

OUR LADY & ST PHILIP NERI PARISH NEWSLETTER

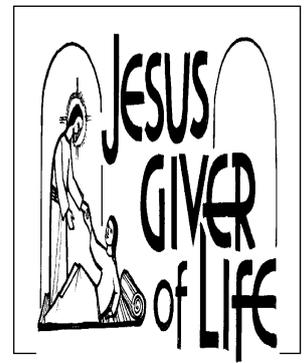
Parish Priest: Fr Peter Leighton 0191 460 4274

Retired Priest: Fr Michael McKenna 0191 488 2274

Parish Email address: stmarysphilip@aol.co.uk

Parish Website address: www.theparish.org.uk

Diocesan Website address: www.rcdhn.org.uk



The parish secretary, Barbara Cooper, is generally available in the parish office Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons and all day Thursday.

Sunday 18th December 2016

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Year A

MASS AND SERVICE TIMES

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Vigil Saturday 17 December	5.30 pm	St Philip	Betty Thompson (Dec)
Sunday 18 December	9.30 am	St Mary	Bernie Suttie (Dec)
	11.00 am	Immaculate Heart	People of the Parish
Monday 19 December	9.15 am	Immaculate Heart	Celebration of the Word and Holy Communion
Tuesday 20 December	7.00 pm	St Joseph, Blaydon	Deanery Mass including opportunity for individual confession
Wednesday 21 December	10.00 am	St Philip	Katrina Barter (nee Pinchen)
	6.30 pm	Immaculate Heart	Nine Lessons and Carols, mince pies + mulled wine
Thursday 22 December	9.30 am	St Mary	Priest's Intention
Friday 23 December	10.00 am	St Mary	Eddy and Mary Arnold (Birthday)
<i>Christmas Eve *</i>			
Saturday 24 December	5.30 pm	Immaculate Heart	Elisabeth Rose Thompson (1 st Anniversary)
	7.30pm	St Philip	People of the Parish
<i>Christmas Day *</i>			
Sunday 25 December	9.30 am	St Mary	In Thanksgiving

* Carols in all 3 churches 30 minutes before Mass begins

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION There will be the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation during Mass at St Joseph's Blaydon, on Tuesday, 20th December and during a Reconciliation Service on Wednesday, 21 December, 7.00pm at St. Agnes' Church.

SICK AND IN NEED OF PRAYER Please pray for William Weaver, Marjorie Gray, James Roach, David Roach, Luke Roach, Emily Keane, Christine Taylor, Terry Gardner, Alan Crame, Pauline Mulholland, Margaret Lyddieth, Sheila Rickerby, Susan Wall, Paul Leonard, Kathleen Bruce, Peter McLoughlin, Josie O'Keefe, Isaac Dawson (child), Margaret Woodhall, Ray Deponio, Astrid Muse (Gower), Ann Camozzi, Mary Melia, Lesley Gough, Susan Walker, Kai Thompson (baby), Diana Bambrough, Monica Meaney, John McDonald, Gillian Black, Mary Trevena, John Drummond, Gerard Mulholland. *Our Lady of the sick, pray for them.*

Please note that if you or any member of your family are going into hospital and would like to see the Catholic chaplain then please ask a member of the ward staff to let the chaplain know.

ADVENT ALMS COLLECTION This annual collection remains open over the Christmas period to support St Cuthbert's Care nursing homes.

CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL CANDLES If you would like a candle to be lit during the Christmas season, in memory of a loved one, please write their name and preferred Church on an envelope enclosing a donation of £5 or £10. Offerings must be handed in at Church today (Sunday 18 December).

CHRISTMAS AT ST MARY'S RC PRIMARY In school, we will be preparing ourselves for Jesus' glorious arrival at Christmas with the following events; all are most welcome to come along and share in the preparations with our pupils, staff and wider school family:

- Carols by Candlelight Service; 3:30pm on Tuesday 20th December 2016 (St Mary's RC Church).
- Whole School Mass; 9:30am on Thursday 22nd December 2016 (St Mary's RC Church) – followed by refreshments, entertainment and the drawing of the Christmas raffle in the school Hall.

We hope to see as many of you as possible to share in these celebrations and wish you all a very joyous, invigorating and indeed merry Christmas.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS Christmas is one of the greatest feasts in the Church's year. To help decorate our churches we would like to ask you to contribute towards the cost of the flowers. If you wish, please place a donation in an envelope marked with your church name in the offertory collection. Many thanks in advance.

CHURCH CLEANING If you can help in any way to clean and spruce up our churches ready for Christmas, please contact the parish office. St Mary's church will be cleaned today after 9.30am Mass. St Philip's will be cleaned on Thursday morning 22 Dec at 9.30am. We are grateful for all the help from parishioners at Immaculate Heart who have already prepared the church for the Christmas services.

SENIOR CITIZEN CHRISTMAS PARTY Kath and Elizabeth would like to thank Fr Paul Douthwaite for helping with our Mass on Saturday and all the helpers for their continued hard work in ensuring an enjoyable time for our senior citizens.

BULLETIN FOR CHRISTMAS PERIOD Please note that next week's bulletin will be a double edition covering the weekends of 25 December and 1 January. Any news items will need to be in the parish office by 10am on Thursday 22 December.

ITEMS FOR THE BULLETIN If you would like a notice put in the bulletin, please type or write the item with as much detail as possible eg dates, times, contact person, describe the event or notice and have them in by **10am on Thursday** at the latest. Either email to stmarysphilip@aol.co.uk or post through the letterbox at Immaculate Heart. Please can you add your contact details so that if there are any queries we can get in touch with you?



Advent Calendar

He will come like last leaf's fall.

One night when the November wind
has flayed the trees to bone, and earth
wakes choking on the mould,
the soft shroud's folding.

He will come like frost.

One morning when the shrinking earth
opens on mist, to find itself
arrested in the net
of alien, sword-set beauty.

He will come like dark.

One evening when the bursting red
December sun draws up the sheet
and penny-masks its eye to yield
the star-snowed fields of sky.

He will come, will come,

will come like crying in the night,

like blood, like breaking,

as the earth writhes to toss him free.

He will come like child.

Rowan Williams

