



HOLY FAMILY PARISH

HARTLEPOOL



This week's readings

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To receive this newsletter by email each week, email hartlepoolnewsletter@gmail.com

SUNDAY 15th MAY 2022

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

A MESSAGE FROM CANON MICHAEL GRIFFITHS

Over these last weeks of Easter, we have been walking with the disciples as they come to terms with Jesus, who suffered, died and rose from the dead. Each Easter, like the first disciples, we also are challenged to renew our Easter faith in Jesus, our risen Lord. Jesus shares with us His resurrection and has become our hope, not just in this life, but in the promise of life to come. Last week, Jesus reminded us that he is our Good Shepherd, and that we must listen to him as he guides us on his way. Today we have a turning point as we begin the journey towards Pentecost, and we read in our first reading of the two apostles Paul and Barnabas and their missionary work, and how they put fresh heart into their new disciples, encouraging them to persevere in the faith. "We all have to experience many hardships," they said, before we enter the kingdom of God.

This week, the Bishops of England and Wales have written to us to put fresh heart into us as we emerge evermore confidently from the pandemic that has so greatly affected us over these last two years. They write:

A beautiful hallmark of the Catholic faith is a profound desire to participate in the Holy Mass, and to share in the Eucharist. We do so with deep gratitude and joy. The Eucharist gives the Church her identity - "The Eucharist makes the Church and the Church makes the Eucharist." This hallmark is supported and strengthened by the precept that our fundamental Christian duty is to worship God by participating in the celebration of Mass. Attending Mass on Sundays and Holy days is the greatest of all privileges, and sometimes referred to as the Sunday Obligation. Since the beginning of the covid pandemic until the present time, we have shared with you our judgement that the situation of the last two years has meant that the Sunday Obligation has been impeded and needed to be fulfilled in other ways. We thank God that this situation has now changed. The pressing challenges of the pandemic have lessened significantly. Most people have resumed the wide range of normal activities, no longer restricted by the previous covid measures. We therefore believe that the reasons which had prevented Catholics from attending Mass on Sundays and on Holy days of Obligation no longer apply.

We understand there will be still some people in our congregations who, for reasons of health, do not feel safe enough to return to Mass. It has always been the understanding of the Church that when the freedom of any Catholic to attend Mass in person is impeded for a serious reason, because of a situation such as ill health, caring for the sick or legitimate fear, this is not a breach of the Sunday Obligation.

Our Catholic people and parishes have benefited during these difficult times from the online streaming of Mass and other services. "Virtual viewing" online does not fulfill the Sunday Obligation. It may, however, be a source of continual spiritual comfort to those who cannot attend Mass in person, for example those who are elderly and sick, for whom the obligation does not apply. In this context, we recognise gratefully the ministry of those who administer Holy Communion to the elderly, sick and housebound.

We are grateful to our clergy, religious and lay-faithful, who have served our parishes, schools and communities with dedication and distinction through out this pandemic. Now we look forward with renewed faith and confidence. In the Holy sacrifice of the Mass, the Lord's Supper, the Lord Jesus entrusted to us the precious gift of himself, with humility, we glory in being a Eucharistic people for whom attendance at Mass is essential. Looking forward to the forth coming feast of Pentecost, we now invite all Catholic who have not yet done so to return to attending Mass in person.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK - How can I open the door of faith to someone else?

THIS WEEK'S PARISH NEWS

Year of The Eucharist, Preparation for the Synod

SUNDAY OBLIGATION - The Bishops of England and Wales are reinstating the obligation for all Catholics to attend Sunday Mass, unless they have a serious reason not to do so. Please read the Bishop's letter given on the front of the newsletter.

PLANNING FOR OUR FUTURE - A reminder that my last weekend of saying Mass here in Hartlepool is 28/29th May, and that I move to Chester Le Street on 31st May. There will be opportunity therefore to say thank you to everybody at future Masses. In the meantime, we have met with Fr Mark Millward, our Episcopal vicar, to plan out the celebration of Masses in the next few months. Please give your support to Fr Jim as he takes responsibility for the whole parish during the forthcoming weeks, and also our thanks go to Fr Seamus as ever, for giving us support whilst we respect that he is a retired priest. Beginning on the weekend on 4/5th June, Fr Jim will be also assisted by Fr Mark Millward or Fr Oliver Keyes CSsR from Stockton, and occasionally by Canon Paul Douthwaite. *Fr Michael*

FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS - Last week and this week our First Holy Communion children are handing out cards and asking parishioners to pray for them as they get ready to celebrate their First Holy Communion. Our children who have been preparing over the year will celebrate their First Holy Communion in groups every Saturday at 10am during the month of June. Please keep our children and their families in your prayers.

LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR APPEAL - Thank you everyone who donated so generously to this appeal.

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.

KEYS - It is important for us at this time to update our records of those who have keys to enable them to gain access to our churches, parish centres, and houses in their various ministries and activities. Please see the lists at the back of church, and enable us to update our records for the new parish priest.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - As we try to reclaim our parish life, we need volunteers to help with the following:

St Joseph's Tea and Coffee after Mass - The Filipino community have committed to doing tea and coffee on 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 and St John Vianney'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.

Counters - 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.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY - There is a meeting on Tuesday evening after Mass in St Patrick's to discuss Children's Liturgy.

PLATINUM JUBILEE - St Patrick's are organizing a Cream Tea on Sunday 5th June from 2-4 pm to celebrate Queen Elizabeth's 70 years as our monarch. Tickets will be £6 and profits will go to improving the security of our church. There will be a list available in the porch to book tickets. Tickets will be organised on a first come / first paid basis.

ST PATRICK'S PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM - July 28/29/30 (Thursday/Friday/Saturday). Total cost this year will be £195. This includes 2 Nights' Accommodation with En Suite, Half Board, 1 Lunch, Coach Fare and optional trip out. Balances of £175 to be paid by end of June. If paying by cheque, please make payable to Hartlepool Walsingham Fund. Any queries ring Elaine on 07723543940, or Veronica on 01429 291551.

PILGRIMAGE TO HOLY ISLAND 4TH JUNE - In conjunction with the Apostleship of the Sea. An 18 seat bus will be going from Hartlepool to Holy Island for the service on the beach, as well as a Mass in the afternoon, and the opportunity to explore the island and picnic. The bus is to leave St Joseph's at 9am, aiming to return around 6/7pm. If all 18 seats of the bus are filled, the seats will cost £12.50 each. For further details and booking, contact Brenda Bland on 07599511066.

CHARLOTTE BOAGEY FUNDRAISING - My name is Charlotte and I am an altar server at St Joseph's. I have been chosen by Girlguiding Northeast to attend International Community Experience (ICE) in the summer. I am the only girl from Hartlepool who has been chosen and only one of 20 from the whole of the Northeast region. To be able to go I have to raise money. To help me raise funds to be able to go to I have put together a 100 square. It is £1 for a number and there are 100 numbers. Once it is filled a number will be chosen at random and the winner will receive £50. I will be selling numbers after mass on 15th at St Joseph's if you would like to buy a number (or two) to support me. Thank you.



HOLY FAMILY YOUTH

Holy Family Youth
Ric Slatter, Coordinator

FAMILY RETREAT 14th-16th OCTOBER 2022 - If your family would appreciate an affordable weekend away in beautiful surroundings, ask your school office 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!

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:

Linda Dickinson, Mary Watson
and for their family and friends who mourn their loss.

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

ST JOSEPH'S: Francis Donnelly, Josephine Kelly, Bill Mulrooney, Patricia Mary Aird, Gloria Pearson, Dorothy Breckon, Theresa Storey, Eric James Copeland, Terence Allen.

ST MARY'S: Thomas Francis McCarthy, Lawrence William Reynolds, George Healey, Jean McDonald, Jenny Hart, Clare Marie Waugh, Kitty Marine, Ronald Lawrence Vickers, George Watling.

ST PATRICK'S: James Gibson, John Breward, Kenneth Natt.

ST JOHN VIANNEY'S: Fr Ciaran McDonnell, Mary Wilkie, Brian Linighan.

ST THOMAS MORE'S: Sarah Wallace, Elizabeth Hall, William Jenkins, Margaret Pegg, Peter Allan, Terrence Collins, Kenneth Morgan, Glen Turnbull.

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



Listen to the Word

5th Sunday of Easter

Acts 13: 21-27

Psalm 144

Apocalypse 21: 1-3

John 13: 31-35

How do you make creation new? How do you even begin? Is there a light within you, that shines and casts out sin? How do we build a new Jerusalem, in this sinful world of ours? Where nations struggle to exist against the might of superpowers.

Can we shine with Christ's bright light and re-build our world again and wipe away the tears and sorrow for God's peace and love to reign

Stepping out into the unknown, clothed only with faith in Christ, Paul and Barnabas ventured into their first missionary journey. They took nothing with them but their faith, they had no safe havens to take comfort in, they, quite literally, put their trust in the Lord.

Have you ever thought about how you would have the courage to follow in the footsteps of Paul and Barnabas? Is your faith strong enough to give up everything to follow Christ wherever that may take you? I do not think that I could do such a thing. I am by nature cautious; I try to get as much information as I can before embarking on something new but sometimes, I do make a small leap of faith; I cannot understand why I do so, but I know that something deep within gives me the courage. Of course, my leap of faith does not leave me open to angry mobs that want to silence and kill me. Thankfully my journey is not like that, but we all need to consider what do we do when our faith is challenged; do we speak out or do we remain silent.

Jesus tells us that that "By this love you have for one another, everyone will know that you are my disciples". He challenges us to show to the world our Faith in Him and our love for all His creation. This task may not appear to be as daunting as the challenges facing Paul and Barnabas but on a basic individual level it is a task that we are each called to fulfil. How do we appear to those in whom we come into contact: do they see in us true disciples of Jesus? If we have that love that Jesus speaks about then it will shine out and show, to those we meet, the love of Christ living within each of us.

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 Patrick's TS25 3QG	St John Vianney's TS24 9LX	St Mary's TS24 0HD
Saturday 14th May 2022 St Mattias	4.00 pm - 4.30 pm Exposition and Confessions 5.00 pm Vigil Mass Thomas & Brigid Carroll			
Sunday 15th May 2022 5 th Sunday of Easter	10.00 am Mass John & Winnie Connor Tea/Coffee after Mass	9.00 am Mass The wellbeing of Mark & Matthew Lennard Tea/Coffee after Mass in the Hall	11.00 am Mass People of the Parish	*6.00 pm Mass Michael Thomas Porritt
Monday 16th May 2022 Weekday of Easter				10.00 am Mass Peter Garthwaite Tea/Coffee after Mass in the House
Tuesday 17th May 2022 Weekday of Easter		10.30 am - 11.30 am Exposition and Rosary 1.00 pm - 3.00 pm Over 60s Club 6.30 pm Mass John Breward		2.00 pm Rosary
Wednesday 18th May 2022 Weekday of Easter	9.30 am - 11.00 am Wonder Tots Playgroup in Hall 6.00 pm - 6.25 pm Exposition and Confessions 6.00 pm First Holy Communion Meeting 6.30 pm Mass Veronica Readman			
Thursday 19th May 2022 Weekday of Easter				6.00 pm Novena 6.30 pm Mass Pauline Turner
Friday 20th May 2022 Weekday of Easter	12.05 pm Mass Terry Collins (11 th A)			
Saturday 21st May 2022 Weekday of Easter	4.00 pm - 4.30 pm Exposition and Confessions 5.00 pm Vigil Mass Pauline, Ann & Henry Moir			
Sunday 22nd May 2022 6 th Sunday of Easter	10.00 am Mass James Lynch (B-Day A) Tea/Coffee after Mass	9.00 am Mass Ian Wakeling Tea/Coffee after Mass in the Hall	11.00 am Mass People of the Parish	*6.00 pm Mass Private Intention