



HOLY FAMILY PARISH

HARTLEPOOL



This week's readings

Canon Michael Griffiths: 01429 272985

Fr Jim Angus: 01429 266734

Ric Slatter (Coordinator, Holy Family Youth): t:07741162085 e: ric@holyfamilyyouth.co.uk

Parish Office: 01423 866288, holyfamilyhartlepool@gmail.com Newsletter items: hartlepoolnewsletter@gmail.com

SUNDAY 18th April 2021

3rd SUNDAY OF EASTER

MESSAGE FROM FATHER JIM

It is perhaps difficult for us today to imagine the deep fear of the first disciples after the death of Jesus. They had fled from the cross; only the women had remained there in prayer. Then the disciples, walking to Emmaus, met a stranger who explained the meaning of the Gospel to them. As soon as they recognised him as Jesus, he vanished from their sight. All the disciples found it difficult to believe that Christ had risen from the dead. His appearance, described in today's Gospel, frightened them at first. Maybe it was just because in their hearts they still believed that Jesus was dead and that they were seeing a ghost. But perhaps it's true that a meeting with God always involves fear or awe. At the annunciation The angel said to Mary, "do not be afraid"

By describing Jesus eating with his disciples, Luke shows his readers that he was not a ghost. Christ had been raised from the dead. The body of Jesus was transformed, but they could still recognise him. After this meeting, the apostles knew that they had to preach the good news of the resurrection, even if it led to persecution or martyrdom.

The disciples were transformed by the presence of the risen Christ. They became able to face opposition, to proclaim that Jesus had been raised from the dead. Peter was able to face crucifixion. Stephen was prepared to be stoned to death.

Today, some Christians suffer imprisonment for their faith, and even in our society believers are often seen as a little odd. Nurses and doctors can suffer for asserting the value of human life. There are many ways in which loyalty to faith can lead to suffering, from speaking out about an injustice at work, to telling a truth that is painful.

Each and every Christian is called to be a witness to the resurrection. For some, this happens in daily life as they bring their faith to bear on the situations they meet. Telling the truth, being honest, standing up for those who are weak: all are ways of witnessing to the faith. Perhaps one of the greatest witnesses is joining the Christian community to celebrate the Eucharist. This strengthens the faith of all present.



Father Jim

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

How can I witness to my faith in today's world?

THIS WEEK'S PARISH NEWS

GOING FORWARD 2021 – Mass please note that we are now operating a new mass schedule at weekends as follows; Saturday 5.00 pm Vigil Mass - St Josephs, Sunday 9.00 am Mass – St Patrick's, 10.00 am Mass – St Joseph's, 11.00 am Mass – St Mary's. Please note there is no Sunday obligation and so we ask those who can come during the week to leave the weekend for others who can only come at weekends. We will review our arrangement in time for the May round of easing, which will include Baptisms and Marriages.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS - Family Retreat 2021 we are cautiously hoping that we will be able to hold the very popular Family Retreat in the Autumn. If measures allow, it will take place at the Youth Village, near Consett, from Friday 8th to Sunday 10th of October. If your family are interested in finding out more about this hugely enjoyable weekend of entertaining activities and stimulating faith exploration for all ages, please email your expression of interest, including the size of your family and ages of your children, by Friday 30th April at the latest to mfrain@stteresashartlepool.bhcet.org.uk

Parish Confirmations 2021 One of the things our candidates for Confirmation are taught is that patience is a fruit of the Holy Spirit. Well, after a long wait and many online sessions, our group of teenagers - who started their confirmation preparation process last October - have shown this in abundance! Bishop Robert will confirm them at the 6.30 Mass on Wednesday 28th April at St Joseph's. So that family members are able to attend, this Mass won't be open to the public. Please pray for our candidates and they will come and share their experience with the parish as soon as it's possible.

FINANCE – Thank you to all on our Gift Aid Scheme who have changed to standing orders. Gift Aid envelopes are available this weekend for those who wish to continue to use envelopes and you will be given a new number as we adjust the scheme to the new arrangements. For non-gift aid or planned giving, boxes of envelopes are available this weekend and we encourage you to use envelopes rather than loose money. You can also take a standing order form to give directly through the bank and we do encourage you to change to this way of giving, as collections as we have known them will be a thing of the past. Please note that envelopes are quarantined in accordance with recommendations before they are opened and counted. We are very grateful for our gift aid organisers and those handling our monies for their commitment and generosity, not forgetting everyone's generosity and commitment in these difficult times.

SECOND COLLECTIONS – Collection for N.B.F. (Sick and Retired Priests) commenced on Sunday 11th April and will remain open and contributions invited until 2nd May. A collection for the Little Sisters of the Poor will be taken on 17/18th April.

200 CLUB – Saint Patrick's 200 Club restarted on 1st April. Subs are as before £25.00 full year, £12.50 for 6 months, £6.25 quarterly. Prize money remains the same, £150, £75 and £25 prizes every month. Due to present difficulties can you please place your subscription in an envelope, mark the envelope 200 Club and your name, cheques to be made out to "Saint Patrick's 200 Club" please. You can put the envelope in the collection box at Saint Joseph's Church. If you wish to join the club which is open to all parishioners and friends of Holy Family Parish, please mark your envelope "New Member" and enclose your name and address and we will be in touch with you, alternatively see Clare Ferguson, Tony Spellman, or Dave Frank.

JOURNEY IN FAITH / RCIA – Continues by zoom on Wednesdays at 7.15 pm. Please keep our participants in your prayers.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2021 – First Holy Communion applications are available for parents at the back of church. We hope to start the programme in May with first reconciliation before the summer holidays and first holy communion celebrations in October. We look forward to seeing parents at Mass as we go forward with the ease of restrictions.



Listen to the Word

3rd Sunday of Easter

Acts 3: 13-19

Psalm 4

1 John 2: 1-5

Luke 24: 35.48

We each hear the Word proclaimed at Mass in different ways. For example, one listener may hear something from the first reading that strikes him or her, while another is caught by a phrase from the Psalm or the second reading, and a third may hear a sentence from the Gospel which, on that day, may bring a response that lights a fire in their heart. We each hear the word from our own place, at a certain time in our lives, and we are called to respond; we are all different, and God speaks to us as individuals.

Last week the Gospel was from John and spoke of the resurrection appearance of Jesus to his disciples gathered in the upper room. This week we have the same event described in the Gospel of Luke. There are similarities but there are also differences. Two witnesses see and hear the same event, yet their recollection is based on their own individual memories. Three things however are clear from the two reports; Jesus begins with "shalom", Peace be with you, he does not ask "Why did you run away", he does not blame them for their individual failings, instead He welcomes them back, rather like the Father with the prodigal son, and forgives them for their actions. He then bridges the gap between doubt and belief by showing them His hands and His feet and sharing with them a piece of grilled fish; He is risen, not a ghostly apparition but the same man who lived with them for three years on the roads and in the villages of the Holy Land. Finally, he gives them a commission. He cannot stay, he must go to His Father in heaven, but His spirit will always be with those who believe in Him.

The commission is to prepare all nations for the coming kingdom of heaven through repentance of their sins. The apostles, filled with the Spirit of Christ, now have the courage to go out and evangelise to their own people, the Jews, but also to the whole world. The passage from Acts reminds us of this: their courage, in the face of opposition, is what wins the people for Christ. John's letter also reminds us that we must turn away from sin and seek repentance, for when we do so, "God's love comes to perfection" and we are reconciled to the Father. If we take the Word to heart then, in the words of the psalm, our sins will be forgiven and the Lord will "Lift up the light of his face on us".

David Frank

OUR PARISH PRAYER INTENTIONS

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

STEPHEN ANDERSON, MARGARET BURKE,
CHRISTINE HANSELL, CORAZON SIMPSON, LORRAINE GALEN, PAUL MOORE, JIM MCKENNA, BRENDA STOTT, ANTHONY
WEEGRAM, PETER JOHNSON, MATTHEW STEEL, MYRA PATTISON, VERONICA COCHRANE, GAIL SYMINGTON, MURIEL HOWE,
MOIRA KELLY, MICHAEL BLACKFORD, AGNES SCULLY, MAUREEN MAGUIRE, PETER GRIEVES, SARAH CARROLL, OWEN
MCENEANEY, NORA TRISCHLER, MOLLY HUGHES, CHRISTINE JONES, HILDA RYAN, KAY BURNS, HILARY BRADBURY, MICHAEL
GRUFFERTY, BRETT SWAIN, BETTY CRANE, KAY WALLACE, BELLA HOEY, LYNNE HARRISON, DOROTHY GEEN, MILLIE PEARCE,
MARIE LYDON, SARAH CANN (HAGGETT), MICHAEL CANN, MARY HARPER, TERESA FALKINGHAM, MATTHEW THACKERAY,
MARIE CHOLMONDELEY, JOSEPH ROBINSON, ETTY JORDAN, PAM ROBERTSON, SYLVICE NOTRIANNI, JEAN RICHARDSON,
DORIS O'DELL, MARY COOPER, NEIL DAVIS, ALISON FOSTER, TERESA FALKINGHAM, JONATHON VOKES, PAULA ROGERS, RITA
CHARLTON, MARY MASON, NATALIE EGLINTINE, PAT NESS, TOM GILFOYLE, LOTTIE DOCHERTY, VERONICA WILKINSON,
CHRISTOPHER MGHEE, MARY HARRIS, VERA MARRIOTT, WINNIE OLIVER, COLIN PRICE, KITTY NEWSTEAD, MARGARET
KIRKPATRICK, JEAN RAYMENT, PAT BAKER, ANDREW HAYGARTH, DANIEL COSBY, DIANE GOODING.

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:

Canon Michael McCoy
and for his family and friends who mourn his loss.

We also pray for all those who's anniversaries fall this week:

St Joseph's Anniversaries

TONY GORMAN, GEORGE BROWN, DENNIS GRIEVESON, ROBERT WEY, ANTHONY KEARNS, KITTY GILLEN, MARGARET CARTER,
THOMAS HARVEY.

St Mary's Anniversaries

HILDA WILKINSON, MARGARET WILKINSON, HAROLD TUBB, CHARLIE GOFTON, SIDNEY ROOKE, MOLLY MARSHALL.

St John Vianney's Anniversaries

WINIFRED DECOSEMO, SIDNEY ROOKE.

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

KEEPING IN TOUCH

During these present restrictions our hub church, St Joseph's, remains open for Mass, alongside St Mary's and St Patrick's on a Sunday. We remind anyone who is in the vulnerable category to take note of the government directive and stay at home. You are encouraged to attend Mass through live streaming and to use our telephone service during the week and at weekends. For parishioners who wish to attend Mass, we continue to follow social distancing and track and trace procedures. A reminder that Sunday obligation does not apply at this time.

Please also encourage others and help them to keep in touch through the methods below.

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

Pre-recorded Telephone Liturgies Call: 01429 450388 – recorded rosary and devotional prayers each Wednesday and Sunday (calls charged at local rate)

Contacting the parish:

Parish Office- for general Parish enquiries, including sacraments:

Call: 01429 866288 / Email: holyfamilyhartlepool@gmail.com

Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday between the hours of 10.00 am -2.00 pm

Holy Family Youth: For enquiries about ministry to young people, or to volunteer

Call: Ric Slatter on 07741162085 or email ric@holyfamilyyouth.co.uk



THIS WEEK'S MASSES

During the suspension of Sunday Obligation

[*Live stream: Holy Family Parish Facebook Page](#)

Pre-recorded telephone liturgies Call: 01429 / 450388 to listen to prayers and reflection connected with these days.

	St Joseph's	St Mary's	St Patrick's
Saturday 17th April 2021 Weekday of Easter	4.00 pm – 4.30 pm Confessions 5.00 pm Vigil Mass Joseph, Kath and Catherine Monaghan Cath Butler (BDayA)		
Sunday 18th April 2021 3rd Sunday of Easter	10.00 am Clarice McCloskey (1stA) Private Intention (LIB)	*11.00 am The Gogarty Family Guild Mass Fund	9.00 am Margaret Barnfather (R.D.) People of the Parish
Monday 19th April 2021	~	~	~
Tuesday 20th April 2021 Weekday of Easter	12.05 pm Mass Fred Parker Special Intension (Grandsons)		
Wednesday 21st April 2021 Weekday of Easter	6.00 pm – 6.25 pm Confessions *6.30 pm Mass Bill Tindall (100thBDayA)		
Thursday 22nd April 2021 Weekday of Easter	12.05 pm Mass Raymond and Eileen Biddle Ord Mass Fund		
Friday 23rd April 2021 St George, Patron of England (NC)	12.05 pm Mass Cath Butler (5 th A) Tony Gorman (A)		
Saturday 24th April 2021 Weekday of Easter	4.00 pm – 4.30 pm Confessions 5.00 pm Vigil Mass Jean Jacques People of the Parish		
Sunday 25th April 2021 4th Sunday of Easter	10.00 am Special Intention (Connor)	*11.00 am Coghlan Mass Fund N.B.F.	9.00 am Winifred Joy

Confirmation Mass with Bishop Robert 28th April. Family invite only.