

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 Clergy

Parish Priest

Very Rev. Canon Paul Douthwaite
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Parish Office

Secretary

Laura Dolan

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☎ 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

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

Parish Diary — Week beginning 8th March 2026

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

| Date | Feast | Saint Joseph's* | Saint Patrick's | Saint John Vianney's | Saint Mary's |
|----------------------|----------------------------|---|--|--|--------------|
| Saturday 7th March | (Vigil) 3rd Sunday of Lent | 11.30am Baptisms 3.00pm Exposition & Confessions 3.30pm Rosary 4.00pm Mass Tommy Nealon & Family | | 12.30pm Baptism 6.00pm Mass Susan Hay 1st Anniversary | |
| Sunday 8th March | 3rd Sunday of Lent | 10.30am Mass Sheila & Jimmy Dobing | 9.00am Mass In Thanksgiving for 90th Birthday (Millie) | | |
| Monday 9th March | | 6.00pm Exposition & Confessions 6.30pm Mass Percy & Gladys Netto | | | |
| Tuesday 10th March | | 12.05pm Mass Private Intention 1.00pm Requiem Mass Eileen Mulcahy | | | |
| Wednesday 11th March | | 6.30pm Stations of the Cross & Benediction | | 10.00 Mass at Hartfields Retirement Village Bernard Cooper 90th Birthday 1.00pm Funeral Service Joan Stevenson | |
| Thursday 12th March | | 12.00pm Funeral Service John Arthur Smith | 9.30am Mass Pat Turner | | |
| Friday 13th March | | 12.05pm Mass Brigid Garvey 1st Anniversary | | | |
| Saturday 14th March | (Vigil) 4th Sunday of Lent | 3.00pm Exposition & Confessions 3.30pm Rosary 4.00pm Mass Joseph Allen Hayes Birthday Remembrance | | 6.00pm Mass Ken Bulley | |
| Sunday 15th March | 4th Sunday of Lent | 10.30am Mass Andrew Smart Anniversary | 9.00am Mass Mary O'Connor | | |

SCHOOL MASSES

St Joseph's
Tuesday 10th March - 9.30am Mass

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.

THIS WEEK'S PARISH NEWS

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - Throughout Lent, there will be Stations of the Cross and Benediction in our parish on a Wednesday evening. Please see below timetable for location. This year, at the Easter Vigil, we will welcome a number of new members into our community of faith. For this reason, it will not be possible to celebrate two Easter Vigils. So each Church of our Parish can have a Mass on Easter Sunday, the times of the regular Sunday Masses will be adjusted slightly for Easter Sunday only.

| Date | Service | Church | Time |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------|
| 11/03/2026 | Stations of the Cross & Benediction | St Joseph's | 6.30pm |
| 18/03/2026 | Stations of the Cross & Benediction | St Patrick's | 6.30pm |
| 25/03/2026 | Stations of the Cross & Benediction | St John Vianney's | 6.30pm |
| 01/04/2026 | Chrism Mass | St Mary's Cathedral Newcastle | 11.00am |
| 01/04/2026 | Stations of the Cross & Benediction | St Joseph's | 6.30pm |
| Maundy Thursday 02/04/2026 | Mass of the Lord's Supper | St Joseph's | 7.00pm |
| Good Friday 03/04/2026 | Solemn Passion of the Lord | St Joseph's | 3.00pm |
| Holy Saturday 04/04/2026 | Easter Vigil Mass | St Joseph's | 6.00pm |
| Easter Sunday 05/04/2026 | Easter Sunday Mass | St Patrick's | 8.30am |
| | Easter Sunday Mass | St Joseph's | 10.00am |
| | Easter Sunday Mass | St John Vianney's | 11.30am |

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

ST PATRICK'S NIGHT SOCIAL - We are planning a Social Evening on Friday 20th March in St Patrick's Hall. The evening will include a hearty serving of Mince and Dumplings, and we look forward to enjoying good food and great company together. Tickets are on sale at £5 each, with a sign up sheet at the back of church. Due to the nature of the meal being served, we are aware that we may not be able to cater for all dietary needs. However, we very much want everyone to join us. If you have specific dietary needs, please feel free to come along and bring your own meal. Tickets for those bringing their own food will be £2 each. We hope you will join us for what promises to be a warm and friendly evening!

LENTEN REFLECTION RESOURCES - Lenten resources are available at diocesahn.org.uk. This includes We Dare to Ask which is a resource for small group faith-sharing and for individual meditation, featuring five sessions on the theme of our Baptismal Vocation.

PARISH CHOIR - In preparation for the Holy Week liturgies, there will be a choir practice at 7pm on Monday 30th March at St Joseph's, and a further practice on Thursday 2nd April at 5pm.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL - Thank you for attending the first meeting on Tuesday. As a reminder, the next two meeting dates agreed are Tuesday 17th March at 6.30pm, and Tuesday 14th April at 6.30pm.

200 CLUB - Annual subscriptions 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, £50. If you would like to join, let Laura know in the Parish Office, one of the organisers will be in touch with you. Many thanks to our supporters.

GIFT AID - Envelopes will be distributed across the following Masses: Saturday 7th March Vigil in St Joseph's, Saturday 14th March Vigil in St John Vianney's, and Sunday 22nd March in St Joseph's. 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.

YOUTH COUNCIL - There will be a preliminary meeting of the Parish Youth Council on Saturday 14th March at 12pm. Please meet at St Joseph's Parish Hall. Thank you to those young people of our parish who have agreed to be part of the Youth Council.

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.

FUNERALS (EXTRA ECCLESIAM) - The funeral of Olga Hamilton is on Thursday 12th March at 2pm in Stranton Crematorium.

Mass of Peace

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, for the work of the SVP, will be taken on 22nd March 2026.

First reading: Exodus 17:3-7

‘Give us water to drink.’

In those days: The people thirsted for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, ‘Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?’ So Moses cried to the Lord, ‘What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.’ And the Lord said to Moses, ‘Pass on before the people, taking with you some of the elders of Israel, and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb, and you shall strike the rock, and water shall come out of it, and the people will drink.’ And Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. And he called the name of the place Mas-sah and Meribah, because of the quarrelling of the people of Israel, and because they tested the Lord by saying, ‘Is the Lord among us or not?’

Response: O that today you would listen to his voice!
‘Harden not your hearts.’

Second Reading: Romans 5:1-2, 5-8

Love has been poured into our hearts through the Spirit who has been given to us.

Brothers and Sisters: Since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God, and hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person — though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die — but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Gospel Acclamation:

Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God.
Lord, you are indeed the Saviour of the world;
give me living water, so that I will not be thirsty.
Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God.

Gospel Reading: John 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

‘A spring of water welling up to eternal life.’

At that time: Jesus came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob’s well was there; so Jesus, wearied as he was from his journey, was sitting beside the well. It was about the sixth hour.

A woman from Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, ‘Give me a drink.’ (For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, ‘How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?’ (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, ‘If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, “Give me a drink”, you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.’ The woman said to him, ‘Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock.’ Jesus said to her, ‘Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.’ The woman said to him, ‘Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water. Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship.’ Jesus said to her, ‘Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.’ The woman said to him, ‘I know that Messiah is coming — he who is called Christ. When he comes, he will tell us all things.’ Jesus said to her, ‘I who speak to you am he.’ Many Samaritans from that town believed in him. So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, ‘It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is indeed the Saviour of the world.’

REFLECTION

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was a formless void, there was darkness over the deep, and God’s spirit hovered over the water. God said, “Let there be light” and there was light. Genesis 1: 1-3

Water is an absolute necessity for life. It is central to God’s creation of the earth as this quotation from the beginning of the Book of Genesis tells us. Water is a living thing, it flows through our rivers and our streams, it is replenished by the rain that falls on the earth, and it refreshes our seas and oceans. All living creatures depend on a supply of water, and our human bodies are mainly composed of this precious liquid. Jesus knew the power of water, when he encounters water, as at His baptism, something is about to happen.

The passage from John telling the story of the meeting between Jesus and the Samaritan woman has hidden depths. It begins simply enough with a request for a drink but as a simple, sometimes combative, discussion continues we are drawn deeper into the scene. There are taboos, which are broken in the passage, men do not speak to women they do not know, Jews do not speak to Samaritans and rarely would such a conversion happen with its religious undertones. The story teaches us about the nature of God, we are told that buildings and places are not important, that we should seek God in spirit and truth. That through Jesus we too can drink of living water which will gush up to eternal life.

It is through the passage that Jesus reveals himself as the Messiah to those outside the Jewish world. He uses the Samaritan woman as the vessel through whom others will come to belief. Are there people that you know who have brought you closer to faith? Today we should reflect on those we have encountered at the well of life. Those whose words and actions inspired us to think more deeply about our own spiritual journey. We need to ask ourselves, are our hearts filled with the living water of Christ, how do we respond to its urgings, and more importantly, how do we pour that living water into the hearts of those we meet.

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, Terence Gollogly, 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, 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 Roccoft, 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: Eileen Mulcahy, Joan Stevenson, John Arthur Smith, Olga Hamilton, Brenda Stott, Peter Austin. *May they rest in peace and rise in Glory.*

Anniversaries that occur at this time: Winifred Halliburton, Enid Hegarty, Kath Reece, Florence Ann Hunter, Mary Boylen, Daniel Rowntree, Stuart Anthony Crebbin, Mavis Garthwaite, Albert Joseph Bate, Alan Langley, James Smith, George Ingledew, Erick Dotchan, Anthony Salvin, Dennis Woodhall, Frederick Rigby, Norma Bigwood, Jane Hay, James Lahney, Maria Ferguson, Agnes Glover, Ron Harrison, Ada Mary Webster, Sydney Barker Gooding, Franko Fiorini, Joseph (Joe) Breheny, Mary Maude Curren (Nee Williamson), Mary Elizabeth McCarthy, Clifford Stubbs, Michael Frain, William Kennedy, Winifred Bain, Austin Flanagan, Susan Magennis, Mary McLeod, Paul Wilkinson, Julie Myers, Kenneth Bulley, Michael Kirby, Doris Reddington, Sideny Alan Baker, 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: Water...



In today's first reading, the Israelites in the desert are thirsty and ask Moses for water. So God tells him to strike a big rock with his staff and water comes out. In the Gospel reading, Jesus tells the Samaritan woman that He can give her living water so that she will never be thirsty.

Water is a symbol of life. In the first story the people in the desert would have died if they didn't get water. Now Jesus gives us His life, which is grace. We receive it especially in Holy Communion. This is the living water that He is talking about. Our souls need His grace to stay alive.



When you have a drink of water, think about how your body needs water to stay alive, and how your soul needs God's grace. Saying a prayer is kind of like giving your soul a little drink!



Answer to puzzle on front: will never thirst

www.thekidsbulletin.com

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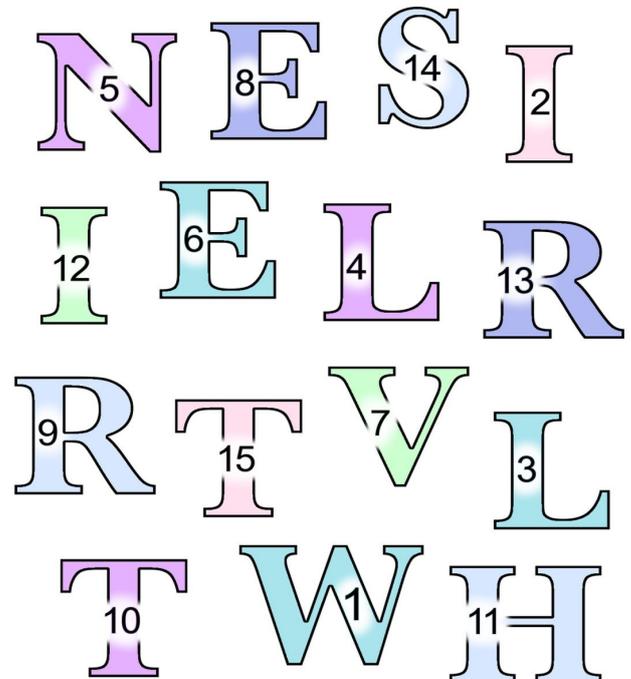
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The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (CSSA) and Diocese's policies and procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Sarah Boagey, or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding Team can be contacted on 0191 2433305 or at safeguarding@diocesehn.org.uk

The Kids' Bulletin

Third Sunday of Lent
March 8th, 2026



*Jesus says that if we drink
His living water, we*

