



THE PARISH OF OUR LADY AND ST PHILIP NERI

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

Jesus said: 'Now, Father, it is time for you to glorify me with that glory I had with you before ever the world was.' *John 17:5*

Seventh Sunday of Easter (Year A) 24 May 2020

The Parish Secretary, Julie Hindmarsh, can be contacted by email stmarysphilip@aol.co.uk or by telephone 07891 162205 and is available this week **Wednesday - Friday, 10am - 2pm**

CORONAVIRUS - IMPORTANT NOTICE

- Until further notice, all churches are to remain closed and public liturgies, including Mass, are not to be celebrated in our churches. Because of this exceptional situation, the obligation for the faithful to attend Mass on a Sunday or Holyday of Obligation and to fulfil Easter Duties at this time is removed.
- Fr Peter will celebrate Mass without a congregation on Sundays for the People of the Parish and also on weekdays without a congregation as announced in the weekly parish newsletter (see below). Whilst parishioners cannot be physically present for these Masses, they can join in the celebration of Mass by making a Spiritual Communion while the Mass is being celebrated. N.B. Sunday Morning Mass at 9.00am is available each Sunday and can be viewed on our YouTube Channel <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3webHIXzcgamFoHdfuCFLO>
- Please note all parish meetings /gatherings are suspended until further notice.
- During this time of trial, our homes will now become the centre for daily prayer for many people. Home becomes a 'house church' and daily reflection on the readings for Mass and the Rosary would be two good sources of direction for prayer and reflection. Please see the diocesan website www.rcdhn.org.uk for further information and resources.
- Live broadcasts of Mass from various locations and at various times can be found at the following website: www.churchservices.tv
- As part of the pastoral care of parishioners and others during this COVID-19 lockdown, a number of qualified counsellors and listeners have generously made themselves available to anyone who may be troubled by the negative effects of the situation. These counsellors and listeners can be contacted through the St Mary's Cathedral Listening Service on 0191 232 6953 and the Northumberland Listening Service on 07732 980740.

Fr Peter will celebrate Mass without a congregation on Sunday and also on the following weekdays:

Seventh Sunday of Easter 24 May	People of the Parish
Monday 25 May <i>St Bede</i>	Ella and Jim Leighton (ann.)
Tuesday 26 May <i>St Philip Neri</i>	Priest's Intention
Wednesday 27 May <i>St Augustine</i>	Priest's Intention
Thursday 28 May	Private Intention
Friday 29 May	Maurice & Eileen Flynn (dec.)
Saturday 30 May	Teresa Rossi (dec.)
Pentecost Sunday 31 May	People of the Parish

Our Blessed Lady Immaculate, St Cuthbert, St Philip Neri, Blessed John Ingram - pray for us

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK: Matty Bullock, Raymond Deponio, Barney Hayes, Maria Thi Kien Chiene Le, John Leitch, Liz McKenna, 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 273 3903).**

RECENTLY DECEASED Please remember in your prayers Fr Greg Bugayak who has died recently. Many of you will remember Fr Greg who was a regular annual visitor over many years to St Mary's Whickham when he was warmly welcomed by Fr Hickey and the parish family. He always brought a very special warmth, insight and humour to us all. Sadly, Fr Greg died suddenly, at the age of 53, in Warsaw on Sunday 17 May 2020. Eternal rest grant to him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. Amen.

LAST CHANCE TO REGISTER FOR ON-LINE ZOOM QUIZ SUPPORTING GIFT FOR LIFE – SUNDAY 24 MAY AT 7.30 PM

Join fellow parishioners and their families and friends for a fun-filled night of quizzing this Sunday. If you think you know your Vesuvius from your Venezuela, your Shakespeare from your JK Rowling, and your Canonisation from your Consubstantiation - here's your opportunity to prove it! At a time when our friends in Kenya and India are desperately in need of extra support, a small voluntary donation to participate in the quiz will go into our *Gift for Life* fund and help them out too. The quiz will take place via Zoom and you need to sign up in advance. Contact us on giftforlife20@gmail.com for more details and/or to register. If you're not familiar with Zoom and need help getting set up we can do that as well. Please get involved – and spread the word. Thank you.

PARISH FINANCIAL UPDATE The annual returns for the year ended March 2020 are now completed and it is pleasing to report that total funds have increased from £264,325 to £286,096. Of this figure £280,344 belongs to the Parish with £4,933 being held for Gift for Life and £819 for special collections that are to be paid in April/May. The £26,828 increase in parish money compares to a £19,805 increase last year. This £7,023 improvement is mainly attributable to a reduction in repairs expenditure and an increase in rental income from St Mary's Presbytery, Whickham. However, it must be noted that these benefits were eroded somewhat by a 10% fall in offertory collections over the year from £71,485 to £64,273. Part of this decline is due to the required closure of churches in the final 2 weeks of March which would account for about £1,680 of the shortfall. Also, this weekend is the ninth week of the required closure of churches and means we are now missing loose plate and envelope collections of approximately £7,560! Whilst we are more fortunate than many other parishes which are not as financially blessed as ours, this is still a considerable concern against a backdrop of falling collections. Admittedly, the impact is not as severe as it would have been a few years ago when most offertory monies were collected in the form of cash.

Given the present situation, perhaps now might be the ideal time for more parishioners to consider making their regular financial contributions by standing order. If you would like to transfer to this method of giving, or to make a one-off contribution, please make arrangements with your bank. The Parish account details that you will need are: DHN Gateshead: Our Lady and St Philip Neri Sort code: 40-34-45 Account number: 21167936 Reference: insert your own name; commencing: e.g. 6th of each month; frequency: each month, quarterly or annually. Once again, thank you for your continuing generosity in supporting the mission and maintenance of our parish.

FOOD APPEAL UPDATE Wow! Another huge thank you for your generosity of all donated food items - we are blessed to have such thoughtful and giving parishioners.

The donations were all sorted and distributed (twelve bags!) on Thursday 21 May to families in our parish and a large donation of mixed items was taken to the central collection point - Corpus Christi - for wider distribution across the Partnership.

As you know the parish is planning upon continuing a weekly distribution, however, this can only be achieved with your ongoing generosity.

We are sure that many more people, parishioners, neighbours, low salaried, the elderly, may require support and would benefit from some extra help. If you are aware of any such households please contact the appeal, via the parish telephone or mobile number below, then any necessary support can be given. Parishioners don't need to identify who requires the support, privacy and dignity can be maintained by you acting as a 'go between'. Request a food donation on their behalf - all that is required is the number in the household - then the bag will be delivered to your address for you to deliver to the family.

Drop off points -

Dunston area - John Pinchen, 316 Dunston Road, Dunston (leave in the porch).

Lobley Hill area - Maveen Pereira, 41, Beechwood Gardens, Lobley Hill, (leave in the porch).

Whickham area - Katie Wilkinson, 1 Mayfield, Whickham (mobile 07837 386 760) you can leave donations in the back garden.

Knock and simply leave your donations by the door.

We have gaps in the following areas, so please concentrate on these items - tinned rice, fruit, meat, carrots, peas, potatoes, UHT milk, biscuits, sunflower oil, mayonnaise, crisps & salt, shampoo.

MESSAGE OF THANKS FROM THE FAMILY OF PETER McLOUGHLIN RIP *'Following the loss of our beloved Peter (McLoughlin) Monica and family wish to express their thanks and appreciation for the many cards and prayers. Many thanks also to the parishioners who sang such a touching farewell at St Philip's before a lovely graveside service by Father Peter. May we also make a special mention to John and Denise Hebron whose help with Peter's funeral arrangements was very much appreciated. God bless you all.'*

ANOTHER MESSAGE OF THANKS We have received this note of thanks from Val Douglass, the Headteacher of St Philip Neri Primary School, thanking the Parish for the food donations: *'Fr Peter, On behalf of St Philip Neri School community I would like to personally thank you and your 'band of parishioners' who organized the collecting, sorting and distributing of food to some of our vulnerable families. These families have been genuinely struggling and they really do appreciate the generosity of those who contributed the food along with the hard work of those who coordinated the distribution. Thank you so much and bless you all.'*

SUPPORT FOR PARISHIONERS DURING THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC A number of parishioners are offering support to other parishioners who are vulnerable or self-isolating. If you or a friend or relative would welcome a phone call, a bit of shopping, want the newsletter dropping through your letterbox etc. please phone 07570 045976. Your request will be passed to a trusted parishioner who will contact you to discuss your request. **It would be helpful if those parishioners who have contact with others who are not able to access the newsletter online could alert them to this item.** Thank you.

BANK HOLIDAY BUMPER FUN ACTIVITIES We hope you're enjoying our weekly activities. For this Bank Holiday weekend, we have a word search, number quiz, a challenging observation sheet that all ages can attempt and a children's activity page. Good luck. Please let us know if there's anything in particular you'd like to see. All activities can be found on the parish website (just under the link for that weeks newsletter). If you have anything to share with everyone we will do our best to include them. Please send them to the parish email address stmarysphilip@aol.co.uk

CELEBRATIONS As an additional way of communicating during these challenging times, if you or a member of your immediate family have an upcoming celebration that you would like to be mentioned in the newsletter please email this to the Parish email address stmarysphilip@aol.co.uk Please note that due to GDPR restrictions we can only print your own name or a person/child for whom you are parent/guardian. Anybody else will need to provide permission in the form of an email or telephone call.

ROSARY RALLY – PENTECOST SUNDAY 31 MAY 2020 In his letter for this month of May, Pope Francis writes: 'It is traditional in this month to pray the Rosary at home within the family. The restrictions of the pandemic have made us come to appreciate all the more this "family" aspect, also from a spiritual point of view. For this reason, I want to encourage everyone to rediscover the beauty of praying the Rosary at home in the month of May. This can be done either as a group or individually; you can decide according to your own situations, making the most of both opportunities. The key to doing this is always simplicity, and it is easy also on the internet to find good models of prayers to follow.' In response to Pope Francis' request, there has been an 8.00pm May Rosary Mission co-hosted by the London Rosary Shrine, the Basilica of Our Lady of Walsingham, Carfin Grotto in Scotland and Rosary on the Coast. As a culmination to this Rosary Mission, Mgr John Armitage, the Rector at the national Shrine of Our Lady at Walsingham, has invited each Diocese to take part in a Rosary Relay on 31 May. Each Diocese has been asked to encourage their people to pray the Rosary either individually, or where possible in groups, during a designated hour. **The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle been asked to pray the Rosary at 4.00pm on Pentecost Sunday. We are all asked to pray the Rosary at this time. There will be live streaming from the Cathedral [here](#).**

Prayers during the COVID-19 Pandemic

Prayer for Health Staff

Wondrous God, author of life, you fashioned us in your likeness and breathed into us the life which is your own.
Be with those whose special care is the health of mind and body.
Fill their hearts with awe for the life which is your gift and sustain them daily in your service, that their hands may bring to others the comfort of your healing touch.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer for those Affected

Merciful God,
come to the help of your people.
Be our shelter in this time of peril and strengthen the bonds of our community.
Bring healing to all who suffer the ravages of disease and assist those whose skill and art can put an end to this affliction.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Weekly Prayer

Our life is a wide roadway many slip roads to explore
We can stay close to the edge or we can wander far into the distant hill.
You do not restrict us as we search for the right path at each step of our journey
You are the light,
which in the darkest moments leads us on
Like the gentle moonlight to the weary traveller.
Our courage sometimes fails us and we stumble on the rocks and stones which fall along our path
Yet, if we look to you,
and listen for your voice you are there;
In the people we meet the places we see.
Our journey is never complete
we are constantly moving to,
Explore the wonders of ourselves,
others, and the world around us.
Help us to have the courage, even when the path is steep to be guided by the spirit within to find a space
Which will bring healing and rest.
Show us how to seek and when we find,
to rejoice in the light
And share our joy with those around us.
(Jen)

First Reading*Acts of the Apostles 1:12-14*

After Jesus was taken up into heaven, the apostles went back from the Mount of Olives, as it is called, to Jerusalem, a short distance away, no more than a Sabbath walk; and when they reached the city they went to the upper room where they were staying; there were Peter and John, James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot, and Jude son of James. All these joined in continuous prayer, together with several women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm*Psalm 26:1. 4. 7-8. R/v.13*

***R/ I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness
In the land of the living.***

1. The Lord is my light and my help;
whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life;
before whom shall I shrink?
2. There is one thing I ask of the Lord,
for this I long,
to live in the house of the Lord,
all the days of my life,
to savour the sweetness of the Lord,
to behold his temple.
3. O Lord, hear my voice when I call;
have mercy and answer.
Of you my heart has spoken;
'Seek his face.'

Second Reading*1 Peter 4:13-16*

If you can have some share in the sufferings of Christ, be glad, because you will enjoy a much greater gladness when his glory is revealed. It is a blessing for you when they insult you for bearing the name of Christ, because it means that you have the Spirit of glory, the Spirit of God resting on you. None of you should ever deserve to suffer for being a murderer, a thief, a criminal or an informer; but if anyone of you should suffer for being a Christian, then he is not to be ashamed of it; he should thank God that he has been called one.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation*Cf. John 14:18*

Alleluia, alleluia!

I will not leave you orphans, says the Lord;
I will come back to you, and your hearts will be full of joy.
Alleluia!

Gospel*John 17:1-11*

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said:
'Father, the hour has come:
glorify your Son so that your Son may glorify you;
and, through the power over all mankind that you have given him,
let him give eternal life to all those you have entrusted to him.
And eternal life is this:
to know you, the only true God,
and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.
I have glorified you on earth and finished the work
that you gave me to do.
Now, Father, it is time for you to glorify me
with that glory I had with you
before ever the world was.
I have made your name known
to the men you took from the world to give me.
They were yours and you gave them to me,
and they have kept your word.
Now at least they know
that all you have given me comes indeed from you;
for I have given them
the teaching you gave to me,
and they have truly accepted this, that I came from you, and
have believed that it was you who sent me.
I pray for them;
I am not praying for the world
but for those you have given me,
because they belong to you:
all I have is yours and all you have is mine,
and in them I am glorified.
I am not in the world any longer, but they are in the world,
and I am coming to you.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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Spiritual Communion *There are times when people are unable to receive the Body and Blood of Christ, such as during this present time of the Covid-19 pandemic. Even though some may not receive 'sacramental' Communion, all are united in some way by the Holy Spirit. The traditional idea of 'spiritual' Communion is an important one to remember and reaffirm. A deep spiritual communion is possible even when we do not share together the Sacrament of the Body and Blood of Christ. Please say this prayer of Spiritual Communion (based on a prayer of St Alphonsus Liguori):*

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love you above all things and I passionately desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my soul so that I may unite myself wholly to you now and forever. Amen.