

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 April 2025

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

Date	Feast	Saint Joseph's*	Saint Patrick's	Saint John Vianney's	Saint Mary's
Saturday 26th April	(Vigil) Divine Mercy Sunday	3.00pm Exposition & Confessions 3.30pm Rosary 4.00pm Mass Bernadette Jackson		6.00pm Mass Cliff & Hilda Smith	
Sunday 27th April	Divine Mercy Sunday	10.30am Mass Boyd & Turnbull Family	9.00am Mass Wellbeing of Mark & Matthew Lennard		
Monday 28th April	St George	6.00pm Exposition & Confessions 6.30pm Mass Frank Kozorowski	11.30am Requiem Mass Hilda Johnson		
Tuesday 29th April	St Catherine of Siena	12.05pm Mass Slawek's Special Intention			
Wednesday 30th April				9.30am Mass Megraw Mass Fund	
Thursday 1st May	St Joseph the Worker	10.15am Feast Day Mass Tony Cawley 1.00pm Funeral Service James Beresford Hughes	9.30am Mass Coghlan Mass Fund		
Friday 2nd May	St Athanasius	12.05pm Mass Tony Gorman			
Saturday 3rd May	(Vigil) 3rd Sunday of Easter	11.30am Baptism 3.00pm Exposition & Confessions 3.30pm Rosary 4.00pm Mass Terry King		12.30pm Baptism 6.00pm Mass Betty & Brian Thompson	
Sunday 4th May	3rd Sunday of Easter	10.30am Mass Ralph Kidson	9.00am Mass Atherton & Flanagan Families		

SCHOOL MASSES

St Bega's

Monday 28th April - 9.30am Mass

St Joseph's

Thursday 1st May - 10.15am Mass in St Joseph's Church

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

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☎ 01429 272985

Deacon Jeff Parkes

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Parish Office

Secretary

Laura Dolan

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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

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

THIS WEEK'S PARISH NEWS

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY - Today, the second Sunday of Easter, is Divine Mercy Sunday. Divine Mercy Sunday focuses on the gift of mercy and love given through Christ's death, burial, and resurrection. As Pope John Paul II stated, "Divine Mercy reaches human beings through the heart of Christ crucified."



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

Monday: 6pm - 7pm
Tuesday: 11am - 1pm
Wednesday: By appointment only
Thursday: By appointment only
Friday: 11am - 1pm
Saturday: 2.30pm - 5pm
Sunday: 9.30am - 12pm

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM - The preparation meeting for the month of May has been canceled due to there being no available date until September. 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 5th June at 6pm, in the Parish Centre Hall at St Joseph's.

GIFT AID - If you have not collected your envelopes for 2025-26, they are available at the back of the church you regularly attend. If you wish to join the scheme please contact Laura in 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.

We are now at the end of the tax year and we will be making a return to the Diocese on Gift Aid contributions. If you are a member of the scheme and have not paid tax this year you must inform the Parish Office.

ECHOES OF FREEDOM - Join us on Friday 30th May from 7pm at St Joseph's Church for a special V.E. Day 80th Anniversary concert. Free tickets are available from the parish office.

SVP BEFRIENDERS - We are looking for more helpers so that we can visit more lonely people. Can you spare an hour or two a week to visit lonely people in a care home or in their homes? Support is available to new befrienders. If you would like more information then please contact Pauline Hunter on 07769358861 or Geraldine Martin on 07776210099. If you know of anyone who would benefit from this service please contact the Parish Office.

VACANCY - A vacancy has arisen for a Lay Chaplain to cover both English Martyrs Catholic School and Sixth Form College, Hartlepool, and St Michael's Catholic Academy, Billingham. Closing date: Friday 2nd May 2025. To apply, go to: <https://bhcet.org.uk/job-vacancies/lay-chaplain-1>

200 CLUB - April Draw will take place this coming Sunday. Subs for 2025-2026 are due. £25 annual subscription, £12.50 half Yearly or £6.25 per quarter. Please see Clare Ferguson or David Frank at Saint Patricks or you can place your subscription in an envelope marked with your name and place it in the offertory Collection. You can also drop it into the Parish Office. Many thanks for your continued support.

HOLY ISLAND BUS - Brenda Bland is organising a bus to Holy Island on Saturday 31st May, leaving from St Joseph's Church. Lunch is included. Cost is £15 per person. Payments due by 17th May. Please contact Brenda on 07599511066 for more information.

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: Acts 5:12-16

‘More than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women.’

Many signs and wonders were regularly done among the people by the hands of the Apostles. And they were all together in the Solomon’s Portico. None of the rest dared join them, but the people held them in high esteem. And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, so that they even carried out the sick into the streets and laid them on cots and mats, that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. The people also gathered from the towns round Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed.

Response: Give praise to the Lord for he is good, his mercy endures for ever.

Second Reading: Revelation 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19

‘I died, and behold I am alive for evermore.’

I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. I was in the Spirit on the Lord’s day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet saying, ‘Write what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches.’

Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash round his chest. When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, ‘Fear not, I am the first and the last, and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive for evermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades. Write therefore the things that you have seen, those that are and those that are to take place after this.’

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia.
 You believed, Thomas, because you have seen me, says the Lord.
 Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.
 Alleluia.

Gospel Reading: John 20:19-31

‘Eight days later, Jesus came.’

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, ‘Peace be with you.’ When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, ‘Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.’ And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld.’

Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, ‘We have seen the Lord’. But he said to them, ‘Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.’

Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, ‘Peace be with you.’ Then he said to Thomas, ‘Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.’ Thomas answered him, ‘My Lord and my God!’ Jesus said to him, ‘Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.’

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

The rise of Christianity began a struggle between the power of this world, mainly associated with the Roman Empire, and the world of the Holy Spirit. Christianity was something new and was seen as a threat against the established order, this led to persecution of the faith, and this is reflected in the books of the New Testament. The Book of the Apocalypse is written in a language of images and symbols. It follows some books of the Old Testament such as Daniel in which the message is hidden behind the images. John is believed to be the Apostle John, and the book is written in his old age. It is a difficult book to follow and, over the next few weeks, strange ideas and images will fill our imagination.

The miracles of Jesus did not stop at His death; today’s first reading reminds us that His power was passed down to the apostles and that the healing continued. Life revolved around religious observance; if you turned away from the Jewish faith then you would lose your social status and your job. Despite this the group known as the faithful continued to grow and their influence spread through the city.

Thomas has a unique role to play in the Gospels. He is the one who brings a common sense, down to earth, attitude to faith in Christ. When he speaks, he speaks for all who need a clear understanding of events. In an early chapter of John, when Jesus is speaking of going to prepare a place for his followers, he is the one who says to Jesus “we do not know where you are going so how do we know the way”. It is this practical side of Thomas which is so important. Today he refuses to believe on the word of others; he needs to see for himself.

We do not have the opportunity that Thomas has; we cannot see Jesus or touch his wounds, but because Thomas sees and believes we can have the confidence to confirm our faith in Him when, at the Eucharistic table, we pray the affirmation of faith “My Lord and My God”, Faith is a mystery and is not given to all, we should always be thankful for the little faith we have for then we can be part of the community to whom Jesus promises “Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed”

David Franke

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, Veronica Cochrane, Daniel Cosby, Betty Crane, James Daley, Neil Davis, Louise Dixon, Natalie Eglintine, Teresa Falkingham, Grace Fallow, Lorraine Galen, Dorothy Geen, David Geen, Catherine Gray, Mary Harris, Andrew Haygarth, Bella Hoey, Muriel Howe, Molly Hughes, Carol Hutchinson, Peter Johnson, Christine Jones, Ceilia King, Isobel Knowles, Maureen Maguire, Baby Pippa Marie, Vera Marriott, Brenda Mathews, Ian Matthews, Owen McEaney, James McGee, Lilian McGee, Fr Seamus McGivern, Jim McKenna, Christopher Mghee, Peter McNaughton, Paul Moore, Ann Mullins, Bob 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, Edith Wilson. **Through our prayers may the healing presence of Christ be with them at this time.**

Recently Deceased: Hilda Johnson, James Beresford Hughes, Martin Murray. **May they rest in peace and rise in Glory.**

Anniversaries that occur at this time: Jessie Higgins, Eileen Scurrah, Brian Gleeson, Linda Dickinson, Judith Bushnell, George Brown, Alex Bell, 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, Denis Coull, Elizabeth Dwyer, Tommy Flounders Waugh, Kathleen Rooke, Jim Neenan, Margaret Lines, Bartholemew Nealon, Michael Gunn, Raymond Allan, Veronica McDougall, Rex Harley-Smith, Anthony Gorman, Thomas Newlove, Jackie Reed, Patrick Hanson, Kathleen Noone, Lawrence Goulding, Elizabeth Crane, John Hand, Kathleen Rooke, Seamus McEaney, Margaret Lines, Joseph Daniel Monaghan, John Hanley, Margaret Huntley, Claire McClosekey, John Edward (Johnny) Larkin, Margaret Clifford, Mary Watson, Michael Ryan, Nora Ward, Wilfred Storey, Ernest Butterfield, Jane Tulley, Michael Almond, Martin Mullins, Billy Corbett, 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: Divine Mercy



In today's Gospel we hear about the first time that Jesus came to the Apostles after He rose from the dead. He breathed on them and told them that they had the power to forgive sins. Jesus had just given us the Sacrament of Confession- now a priest could take God's place to hear our sins and tell us that we are forgiven.

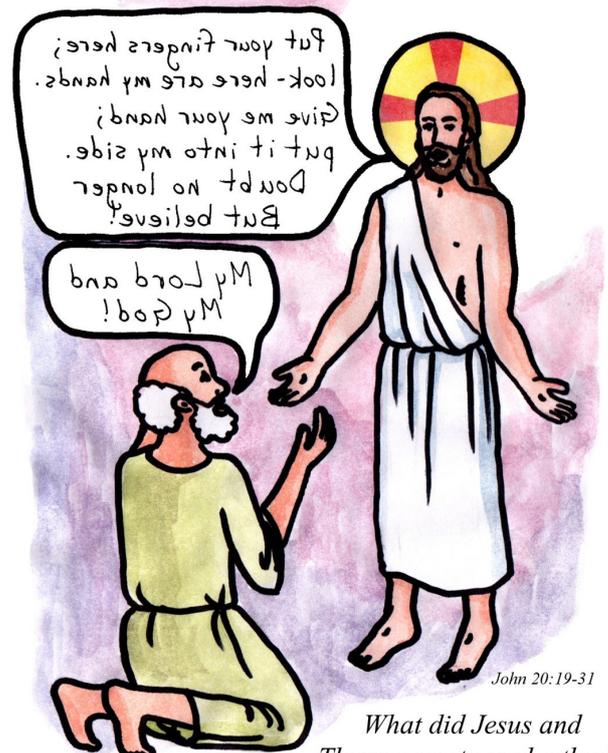
Today, the second Sunday of Easter, is also the feast of Divine Mercy. Mercy means being treated well even though we don't deserve it. God is so merciful that He wants to forgive ALL our sins, no matter how bad. All we have to do is be sorry and go to Confession.

God's Divine Mercy is so great that even the worst sinner in the world can be saved from Hell if he asks for it. But even our little sins hurt Jesus, so we need to ask God for mercy too. Don't ever imagine that God can't forgive you when you are sorry- remember, Jesus died on the cross so that you would be able to go to Heaven!

Jesus, I Trust in You!

The Kids' Bulletin

Second Sunday of Easter
Divine Mercy Sunday
April 27th, 2025



What did Jesus and Thomas say to each other?
Look in the mirror to find out!