

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 30th November 2025

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

Date	Feast	Saint Joseph's*	Saint Patrick's	Saint John Vianney's	Saint Mary's
Saturday 29th November	(Vigil) 1st Sunday of Advent	3.00pm Exposition & Confessions 3.30pm Rosary 4.00pm Mass Special Intention (Anniversary)		6.00pm Mass November Mass for the Deceased	
Sunday 30th November	1st Sunday of Advent	10.30am Mass Marie & Alan Ferguson	9.00am Mass Jimmy Docherty Birthday Remembrance		
Monday 1st December		6.00pm Exposition 6.30pm Mass James Vincent Gibson			
Tuesday 2nd December		12.05pm Mass Maria Adigun			
Wednesday 3rd December	St Francis Xavier				
Thursday 4th December					
Friday 5th December		12.05pm Mass Ian Nichol Birthday Remembrance			
Saturday 6th December	(Vigil) 2nd Sunday of Advent	11.30am Baptisms 3.00pm Exposition & Confessions 3.30pm Rosary 4.00pm Mass Living & Deceased Members of the Healey & Fernie Families	12.30pm Baptisms	6.00pm Mass Muriel Cummings 1st Anniversary	
Sunday 7th December	2nd Sunday of Advent	10.30am Mass Joseph Allen Hayes	9.00am Mass Wyn & John Joy		

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: 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

THIS WEEK'S PARISH NEWS

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE - Please save these dates for your diary over the Christmas period.

Date	Time	Service	Church
Tues 16 Dec	6pm	Secondary Schools Carol Service	St Joseph's
Wed 17 Dec	4pm	Primary Schools Carol Service	St Joseph's
Fri 19 Dec	6.30pm	Reconciliation Service	St Joseph's
Wed 24 Dec	4pm	First Mass of Christmas	St J.V.'s
Wed 24 Dec	4pm	First Mass of Christmas	St Joseph's
Wed 24 Dec	6pm	First Mass of Christmas	St Patrick's
Wed 25 Dec	10am	Christmas Day Mass	St Joseph's
Sat 27 Dec	11am	Altar Servers Mass	St Joseph's
Thurs 1 Jan	11am	Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God	St Joseph's

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 7th January at 6pm, in the Parish Centre Hall at St Joseph's.

LOURDES PILGRIMAGE - Summer 2026 is the 100th Pilgrimage of the Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle. The pilgrimage will take place between Friday 31 July to Friday 7 August 2026. If you would like any more information about the pilgrimage, please visit the Facebook page: Hexham and Newcastle Pilgrimage to Lourdes. The pilgrimage organisers are also looking for young people (16+) to register as youth helpers. If any young people of our parish would be interested in taking up this opportunity, there may be some sponsorship available, please speak with Canon Paul.

PIETY STALLS - We have a lovely range of Christmas cards, calendars and gifts available at the back of church. We also have Catholic Diaries for 2026. Please visit the stalls, before or after Mass, to view and purchase any items.

STELLA MARIS APPEAL - We rely upon seafarers for nearly all of the produce, consumables and manufactured goods which we find in our stores. At Christmas time when they are far from family and loved ones, Stella Maris reaches out to seafarers in our local ports and delivers Christmas presents in the true spirit of the Holy and festive season. If anybody is able to donate any chocolate for our seafarers, donations can be left in the bins at the back of church. Many thanks for your continued support to Stella Maris.

CHRISTMAS SAVINGS CLUB - Thank you to everyone who supported the Savings Club this year. We raised a massive total of £2327 for Holy Family Parish. The Club will restart on Sunday 4th January 2026. Many thanks.

CHRISTMAS CANDLE INTENTIONS - Each of the Churches of our Parish will be illuminated over the Christmas period with candles representing the intentions of our parish community. The Candle Intentions will be received at the back of each Church of our Parish until the 18th December inclusive. A donation of at least £3 to cover the cost of the candle is suggested. Lists will be available at the back of each church of our parish from next weekend.

WELCOME - We welcome those who have been Baptised throughout the second half of Liturgical Year C: Alfie Ryan, Cody Humphrey, Dolly Killen, Elbert Barnfield, Henry Mara, Leopold Kennedy, Nathan Little, Pippa Stonehouse, Raya Bates, Ava Jeffreys-Holroyd, Bodhi McCullagh, Chimdiebere Amaefule, Esmé Staunch, Thea Staunch, Isla Flounders, Nancy Robinson, Aoife Snowdon, Eloise Ward, Myla Whelan, Preston Rodgers, Callie Hetherington, Cruz Weegram, Emily Moore, Lydia Carroll-Gardener, Penelope Hartley, Wren Clark, Arthur Byers, Betty Stirk, Ivy Daniels, Lilly Wilson, Lilly Caden, Robin Caden, and Scarlett-Louise Parvin. May God continue to guide and bless you all.

"BRENDA'S BUSES" DAY TRIP - For those joining our bus trip to Harrogate Christmas Market on Wednesday 10th December, please meet at St Joseph's for 9.20am, the bus will be leaving promptly at 9.30am. The car park will be open. Many thanks.

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 - Our next collection for the work of the SVP will be on 14th December.

This Sundays Readings

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

First reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

The Lord gathers all nations together into the eternal peace of the Kingdom of God.

The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.
It shall come to pass in the latter days
that the mountain of the house of the Lord
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be lifted up above the hills;
and all the nations shall flow to it,
and many peoples shall come, and say:
'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the house of the God of Jacob,
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths.'
For out of Sion shall go forth the law,
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.
He shall judge between the nations,
and shall decide disputes for many peoples;
and they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,
and their spears into pruning-hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.
O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the Lord.

Response: Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

Second Reading: Romans 13:11-14a

'Salvation is nearer to us now.'

Brothers and sisters: You know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armour of light. Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarrelling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia.
Show us, O Lord, your mercy,
and grant us your salvation.
Alleluia.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 24:37-44

Stay awake so that you may be ready.

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples: 'For as were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one left. Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one left. Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

REFLECTION

How often have you spent time waiting for something to happen and when it does, or doesn't, you feel a great sense of disappointment. Waiting can be a waste of time. We seem to spend our lives waiting; waiting to be born, to go to school, to start work, to retire, and, while we are waiting, our lives go on, in joy and sorrow, and the waiting never stops. Advent is about waiting, but when we wait in Advent we wait with purpose, Advent is a time of anticipation, of longing, of hope. Each Advent our thoughts turn to the coming of the Lord. The Feast of Christmas and the birth of the Christ Child grow ever closer, but so too, at lifetimes own pace, the coming of the Risen Christ at the end of time.

We begin the season of Advent with three passages, many years apart. The readings reflect the faith of the people at the time the events they speak of were taking place. Isaiah speaks of a vision of the latter days; he speaks of the House of God standing on a high mountain, and of all the nations flowing towards it. A God who will teach all people His ways, "so that we may walk in his paths". His vision is of a God of Peace who will bring justice and security to the nations of the world.

Paul senses the immediacy of the day of the Lord. He looked back to Isaiah and saw the world in a different light; after all, if Jesus was the Messiah, and Paul certainly believed he was, then all was fulfilled and all he waited for was the second coming in glory. So, he urges the people, be patient in your waiting, be ready, don't lose it all now after all we have been through, keep going. "Put on the Lord Jesus Christ".

The Apostles were waiting; their impatience showed at times. When Lord? Was often on their lips, when the Kingdom? when the glory? when will we be free? Jesus tells them; be ready, always be ready; "Stay awake for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming". This idea that we should always be ready is good advice because our lives are fragile; we do not know when this life will come to an end.

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 Galen, 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, Maureen Maguire, Baby Pippa Marie, Vera Marriott, Brenda Mathews, Ian Matthews, Owen McEneaney, 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, Pam Robertson, Eric Robinson, Joseph Robinson, Paula Rogers, Jane Roocroft, Kathleen Royds, Hilda Ryan, Agnes Scully, Michael Christopher Sheeran, Corazon Simpson, Marie Spindlow, Matthew Steel, Brenda Stott, Brett Swain, Gail Symington, Melvin Thackeray, Christopher Thomas, Lynsey Todd, Kieran Turnbull, John Twydale, Norma Twydale, Jonathon Vokes, Julie Wallace, Margaret Watt, Edith Wilson, Jeff Wright, Margaret Wright. *Through our prayers may the healing presence of Christ be with them at this time.*

Recently Deceased: David Geen, Gwendoline Douglas, Amanda Borrowdale, Anita Brown, Jeffrey Baker, Alwyne Hobson, Pat Waterland, Mary Stott. *May they rest in peace and rise in Glory.*

Anniversaries that occur at this time: Enid Robinson, Catherine Collingwood, Derek Connolly, Walter Newson, Patricia Reynolds, Audrey Kester, Dorothy Mincher, Merlin Allen, Jean McGregor, Mary Waller, Kevin Hennessy, Jean Smith, Kenneth Dowson, Leo Bianco, Nora Ridden, Stanley Butterfield, Jean Smith, Jim O'Connor, Elizabeth Parker, John Charles Reid, Greta Healey, Rosella Thompson, Peter Keegans, Joan Hall, Philip Stokle, Denise Breward, John Mahony, Olwyn Tracey, Madeleine Dawkins, Ronald Dring, Eileen Caden, The Garraghan Family, The Davison Family, The Henegan & Hay Families, The Mitchell Family, Patrick Walsh, Mary Gooding, Mary Cornforth, Patrick Walsh, Irene Aistrup, Jane Wilkinson, Rachel Blair Judge, Harold Coates, Patricia Lawson, Kenneth Day, Catherine Pennick, Rita Elsdon, Ann Foster, Andrew Daley, Alan Ferguson, Maureen Paterson, Dorothy Mason, Mr. G. Robertson, 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:

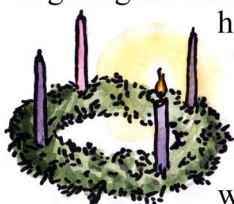
It's Time to get Ready for Christmas!

Advent is here! In a few weeks it will be Christmas, so it's time to start getting ready!



During Advent we remember Jesus' first coming, and get ourselves and our homes ready to celebrate His birthday.

Lighting the candles on an Advent wreath helps us to remember that Jesus, the light of the world, is coming. We start with one candle, and every week light one more, so that the closer we get to Jesus' coming the brighter it gets.



In Advent we also think about Jesus' second coming. In today's Gospel reading Jesus tells the people to be prepared for that time. We must never let ourselves forget that this world and this life are only temporary and that we have something much greater to look forward to: Jesus and Heaven!



The Kids' Bulletin

First Sunday of Advent
November 30th, 2025

Sort the letters to fill in the blanks at the bottom



Romans 13:11-14

*In today's second reading
Saint Paul tells the Romans to throw off the
works of darkness and put on the*

Highly recommended puzzle on front page of the bulletin

www.thekidsbulletin.com

holyfamily.hartlepool@diocesehn.org.uk

www.holyfamilyhartlepool.org

@HolyFamilyHP

HolyFamilyHartlepool

@HolyFamilyHartlepool

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