



HOLY FAMILY PARISH HARTLEPOOL



This week's readings

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SUNDAY 17TH APRIL 2022

EASTER SUNDAY

A MESSAGE FROM POPE FRANCIS

The women [who go to the tomb of Jesus with spices to anoint Jesus' body] continued to feel love, the love for Jesus which now led them to his tomb. But at this point, something completely new and unexpected happens, something which upsets their hearts and their plans, something which will upset their whole life... Doesn't the same thing also happen to us when something completely new occurs in our everyday life? We stop short, we don't understand, we don't know what to do. Newness often makes us fearful, including the newness which God brings us, the newness which God asks of us.

We are like the Apostles in the Gospel: often we would prefer to hold on to our own security, to stand in front of a tomb, to think about someone who has died, someone who ultimately lives on only as a memory, like the great historical figures from the past. We are afraid of God's surprises... He always surprises us.

Let us not be closed to the newness that God wants to bring into our lives! Are we often weary, disheartened and sad? Do we feel weighed down by our sins? Do we think that we won't be able to cope? Let us not close our hearts, let us not lose confidence, let us never give up: there are no situations which God cannot change, there is no sin which he cannot forgive if only we open ourselves to him.

How often does Love have to tell us: why do you look for the living among the dead? Our daily problems and worries can wrap us up in ourselves, in sadness and bitterness... and that is where death is. That is not the place to look for the One who is alive! Let the risen Jesus enter your life, welcome him as a friend, with trust: he is life! If up till now you have kept him at a distance, step forward. He will receive you with open arms. If you have been indifferent, take a risk: you won't be disappointed. If following him seems difficult, don't be afraid, trust him, be confident that he is close to you, he is with you and he will give you the peace you are looking for and the strength to live as he would have you do.

To remember what God has done and continues to do for me, for us, to remember the road we have travelled; this is what opens our hearts to hope for the future. May we learn to remember everything that God has done in our lives.

Pope Francis



QUESTION OF THE WEEK - Have I heard the reassuring voice of the Lord? While I listen for his voice, how do I witness to the difference the Risen Lord makes in my life?

A big thank you to Luke, Community Champion, and Jeff at Morrisons for supplying our hot cross buns and biscuits.

THIS WEEK'S PARISH NEWS

Year of The Eucharist, Preparation for the Synod

THANK YOU - As we look back over our journey to Easter in this 2022, I would like to thank everybody for their commitment to the call to renew our faith. Thank you to those who supported our 24 Hours of Prayer, for those who organized and supported our Walk of Witness of Good Friday, to some of our First Holy Communion children who played such a great part in our Palm Sunday Mass at St Joseph's, for those who supported our Mass for those usually sick and housebound. A great thank you goes to all of those who week by week, and especially at this time, clean and maintain our churches, for those who have decorated our churches so beautifully, and for those who have read and supported our singing. Your hard work and commitment is what makes Holy Family Parish more than a collection of Mass centres, but truly a parish where it is good to live.

PROPOSAL FOR OUR FUTURE - Next Sunday, Bishop Robert will give his decision on the proposals put forward for the future of Holy Family Parish.

ST PATRICK'S - I am sure that all of us share in the distress of St Patrick's community at the mindless vandalism that has taken place there, and the damage it has caused to windows in the church. I am very grateful to parishioners who have dealt with this situation and done all they can to prevent and deal with the situation, highlighting this vandalism to the local councilor and initiating the church on a watch list.

HOLY PLACES - The collection for Catholic Community in the Holy Land (Holy Places) is now closed, thank you for all your contributions.

EASTER BASKETS - Thank you for all your help with the Easter basket raffle, for people who so imaginatively and generously donated beautifully decorated baskets, and for everyone for buying tickets. This is not just a way of raising monies for our parish, but it is also a great coming together of everybody in this community effort.

UKRAINE HUMANITARIAN APPEAL - CAFOD have launched an emergency appeal for Ukraine. If you're able to contribute, you can do this by ringing 0303 303 3030, logging on to cafod.org.uk/Ukraine or sending a cheque to CAFOD, Romero House, 55 Westminster Bridge Road, SE1 7JB. Please also continue to remember our collection bins at the back of church for the Hartlepool Food Bank, Refugee Project and Apostleship of the Sea. Thank you for all your generosity.

COMMUNION TO THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND - We are trying to recommence the taking of the Eucharist to the sick and house bound and those in Care Homes. If you know of any person either in their own home or in a Care Home who would appreciate a visit from a Eucharistic Minister, please let us know. See Fr Jim or contact the parish office 866288.

ST JOSEPH'S TEA AND COFFEE AFTER MASS - On Easter Sunday there will be tea and coffee in the hall after Mass. The Filipino community have committed to the second Sunday of the month, and we need to have a rota for the following Sundays. Please sign the list at the back of church if you can help.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY - We would like to start a children's liturgy group on Sundays at St Patrick's. If you are interested, please sign the list at the back of church. We are looking for more volunteers for St Joseph's, please sign the list at the back of church.

SAFEGUARDING - We are looking for a Safeguarding Rep for St Patrick's. This will be to work in conjunction with the other reps across the parish. The volunteer would be given lots of support from the diocese as well as the other reps here in the parish. Please consider this essential role and get in touch with Fr Michael through the parish office.

NEW FINANCIAL YEAR - All taxpayers please make sure that you're part of our Gift Aid scheme. Contact the parish office for further information. Please consider using a bankers order form for your Sunday collections, and non-Gift Aid planned giving please use the unnumbered boxes provided. All of this helps us in these difficult financial times. St Joseph's are trying to re-establish a counting rota, if you can spare half an hour after 10am Mass on Sundays, please sign the list at the back of church. Remember the more volunteers, the less often you have to count. Counters for collection are also required on a Sunday after mass on a rota basis at St Mary's. Please see Ian Fraser or Maria Morris.

200 CLUB - Annual Subscriptions of £25, half yearly payments of £12.50, and quarterly payments of £6.25 are now due. Please put cash or cheque in a sealed envelope and put your name and address on the envelope and put it in collection boxes at church. Cheques to be made out to "Saint Patrick's 200 Club". Thank You.

ST PATRICK'S COMMUNITY COUNCIL - There will be a meeting of St Patrick's Community Council at 7.15 on Tuesday 19th April in the small hall after Mass. All are welcome.

LITURGY COURSES - The Diocesan Liturgy Team will be running the following courses in April and May: Welcomers' Course, New Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion Course and a Sacristans' Course. If you wish to find out more information about these courses and how to register for them, please contact the Faith & Mission admin team: adminfaith.mission@diocesehn.org.uk.

VACANCIES - The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle has the following vacancies: Property Surveyor – Full-time, fixed term contract – 2 years. Flexible working is available. Closing date for applications: 28 April 2022. Parish Secretary – 20 hours a week, Cleaner – 14 hours a week, at Hexham, St Mary. Closing date for applications: 4 May 2022 Please visit www.diocesehn.org.uk for full details or contact us 0191 243 3301.

HOLY FAMILY YOUTH

WONDERTOTS - Our playgroup will recommence after a 2 week break on Wednesday 4th May, at 9.30 am, in St Joseph's Church Hall.

FAMILY RETREAT 14th-16th OCTOBER 2022 - If your family would appreciate an affordable weekend away in beautiful surroundings, ask your school office or Ric for a letter about our annual Family Retreat at the Emmaus Youth Village in Consett. Our team of young people organise activities for all the family and it's one of the most popular activities we offer all year so sign up soon!

Holy Family Youth
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OUR PARISH PRAYER INTENTIONS

Please remember in your prayers all those in our communities who are sick or housebound, especially:

STEPHEN ANDERSON, PAT BAKER, KATHLEEN BARLOW, MICHAEL BLACKFORD, HILARY BRADBURY, DENNIS BRATT, MARGARET BURKE, KAY BURNS, JOHN CANN, SARAH CARROLL, RITA CHARLTON, VERONICA COCHRANE, DANIEL COSBY, BETTY CRANE, JAMES DALEY, NEIL DAVIS, LOTTIE DOCHERTY, NATALIE EGLINTINE, TERESA FALKINGHAM, EMILY FLANNERY, ALISON FOSTER, LORRAINE GALEN, DOROTHY GEEN, DAVID GEEN, PETER GRIEVES, CHRISTINE HANSELL, MARY HARPER, MARY HARRIS, ANDREW HAYGARTH, BELLA HOEY, MURIEL HOWE, MOLLY HUGHES, PETER JOHNSON, CHRISTINE JONES, ETTY JORDAN, MOIRA KELLY, CEILIA KING, MARGARET KIRKPATRICK, KEN KNIGHT, MARIE LYDON, MAUREEN MAGUIRE, VERA MARRIOTT, JAMES MARSHALL, MARY MASON, IAN MATTHEWS, PAUL MCCRAITH, OWEN MCENEANEY, JIM MCKENNA, CHRISTOPHER MGHEE, PAUL MOORE, PAT NESS, KITTY NEWSTEAD, SYLVICE NOTRIANNI, WINNIE OLIVER, MYRA PATTISON, EDDIE PEARSON, COLIN PRICE, DAMIAN RAFFERTY, JEAN RICHARDSON, PAM ROBERTSON, JOSEPH ROBINSON, PAULA ROGERS, HILDA RYAN, AGNES SCULLY, CORAZON SIMPSON, MATTHEW STEEL, BRENDA STOTT, BRETT SWAIN, GAIL SYMINGTON, MELVIN THACKERAY, LYNSEY TODD, NORA TRISCHLER, JONATHON VOKES, KAY WALLACE, JAMES WALSH, ANTHONY WEEGRAM

All the sick and their carers, both at home and in hospital, are prayed for at each Mass, as well as the health and safety of all parishioners.

Please pray for those who have died recently:

Peter Garthwaite, Mary Standen
and for their family and friends who mourn their loss.

We also pray for all those whose anniversaries fall this week:

ST JOSEPH'S: Catherine Monaghan, Pauline Mahoney, George Brown, Clarice McCloskey, George Brown, Audrey Pyitt, John Readman, Mike Grzelak, Anthony Kearns, Dennis Grievson, Robert Weighill, Pauline Talbot, Annette Bain, Kathleen Irvine, Tony Gorman, Kitty Gillen, Margaret Carter, Thomas Harvey.

ST MARY'S: Maria Lynne Burdiss, Maureen Ann Slimmings, Margaret Walsh, Robert James Webster, Hida Wilkinson, Margaret Wilkinson, Harold Tubb, Charlie Gofton, Sidney Rooke.

ST PATRICK'S: Yvonne Parks, Stephen Elsdon.

ST JOHN VIANNEY'S: Winifred Decosemo, Sidney Rooke.

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. Amen.



Listen to the Word

Easter Sunday

Acts 10: 34, 37-43

Psalm 117

Colossians 3: 1-4

John 20: 1-9

Night glides into day, silently, with a slow change in the light, sudden shafts of brightness leap from the orange dawn and the song of the birds is hushed. Slowly the light grows the air begins to warm, and the sun rises. Day breaks and the hushed world begins again its song of creation for a new day.

Faith has many forms; we each believe in the same things but our focus, our foundations differ. There are probably as many different forms of faith as there are Christians. We each come from different experiences and the changes that help to evolve us as human beings also have a unique effect on how we believe. To some the Eucharist is the centre of faith, to another scripture, to a third, prayer or working for the poor and marginalised. We all worship the same God but our worship is formed by the way we approach Him.

The Gospel passage today is based around the resurrection experiences of three people; Mary Magdalene, Peter and "the other disciple, the one Jesus loved" who we recognise as the apostle John. They each see the same event but their response to what they have seen is different. This reminds us that each one of us approaches God from a different perspective, this does not change God but it changes us.

Mary is a very courageous woman; someone with a great sense of righteousness; she knows that the burial of Jesus was far from perfect, that the careful preparation of the body was incomplete, and she is determined to correct the situation. She is not frightened to go to the tomb as perhaps the apostles are. She knows what is right and proper and nothing will prevent her from her duty. The tomb is empty and Mary rushes back to rouse the apostles to action; in another Gospel Mary returns to the tomb and has an encounter with Jesus who she recognises when he speaks. Many others are brought to faith through the voice of Jesus speaking to us in the Gospels.

Peter and John, in contrast to Mary, are initially frightened to visit the tomb. It is only through Mary that they gain the courage to go and see. Again, we have a contrast, Peter is the one who needs physical evidence, he inspects the grave cloths, the empty tomb, John however believes without seeing this evidence. Some of us are like Peter, some like John; this does not make us less faithful only different, and our faith overcomes difference because we all believe in the empty tomb and the ever new gift of Easter.

P.S. As I write I am thinking about those who have not found the courage yet to return to Mass in our churches. Jesus showed great courage in His ordeal on the Cross, let us hope and pray that all those who have not returned can find the courage to step once more through our doors. Do not fear, Christ is Risen, Alleluia.

David Frank



DONATIONS – Anyone wishing to provide regular giving, you can instruct your bank to set up a standing order using these details:
Beneficiary: DHN The Holy Family Account Number: 11173928 Sort Code: 40-34-45. Thank you.



THIS WEEK'S MASSES

During the suspension of Sunday Obligation

*Live stream: www.facebook.com/HolyFamilyHartlepool

Pre-Recorded Telephone Liturgies Call: 01429 450388 for recorded Liturgy of the Word, homily, and prayers available from Saturday evenings onwards (calls charged at local rate)

It is essential to wear masks in Church, and to practice social distancing to maintain it as a safe place for worship.

	St Joseph's TS26 9EY	St Mary's TS24 0HD	St Patrick's TS25 3QG
Saturday 16th April 2022 Holy Saturday	7.30 pm ending 9.00 pm Easter Vigil and Mass Pauline Mahoney (10 th A) Reception in Centre		
Sunday 17th April 2022 Easter Sunday	10.00 am Mass Clarice McCloskey Tea/Coffee after Mass	*11.00 am Mass Bill Collins	9.00 am Mass The Wellbeing of Melvyn Thackeray (Jnr)
Monday 18th April 2022 Monday in the Easter Octave		10.00 am Mass Joan Florence Bennetts	
Tuesday 19th April 2022 Tuesday in the Easter Octave	12.05 pm Mass George Hoey	2.00 pm Rosary	10.30 am - 11.30 am Exposition and Rosary 1.00 pm - 3.00 pm Over 60s Club 6.30 pm Mass Elgar and Peggy Forster
Wednesday 20th April 2022 Wednesday in the Easter Octave	6.00 pm - 6.25 pm Exposition and Confessions 6.30 pm Mass Kitty Tobin		
Thursday 21st April 2022 Thursday in the Easter Octave	12.05 pm Mass Eric Smith	6.30 pm Mass NBF	
Friday 22nd April 2022 Friday in the Easter Octave	12.05 pm Mass Canon Bell and the Deceased Members of the Clergy of St Joseph's Parish		
Saturday 23rd April 2022 Saturday in the Easter Octave	4.00 pm - 4.30 pm Exposition and Confessions 5.00 pm Vigil Mass The Savage Family		
Sunday 24th April 2022 2 nd Sunday of Easter	10.00 am Mass Cath Butler (6 th A) Tea/Coffee after Mass	*11.00 am Mass Ann Cole (Nee Strickland)	9.00 am Mass Marie Cholmondeley

He has risen, alleluia