



THE PARISH OF OUR LADY AND ST PHILIP NERI  
 Immaculate Heart of Mary ▪ Lobley Hill  
 St Mary ▪ Wickham  
 St Philip Neri ▪ Dunston

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The John Ingram Partnership  
 Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle

Jesus said, 'Go back and tell John what you hear and see....the Good News is proclaimed to the poor; and happy is the man who does not lose faith in me.'

*Cf. Matthew 11:4-6*

The Parish Secretary, Julie Hindmarsh, is generally available in the Parish Office Tuesday - Friday, 10am - 2pm  
 St Mary's Presbytery, Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Malvern Gardens, Gateshead,  
 Tyne and Wear NE11 9LL ☎ 0191 460 4274 ✉ [stmarysphilip@aol.co.uk](mailto:stmarysphilip@aol.co.uk)

Sunday 15 December 2019

Third Sunday of Advent

Year A

MASS AND SERVICE TIMES

Saturday 14 December *St John of the Cross*

<b>Vigil Mass</b>	<b>5.30pm</b>	<b>St Philip Neri</b>	Private Intention (CS)
<b>Sunday 15 December</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>St Mary</b>	Edward & Mary O'Rourke (ann.)
<b>Third Sunday of Advent (Year A)</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>Immaculate Heart</b>	People of the Parish

*Weekday Readings: Advent Week 3*

Monday 16 December	<i>N.B.</i>	<i>No Service</i>	
Tuesday 17 December	<u>9.30am</u>	Immaculate Heart	Bereaved Parents & Grandparents
	<u>11.15am</u>	<u>St Philip Neri</u>	Funeral Service - Patricia (Pat) Young RIP
Wednesday 18 December	10.00am	St Philip Neri	Higgins Family (dec.) <i>(St Philip Neri School attending)</i>
Thursday 19 December	9.30am	St Mary	Keigan Family (dec.)
Friday 20 December	<u>9.30am</u>	St Mary	Kenneth Webster (dec.) <i>(St Mary's School attending)</i>

Saturday 21 December			
<b>Vigil Mass</b>	<b>5.30pm</b>	<b>St Philip Neri</b>	Allan John Smith (dec.)
<b>Sunday 22 December</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>St Mary</b>	Edward & Mary Ann Arnold (dec.)
<b>Fourth Sunday of Advent (Year A)</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>Immaculate Heart</b>	People of the Parish

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday at St Philip Neri 5.00pm - 5.20pm

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK:** Matty Bullock, Raymond Deponio, Pat Flynn, Barney Hayes, Maria Thi Kien Chiene Le, John Leitch, Peter McLoughlin, Pauline Mulholland, Astrid Muse (Gower), Joseph Relph, Geoff Taylor.

*If you or any 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 (Catholic Chaplain: Rev. Peter Jones). For the RVI and Freeman Hospitals in Newcastle, tel. 0191 233 6161 (Catholic Chaplain: Fr Mariadass 0191 265 5290).*

**RECENTLY DECEASED** Please remember in your prayers Patricia (Pat) Young (formerly Proctor) and Marjorie Gray who died recently. The Funeral Service for Patricia Young will be on Tuesday 17 December at 11.15am at St Philip Neri Church followed by cremation at Saltwell Crematorium. The Requiem Mass for Marjorie Gray will be celebrated on Friday 27 December at 9.45am at St Mary's Church followed by cremation at Mountsett Crematorium. May they rest in peace. Amen.

**ADVENT ALMS This Weekend 14/15 December there will be a retiring collection at all Masses for Advent Alms.** We have received this message from St Cuthbert's Care *"This Advent, we ask that you consider supporting our Red Van. Over the last two years, our Red Van has delivered thousands of food parcels, good quality clothing and toys to some of the most needy families and individuals in our Diocese. Your Advent Alms will help us to keep this essential service on the road. Thank you."*

CHRISTMAS EVE AND CHRISTMAS DAY MASS TIMES AT OUR THREE CHURCHES (N.B. Carols will be sung before the Christmas Eve & Christmas Day Masses)		
Tuesday 24 December Christmas Eve	5.30pm	Mass at Immaculate Heart of Mary, Lobley Hill
	7.30pm	Mass at St Mary, Whickham
Wednesday 25 December Christmas Day	9.30am	Mass at St Philip Neri, Dunston

**ADVENT WALK WITH ME PRAYER BOOKLETS** which give daily scripture readings and a reflection for each day of Advent are now available at the back of each church priced £1.

**CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL CANDLES** If you would like a candle to be lit during the Christmas season in memory of your deceased loved ones, please write their name(s) on one of the envelopes at the back of our three churches, and include your donation. **Please complete and return your envelopes by Wednesday 18 December** and don't forget to indicate in which church you would like the candle to be lit.

**THE NORTHERN CATHOLIC CALENDAR 2020** is now on sale at the back of church price £3.00.

**A SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION FOR ADVENT** will be held at St Mary's Cathedral, presided over by Bishop Robert on **Saturday, 21 December at 10.30am** (with opportunity for individual confession).

**FLOWER DONATIONS** for flowers for the Christmas arrangement would be greatly appreciated in all three churches to enhance our Christmas arrangements. Please put your donation in an envelope and place on the collection plate.

**PARISH CHRISTMAS CARD** A high quality Christmas card, with a design based on the beautiful stained-glass window in the Church Hall at St Mary's, is now on sale. A pack of 8 cards costs £3.50 with profits from sales going to *Gift for Life* and parish initiatives.

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY DATES AT IMMACULATE HEART DURING ADVENT** Children's Liturgy at Immaculate Heart will be taking place at the 11.00am Mass every Sunday during Advent. The remaining dates are: 15 and 22 December. We look forward to preparing for this exciting time and sharing this special time with the children of our parish. Many thanks for your support - Wendy, Margaret & Lilian.

**ADVENT LITURGIES** A very warm invitation, from both our schools, has been extended to all our parishioners to attend these special events and help us prepare ourselves to receive Our Lord with open minds and hearts on Christmas Day.

#### St Philip Neri Primary School

Date	Time	Event and Venue
Monday 16 December	10am & 2pm	KS2 Carols by candlelight & Tableau Concert in St Philip Neri Church
Wednesday 18 December	10am	Whole School Mass in St Philip Neri Church

#### St Mary's Primary School

Date	Time	Event and Venue
Tuesday 17 December	2.30pm	Carols by Candlelight in St Mary's Church
Friday 20 December	9.30am	Whole School Mass in St Mary's Church followed by refreshments in the School Hall

**THE YEAR OF THE WORD: "The God Who Speaks"** was launched on Sunday 1 December, the First Sunday of Advent. This year is devoted to raising the profile of Scripture amongst Catholics in England and Wales. For information about what has been planned so far please visit the special page on our Diocesan Website: <http://www.rcdhn.org.uk/yow%20god%20who%20speaks/godwhospeakscontacts.php>

**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 then either email to [stmarysphilip@aol.co.uk](mailto:stmarysphilip@aol.co.uk) or post through the presbytery letterbox at Immaculate Heart **by 10am on Thursday 19 December at the latest.**

**First Reading***Isaiah 35:1-6. 10*

Let the wilderness and the dry-lands exult,  
let the wasteland rejoice and bloom,  
let it bring forth flowers like the jonquil,  
let it rejoice and sing for joy.

The glory of Lebanon is bestowed on it,  
the splendour of Carmel and Sharon;  
they shall see the glory of the Lord,  
the splendour of our God.

Strengthen all weary hands,  
steady all trembling knees  
and say to all faint hearts,  
'Courage! Do not be afraid.

'Look your God is coming,  
vengeance is coming,  
the retribution of God;  
he is coming to save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
the ears of the deaf unsealed,  
then the lame shall leap like a deer  
and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy,  
for those the Lord has ransomed shall return.

They will come to Zion shouting for joy,  
everlasting joy on their faces;  
joy and gladness will go with them  
and sorrow and lament be ended.

The word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Responsorial Psalm***Psalm 145:6-10. R/ cf. Isaiah 35:4***Response: Come, Lord, and save us.**

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,  
who is just to those who are oppressed.  
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,  
the Lord, who sets prisoners free.
2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,  
who raises up those who are bowed down,  
the Lord, who protects the stranger  
and upholds the widow and orphan.
3. It is the Lord who loves the just  
but thwarts the path of the wicked.  
The Lord will reign for ever,  
Zion's God, from age to age.

**Second Reading***James 5:7-10*

Be patient, brothers, until the Lord's coming. Think of a farmer: how patiently he waits for the precious fruit of the ground until it has had the autumn rains and the spring rains! You too have to be patient; do not lose heart, because the Lord's coming will be soon.

Do not make complaints against one another, brothers, so as not to be brought to judgement yourselves; the Judge is already to be seen waiting at the gates. For your example, brothers, in submitting with patience, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation***Isaiah 61:1(Luke 4:18)*

Alleluia, alleluia!  
The spirit of the Lord has been given to me.  
He has sent me to bring good news to the poor.  
Alleluia!

**Gospel***Matthew 11:2-11*

The Lord be with you.

**And with your spirit.**

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

**Glorify to you, O Lord.**

John in his prison had heard what Christ was doing and he sent his disciples to ask him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or have we got to wait for someone else?' Jesus answered, 'Go back and tell John what you hear and see; the blind see again, and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor; and happy is the man who does not lose faith in me.' As the messengers were leaving, Jesus began to talk to the people about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swaying in the breeze? No? Then what did you go out to see? A man wearing fine clothes? Oh no, those who wear fine clothes are to be found in palaces. Then what did you go out for? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and much more than a prophet: he is the one of whom scripture says: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way before you. I tell you solemnly, of all the children born of women, a greater than John the Baptist has never been seen; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he is.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

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## Partnership Prayer



Risen Christ,  
from your abundant grace,  
pour out afresh your Holy Spirit upon our Diocese.  
As we build on the deep foundations of faith  
laid by the countless saints of these Northern lands,  
by Aidan and Cuthbert, Hilda and Bede,  
may our Partnerships continue the mission  
of building your Kingdom on the earth:  
to give living witness to your love,  
and to your compassion and hope for our world.  
We pray in trustful confidence  
that your power working in us  
can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.  
Who live and reign for ever and ever.  
Amen.