we serve God and each other? The first reading sets out the problem. We have a limited capacity to think, to understand, to know and to love. God, on the other hand, has an unlimited capacity for all those things. So how can we, as mortal human beings, serve a God who is all knowing, all powerful and all love. The answer comes at the end of the reading; we must seek the wisdom of God whose spirit will guide us in our choices. So, pray for God’s wisdom and seek his guidance and, though it may come slowly, the wisdom of God will show you the way. Paul was touched by the wisdom of God. He suffered for his faith; he was scourged, left for dead and imprisoned because he laboured for God. Today he writes from prison to Philemon on behalf of a runaway slave called Onesimus. Though Onesimus is a great help to Paul, he sees it as his duty to Philemon to return him his slave. We are all slaves in our world today; we may not be in chains, but the demands of life leave us with very little spare time. Paul lets Onesimus go although he knows he will be sorely missed, what can you let go to give more time to serving Christ?

In the Gospel passage Jesus spells out very clearly the cost that may be demanded if we are to follow him. The loss of family was a very real threat to those who followed Christ. They risked everything for him because they believed in the kingdom he was preparing. The Gospel urges us to think carefully before we make any commitments, then, go ahead, with the wisdom you have gathered. Never underestimate the sacrifices you may have to take for Christ but always remember that the reward for your service is eternal life.

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: Michael Gallagher, Jean Byrne. **May they rest in peace and rise in Glory.**

Anniversaries that occur at this time: Peter Standen, Moira Auton, Doreen Parker, John Larkin, Debra Hall, William Lyle, Clare Caffrey, Owen Cawley, Hugh Bantoft, Tessa Crannage, Norah Belinda Stevens, Leo Elliott, Kenneth Knight, Agnes Taylor, Pauline Foreman, George Jackson, Elizabeth Bradley, Evelyn Carter, Albert Ernest Lindsay, Lisa Harland, Albert Shadforth, Anne Hall, Bob Banks, William Egglestone, Leslie Sothern, Joan Carberry, Robert Pounder, Albert Lindsay, Joanne Gray, Stephen Poll, John Hogan, Matthew William Daley MBE, Michael Joseph Gallone, Edith Davidson, 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:

Family and Friends or God?



his own life, he cannot be my disciple."

You probably thought that God doesn't want us to hate anyone, right? Well He doesn't! What Jesus was saying was that we should love God more than we love the people closest to us. He means that we should be ready to do what God wants even if that means losing our family or best friends.

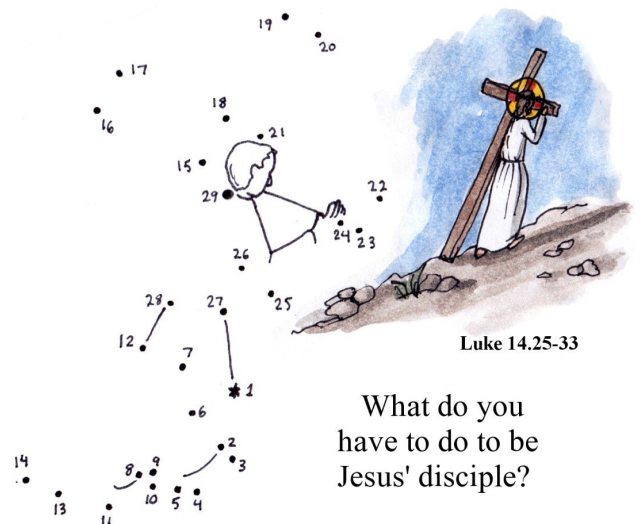
Normally God wants us to stay close to the people we love, but what if you had to choose between doing the right thing or keeping your friends? Are you ready to give up anything or anyone that would stop you from loving God?

In today's Gospel reading Jesus says, "If any one comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even



The Kids' Bulletin

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 7th, 2025



What do you have to do to be Jesus' disciple?

Connect the dots to find out, starting at the star beside the number 1. Then you can colour the picture in.

Tomorrow is Our Lady's Birthday!
What can your family do to celebrate Mary's Birthday?

www.thekidsbulletin.com