



'He cured many who suffered from diseases of one kind or another.'

Mark 1:34

NEWSLETTER FOR THE PARISHES OF
IMMACULATE HEART of MARY ▪ LOBLEY HILL
ST MARY ▪ WHICKHAM ST PHILIP NERI ▪ DUNSTON

Parish Priest Fr Peter Leighton 0191 460 4274
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Parish Website www.theparish.org.uk

Diocesan Website www.rcdhn.org.uk



The John Ingram Partnership
Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle

**The Parish Secretary, Julie Hindmarsh, is generally available in the Parish Office at Immaculate Heart Presbytery
Tuesday – Friday, 10am – 2pm ☎ 0191 460 4274 ✉ stmarysphilip@aol.co.uk**

Sunday 4 February 2018

Fifth Sunday of the Year

Year B

MASS AND SERVICE TIMES

Saturday 3 February

Vigil Mass	5.30pm	St Philip Neri	People of the Parish
Sunday 4 February	9.30am	St Mary	Bill Mennell (dec.)
Fifth Sunday of the Year	11.00am	Immaculate Heart	Living members of the Carrick Family

Weekday Readings at Mass - Ordinary Time, Week 5, Year 2

Monday 5 February <i>St Agatha</i>	9.15am	Immaculate Heart	<i>Service of the Word and Holy Communion</i>
Tuesday 6 February <i>St Paul Miki & Companions</i>	6.30pm	Immaculate Heart	Kath Johnson (dec.)
Wednesday 7 February	10.00am	St Philip Neri	Priest's Intention
	1.15pm	St Mary	Funeral Service for Pamela Page
Thursday 8 February	9.30am	St Mary	Les Smith (dec.)
Friday 9 February	10.00am	St Mary	John & Elizabeth Arnold (dec.)

Saturday 10 February *St Scholastica*

Vigil Mass	5.30pm	St Philip Neri	Joe Welsh (dec.)
Sunday 11 February	9.30am	St Mary	Muriel Duff (dec.)
Sixth Sunday of the Year	11.00am	Immaculate Heart	People of the Parish

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday at St Philip Neri 5.05pm – 5.20pm

Tuesday at Immaculate Heart 6.10pm – 6.25pm Friday at St Mary 9.40am – 9.55am



Rosary and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Wednesday 9.30am at St Philip Neri

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Friday 9.30am at St Mary

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK: Marjorie Gray, James Roach, David Roach, Luke Roach, Christine Taylor, Terry Gardner, Pauline Mulholland, Sheila Rickerby, Susan Wall, Paul Leonard, Kathleen Bruce, Peter McLoughlin, Isaac Dawson, Ray Deponio, Astrid Muse (Gower), Ann Camozzi, Lesley Gough, Susan Walker, Kai Thompson, Monica Meaney, Tammie Blair, Winn Brooks, Helen Bain, Kathleen Buxton, Liz McKenna, Fr Jim Doherty, Bernard Lyons, Mary Orr, Geoff Taylor, Gerard and Kathleen Cailey, Ken Webster. **Please note that if you or members of your family are going into hospital and would like to see the Catholic Chaplain, please ask a member of the ward staff to let the Catholic Chaplain know. For the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, you can contact the Chaplaincy Department Office directly tel. 0191 445 2072.**

RECENTLY DECEASED Please remember in your prayers Pamela Page who died recently and whose Funeral Service will be at St Mary's Church on Wednesday 7 February at 1.15pm followed by burial at Garden House Cemetery. May she rest in peace. Amen.

THE NEW READERS ROTA for Immaculate Heart Church is now available at the back of church. Please contact Maveen Pereira email: maveenp@gmail.com if you would like to be a Reader.

SENIOR MOMENTS The Senior Moments Lunch will be held at St Mary's Parish Hall this Wednesday 7 February at 11.30am.

ST MARY'S COUNTERS NEED YOUR HELP We have lost a number of counters on our rota and really need more volunteers. Please consider whether you could help for approximately half an hour after Mass once every seven weeks. Please see Christine Norman if you can help. Thank you.

FINANCIAL UPDATE The Finance Committee met on 24 January to review the nine months to December and are pleased to report that all three parishes continue to show an upturn in their financial position. Of particular interest is the improvement in Offertory Collections with St Mary's at +15%, St Philip's +7% and Immaculate Heart +4%. Across the three parishes, this equates to an additional £4,500 being donated over the nine-month period. St Mary's surplus has also been boosted by much lower spending on the infrastructure of the various buildings and the Hall starting to make a positive contribution. Immaculate Heart is making savings on utility costs and is well on course to wipe out its overdraft by the close of the financial year. However, St Mary's need the church roof to be repaired in the near future which will cost approximately £13,000 and is being progressed with the Diocesan property manager. Once again, we are indebted to your generosity for this ongoing improvement.

POVERTY ACTION SUNDAY is next Sunday 11 February. The ecumenical group *Church Action on Poverty* invites us to 'Give, Act and Pray.' Throughout his ministry, Jesus listened to people who were on the margins of his society. He made visible those who were overlooked, and gave them hope. Our churches are called to follow Jesus' example: to listen to voices from the margins and make them heard, so that things can change. That's what the campaigns and projects of *Church Action on Poverty* are for. On *Church Action on Poverty Sunday*, we invite you to learn about this group and lend your support. For more information please visit <http://www.church-poverty.org.uk/sunday>

PROPOSAL TO FORMALLY AMALGAMATE OUR THREE PARISHES In many respects, for over six years now, our three parishes have been worshipping and working together effectively as one parish e.g. one parish priest, one parish council, one finance committee, centralised administration, joint events. Within the context of the new Partnerships that have been established throughout the diocese, and with particular reference to our own Partnership (John Ingram), and following discussions at our parish council and finance committee meetings, it has been decided to begin the initial process to consider the formal amalgamation of our three parishes. This process, which is primarily intended to foster unity and community, will be undertaken with reference to new guidelines produced by the diocese.

OPEN MEETING An invitation is extended to all parishioners to attend an Open Meeting this Wednesday 7 February, 7.00pm at St Mary's Church Hall. The hall will be open from 6.45pm for light refreshments. At this meeting, there will be information about what 'amalgamation' means including an outline of the amalgamation process. The meeting will offer an opportunity for a question and answer session to help clarify any queries or concerns. Please come to this meeting – it is an opportunity for all parishioners to be involved and included in this important decision. Should you wish to have further information or to ask any questions prior to the meeting, please contact Katie Wilkinson, Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) Chair, on 07837 386760 or email teachkate1@gmail.com

NEW REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL The Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) should have four representatives from each of our three parishes so, as a reminder, the current representatives are:

Immaculate Heart of Mary, Lobley Hill
Maveen Pereira, Allan Bell, **2 vacancies**

St Mary, Whickham

Phil Cunningham, Tony Sacco, Janice Hall, Jen Jones

St Philip Neri, Dunston

John Pinchen, Katie Wilkinson, Michael Waugh (see * below)

Plus: Finance rep. - Malcolm Shield, Youth rep. - David Khachikian, Primary School Head Teachers - Val Douglass and Joe Wheatley.

*Denise Hebron has kindly volunteered to fill the current vacancy at St Philip Neri and we thank her for this. However, we still have two vacancies at Immaculate Heart.

The PPC meets several times a year and supports Fr Peter in his work, as best we can - if you feel you can volunteer some of your time and would like to represent Immaculate Heart, please contact Katie Wilkinson, PPC Chair, on 07837 386760 or email teachkate1@gmail.com

PARTNERSHIP MATTERS The latest edition of the bi-monthly *Partnership Matters* news update is now available on the front page of the diocesan website (www.rcdhn.org.uk). It includes items on the forthcoming Property and Community Review, support available from the Diocesan Church Music Association, an 'Unconference' for Partnership Development Groups, news from around the Partnerships and much more. Contributions of news items from Partnerships are always welcome.

SACRISTANS COURSE This course will be held at St Bede's Church Hall, St John's Terrace, Jarrow, NE32 3LX on Tuesday 6 March from 10.00am to 3.00pm and will include Mass with Blessing of Sacristans at 12.15pm. Places are limited so it is advisable to book early. The course was attended last year by Christine Straughan, Denise Hebron and Katie Wilkinson from St Philip Neri Church who all found it very helpful and informative. If any of our existing sacristans or any potential new sacristans would be interested in going on the course, please contact the parish secretary at Immaculate Heart, tel. 0191 460 4274 or email stmarysphilip@aol.co.uk

FAITH AND MINISTRY DEVELOPMENT We have received in the parish office the diocesan programme for Adult Formation and Evangelisation for January to July 2018. The directory intends to communicate the opportunities that are available across the diocese for individuals and groups to grow. If you would like to view this booklet, which outlines the full programme of courses, we have a small number of these available in the parish office. Please contact the parish secretary at Immaculate Heart for further information, tel. 0191 460 4274 or email stmarysphilip@aol.co.uk. Alternatively, for further information, you can visit the Diocesan Departments/Evangelisation and Formation pages of the diocesan website www.rcdhn.org.uk or email adult.formation@diocesehn.org.uk

DEVELOPING DISCIPLES PRESENTS *Worship, Teaching, Testimony Summit* entitled *John 8:12 Light of the World*. This summit will be held this Tuesday 6 February at St Joseph's, Norton, Stockton-on-Tees, TS20 1EN starting at 7pm. For further information please email amy.sewell@diocesehn.org.uk

THE SOURCE brings together young people, Year 9 and above, for an evening of inspiring talks, praise and worship and socialisation and will be held this Wednesday 7 February at 7pm at St Mary's Cathedral in Newcastle.

EVENTS AT MINSTERACRES - *Walking Retreat* Enjoy a walk of seven to ten miles through the beautiful countryside around Minsteracres, with time for prayer, reflection and sharing of the beauty of creation. You will need suitable walking boots and warm, weatherproof clothing. Please bring a packed lunch. This walking retreat will take place on Wednesday 21 February 2018 from 10am to 5pm. The walk will be led by the Minsteracres team. There is a suggested donation of £10. For further information and to book please visit the Minsteracres website: <http://www.minsteracres.org/retreats/walking-retreat>

2018 ALZHEIMER'S SOCIETY The Alzheimer's Society is currently looking to recruit volunteers, who would be willing to spend time with people with dementia and or their carers to offer companionship and provide support, enabling people to maintain hobbies and interests and inclusion in social events. The volunteers would be supported by the Befriending Manager. For further information or a copy of the full role description please tel. 0191 477 7490 or email angela.todd@alzheimers.org.uk

ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER Please type or write the item with as much detail as possible (i.e. description of the event or notice, dates, times, venue, contact person, links to further information) and either email to stmarysphilip@aol.co.uk or post through the presbytery letterbox at Immaculate Heart **by 10am on Thursday 8 February at the latest**. Please remember to add your contact details in case we have a query.

First Reading*Job 7:1-4. 6-7*

Is not man's life on earth nothing more than pressed service, his time no better than hired drudgery? Like the slave, sighing for the shade, or the workman with no thought but his wages, months of delusion I have assigned to me, nothing for my own but nights of grief. Lying in bed I wonder, 'When will it be day?' Risen I think, 'How slowly evening comes!' Restlessly I fret till twilight falls. Swifter than a weaver's shuttle my days have passed, and vanished, leaving no hope behind. Remember that my life is but a breath, and that my eyes will never again see joy.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm*Psalm 146:1-6. R/v.3*

Response:

Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.

1. Praise the Lord for he is good;
sing to our God for his is loving;
to him our praise is due.
2. The Lord builds up Jerusalem
and brings back Israel's exiles,
he heals the broken-hearted,
he binds up all their wounds.
He fixes the number of the stars;
he calls each one by its name.
3. Our Lord is great and almighty;
his wisdom can never be measured.
The Lord raises the lowly;
he humbles the wicked to the dust.

Second Reading*1 Corinthians 9:16-19. 22-23*

I do not boast of preaching the gospel, since it is a duty which has been laid on me; I should be punished if I did not preach it! If I had chosen this work myself, I might have been paid for it, but as I have not, it is a responsibility which has been put into my hands. Do you know what my reward is? It is this: in my preaching, to be able to offer the Good News free, and not insist on the rights which the gospel gives me.

So though I am not a slave of any man I have made myself the slave of everyone so as to win as many as I could. For the weak I made myself weak. I made myself all things to all men in order to save some at any cost; and I still do this, for the sake of the gospel, to have a share in its blessing.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation*Matthew 8:17*

Alleluia, alleluia!

He took our sicknesses away,
and carried our diseases for us.

Alleluia!

Gospel Reading*Mark 1:29-39*

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

On leaving the synagogue, Jesus went with James and John straight to the house of Simon and Andrew. Now Simon's mother-in-law had gone to bed with fever, and they told him about her straightaway. He went to her, took her by the hand and helped her up. And the fever left her and she began to wait on them.

That evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were sick and those who were possessed by devils. The whole town came crowding round the door, and he cured many who were suffering from diseases of one kind or another; he also cast out many devils, but he would not allow them to speak, because they knew who he was.

In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there. Simon and his companions set out in search of him, and when they found him they said, 'Everybody is looking for you.' He answered, 'Let us go elsewhere, to the neighbouring country towns, so that I can preach there too, because that is why I came.' And he went all through Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out devils.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.