



Then looking up to heaven he sighed; and he said to him, 'Ephphatha', that is, 'Be opened'. And his ears were opened, and the ligament of his tongue was loosened and he spoke clearly. *Mark 7:34-35*

**THE PARISH OF OUR LADY AND ST PHILIP NERI**

**Immaculate Heart of Mary ▪ Lobley Hill**

**St Mary ▪ Whickham**

**St Philip Neri ▪ Dunston**

*Parish Priest* Canon Peter Leighton

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The John Ingram Partnership  
Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle

**5 September 2021**

**Twenty Third Sunday of the Year**

**Year B**

*The Parish Secretary, Julie Hindmarsh, will be in the Parish Office at Immaculate Heart Presbytery this week on Tuesday & Friday between 10am - 2pm. She can also be contacted Tuesday - Friday, 10am - 2pm by email [stmarysphilip@aol.co.uk](mailto:stmarysphilip@aol.co.uk) or by telephone 0191 460 4274/07891 162205.*

- **PUBLIC CELEBRATION OF MASS IN OUR THREE CHURCHES** If you intend to come to church on Saturday evening or Sunday morning, please follow the 'booking-in' system detailed on the next page. If you are coming to a weekday Mass (N.B. this week **Wednesday & Thursday**), you do not have to 'book in' but you will need to sign in when you arrive.
- Remember that in the present circumstances, you are under no obligation to attend Mass on Sundays.
- Live broadcasts of Mass from various locations and at various times can be found via the Diocesan website [www.rcdhn.org.uk](http://www.rcdhn.org.uk) and on the following website: [www.churchservices.tv](http://www.churchservices.tv)
- As part of the pastoral care of parishioners and others during the 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 pandemic. 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.

*Where Mass times are listed below, Mass will be celebrated in the church indicated.*

*\*\*\*N.B. Public Weekday Masses this week are on **Wednesday & Thursday**.\*\*\**

*Where no time or church is listed, the Mass is not a public celebration.*

*If you wish to attend The Saturday Vigil or Sunday Masses, please 'book-in' (see next page).*

Saturday 4 September

**Vigil Mass**

**5.30pm**

**St Philip Neri**

People of the Parish

**Sunday 5 September**

**9.00am**

**St Mary**

Jean White (dec.)

**Twenty Third Sunday of the Year (B)**

**10.30am**

**Immaculate Heart**

Geoff Taylor (dec.)

Monday 6 September

Tuesday 7 September

Priest's Intention

Wednesday 8 September

9.30am

Immaculate Heart

Fr Michael Sharratt (dec.)

*Birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

Thursday 9 September

9.30am

St Mary

In Thanksgiving (80<sup>th</sup> Birthday)

Friday 10 September

Priest's Intention

Saturday 11 September

**Vigil Mass**

**5.30pm**

**St Philip Neri**

Janice Errington (dec.)

**Sunday 12 September**

**9.00am**

**St Mary**

People of the Parish

**Twenty Fourth Sunday of the Year (B)**

**10.30am**

**Immaculate Heart**

Matthew Bullock (dec.)

*Readings at Mass this week: Ordinary Time Week 23, Year 1*

*This Sunday, in the Sacrament of Baptism, we welcome into the Family of the Church Darcy Neve Wallace*

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK:** Kath Airey, Raymond Deponio, Julia Gill, Barney Hayes, Clare Jolly-Lingard, Maria Thi Kien Chiene Le, John Leitch, Pauline Mulholland, Astrid Muse (Gower), Joseph Relph, Mary Sibbald, Barbara Stephenson, George & Simon Turnbull.

*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).*

## CELEBRATION OF MASSES IN OUR THREE CHURCHES

*The times of Saturday Vigil/Sunday Masses in our three churches are now:*

**Saturday 5.30pm at St Philip Neri Church**

**Sunday 9.00am at St Mary's Church**

**Sunday 10.30am at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church**

**Until further notice, please 'book in' if you intend to attend the Saturday Vigil or Sunday morning Masses following the procedure outlined below.**

*Please note, if you are planning to attend a weekday Mass, you do not have to 'book in' but you will need to sign in when you arrive.*

*Fr Peter would like to express his sincere gratitude to our volunteer stewards and our employed cleaners for their ongoing commitment in enabling our churches to be open and providing a safe environment for us to be able to worship together as a parish community.*

*If you would like to join our group of dedicated volunteer stewards, please contact Katie Wilkinson tel. 07837 386760 or email [teachkate1@gmail.com](mailto:teachkate1@gmail.com)*

## BOOKING IN FOR THE SATURDAY VIGIL & SUNDAY MORNING MASSES

**In order to ensure that all those coming to any of our three churches for the Saturday Vigil or Sunday morning Masses can have a seat and be safely accommodated, there is a dedicated telephone 'booking in' system - the telephone number is 07388 814715 and you can contact this number Monday - Wednesday, 11am - 6pm. Please note this number does not accept text messaging and there is no facility to leave a message.**

*For those who have booked-in and are attending Mass, the church will open half an hour before the published Mass time.*

***The wearing of a face covering is expected unless a person has an exemption from this and at all times whilst in church, you should observe social distancing (i.e. 2 metres) from anyone not in your household or support bubble.***

*A one-way system is in place in church, plus hand sanitisers at the entrance and exit. Once in church, please be guided by the volunteer stewards.*

*There is also a poster on display with the church's QR code which can be scanned using the NHS COVID-19 app if you have downloaded it onto your mobile phone. Contact details will also still be requested, manually noted and safely stored for 21 days.*

*Please note there is no longer a recorded Mass available on our Parish YouTube channel. However, Masses broadcast from other locations can be viewed via the diocesan website [www.rcdhn.org.uk](http://www.rcdhn.org.uk) or [www.churchservices.tv](http://www.churchservices.tv)*

**CATHOLIC EDUCATION** Next Sunday 12 September is a Day of Special Prayer for those involved in Education. A collection will be taken at all Masses to support the work of the Catholic Education Service of England and Wales (if you have Planned Giving Envelopes, please use the purple envelope dated 12 September). Thank you.

**THE SEASON OF CREATION** is the annual Christian celebration of prayer and action for our common home. Together, the ecumenical family around the world unites to protect and advocate for God's creation.

The season starts on 1 September, the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, and ends on 4 October, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of ecology beloved by many Christian denominations.

Pope Francis has consistently shown prophetic leadership around the season. For three consecutive years, he has introduced the month-long celebration by inviting Catholics to join the global Christian family in praying and taking action for God's creation. For further information, please visit the Bishops' Conference website [www.cbcew.org.uk/season-of-creation/](http://www.cbcew.org.uk/season-of-creation/)



**GIFT FOR LIFE CALENDAR 2022 – SEND IN YOUR PHOTOS!** The time has finally arrived to submit your photos for the 2022 Gift for Life Calendar. Hopefully you have been taking pictures on the theme of 'The Changing Seasons' in readiness but, if not, you still have

time as entries can be submitted throughout September. Full details of the competition are set out on the parish website [here](#).

All profits from the calendar go to our Gift for Life causes and it can't go ahead without your entries. It would be great to have more of our young people involved this time too. Please spread the word! Send entries to [giftforlife20@gmail.com](mailto:giftforlife20@gmail.com)

The Gift for Life group continues to meet regularly by Zoom with our next meeting on 23 September at 7pm. If you would like to attend or find out more, please contact us via [giftforlife20@gmail.com](mailto:giftforlife20@gmail.com)

**UPDATE - DONATIONS FOR THE FOOD BANK & REFUGEE PROJECT** Please note if you're not able to or would rather not shop for the Food Bank we're happy to accept a cash donation to shop on your behalf.

### **Items we REALLY NEED please:**

**washing powder, toothpaste, deodorant, sanitary pads, shampoo, washing up liquid, tinned tomatoes, tomato ketchup, mayonnaise, tuna, tinned meat (mince, chilli, corned beef, etc.) & sweets for the kids.**

### **Items we currently have enough of - thank you:**

#### **Teabags, cereal & pasta**

Every Thursday volunteers are in church between 9.30am - 10.30am so parishioners can drop donations off here if they wish and please do come in to say 'Hello' and see what we're up to.

**Drop off points for donations of food or cash remain the same (and of course do feel free to bring items with you if you are coming to church for Mass):**

**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 386760) - leave donations in the back garden.

## RESIGNATION FROM THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL (PPC)

Christine Crawley, one of four Immaculate Heart Church's representatives on the PPC, has decided that the time has arrived to step back and resign from her current voluntary role on the Council.

Fr Peter would like to thank Christine for her valuable and greatly appreciated contributions in her role as representative of the parishioners at Immaculate Heart Church.

**Christine's resignation means there is now a vacancy for a representative from Immaculate Heart Church on the PPC** and an opportunity for an eager parishioner, who attends Immaculate Heart Church, to volunteer for this role which includes a commitment to attend meetings (usually bi-monthly), playing an active part in supporting Fr Peter and the whole parish in fulfilling the mission and maintenance of our parish community.

The remaining representatives from Immaculate Heart, who have already made this commitment, are Maveen Pereira, Wendy O'Reilly and Allan Bell - if you require clarification of what is actually involved, they will be able to offer some personal experience of what is required. Or please contact Katie Wilkinson (Chair) via email [teachkate1@gmail.com](mailto:teachkate1@gmail.com) or mobile 07837 386 760.

Please stop and seriously consider volunteering for this role - the position isn't onerous but very interesting as you begin to realise all that is required in operating a busy parish such as ours!

**DAY OF REFLECTION FOR READERS** The Diocesan Vicariate for Faith and Mission is organising a Day of Reflection for Readers entitled 'Breaking the Word' on Saturday 9 October 2021, 10.30am - 3.30pm at Ushaw College, Durham. Registration and refreshments will be available from 10.00am on the day and a light lunch and tea and coffee will be provided. The cost of the day is £15 which will be paid by the parish. If any of our Readers would like to attend, please contact the parish office, preferably by email ([stmarysphilip@aol.co.uk](mailto:stmarysphilip@aol.co.uk)), by Thursday 23 September.

**DAY OF REFLECTION FOR EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS** The Diocesan Vicariate for Faith and Mission is organising a Day of Reflection for Eucharistic Ministers entitled 'Called to the Supper of the Lamb' on Saturday 16 October or Saturday 30 October 2021, 10.30am - 3.30pm at Ushaw College, Durham. Registration and refreshments will be available from 10.00am on the day and a light lunch and tea and coffee will be provided. The cost of the day is £15 which will be paid by the parish. If any of our Eucharistic Ministers would like to attend, please contact the parish office, preferably by email ([stmarysphilip@aol.co.uk](mailto:stmarysphilip@aol.co.uk)), by Thursday 30 September (for the day on 16 October), and by Thursday 14 October (for the day on 30 October).

## FIRST STEPS - EXPLORING THE CATHOLIC FAITH ON-LINE

Are you wondering about your relationship with God and not sure where to start? Join us on a journey this Autumn and see if the Catholic Church can help your relationship grow. This may be the right path for you. It may even help you take the next steps towards coming into the Church. We gather weekly via Zoom and invite you to come along to find out more. Starts Wednesday 22 September at 7pm.

If you are interested to find out more, you can enquire/register using the [Online Enquiry Form](#) or email [adminfaith.mission@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:adminfaith.mission@diocesehn.org.uk)

**DIOCESAN VACANCIES** The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle has the following vacancies:

**Our Lady of Mercy Parish, Sunderland, Cleaner, 16 hours per week**

Closing date for applications 8 September

**Newcastle (based at St Teresa's, Heaton), Parish Secretary, 12 hours per week**

Closing date for applications 8 September

**Sunderland, Lay University Chaplain, full-time**

Closing date for applications 12 September

For further information and details of how to apply, please visit our website [www.rcdhn.org.uk](http://www.rcdhn.org.uk) or contact us on 0191 243 3301.

### Jen's Weekly Prayer

The evening landscape shimmers with light  
formed from opal coloured clouds  
basking in a pearlised blue sky.  
The evening sky demonstrates its majestic beauty  
in a seemingly endless glowing light.  
These wondrous scenes are available for us to witness  
and to cherish as examples of a much greater force  
the wonders of our natural world.  
The natural world brings comfort, balm, peace  
and serenity in times of pain and distress.  
Summer brings a carpet of delights as colours  
and scents pervade our sense with their delights.  
The kaleidoscope of golden red orange  
and brown of autumn leaves.  
The joy as green shoots emerge from snow filled gardens  
heralding new life.  
May we strive as we witness these fleeting  
yet intense moments to value them sufficiently  
and allow them to continue and flourish.  
These are treasures and many more incredible natural  
wonders, trees, plants, creatures of the oceans  
and rivers, animals, insects we are in danger of losing  
by our unthinking actions.  
Grant us the humility to begin again to save and nurture  
for generations to come these extraordinary  
blessed jewels which have been gifted to us.  
Our natural world begs our kindness  
may we accept its challenge,  
give thanks for the endless glory and beauty they provide  
by our loving sharing actions.

*Jen © August 2021*

**First Reading***Isaiah 35:4-7*

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 water gushes in the desert, streams in the wasteland, the  
scorched earth becomes a lake, the parched land springs of  
water.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God**

**Responsorial Psalm***Psalms 145:7-10. R/ v.1*

**R/ My soul, give praise to the Lord.**

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 loves the just,  
the Lord, who protects the stranger.
3. The Lord upholds the widow and orphan,  
but thwarts the path of the wicked.  
The Lord will reign for ever,  
Zion's God, from age to age.

**Second Reading***James 2:1-5*

My brothers, do not try to combine faith in Jesus Christ, our  
glorified Lord, with the making of distinctions between classes  
of people. Now suppose a man comes you're your synagogue,  
beautifully dressed and with a gold ring on, and at the same  
time a poor man comes in, in shabby clothes, and you take  
notice of the well-dressed man, and say, 'Come this way to  
the best seats;' then you tell the poor man, 'Stand over there'  
or 'You can sit on the floor by my foot-rest.' Can't you see  
that you have used two different standards in your mind, and  
turned yourselves into judges, and corrupt judges at that?

Listen, my dear brothers: it was those who are poor according  
to the world that God chose, to be rich in faith and to be the  
heirs to the kingdom which he promised to those who love  
him.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation***cf. Matthew 4:23*

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus proclaimed the Good News of the kingdom, and  
cured all kinds of sickness among the people.  
Alleluia!

**Gospel***Mark 7:31-37*

The Lord be with you.

**And with your spirit.**

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Returning from the district of Tyre, Jesus went by way of Sidon  
towards the Sea of Galilee, right through the Decapolis region.  
And they brought him a deaf man who had an impediment in  
his speech; and they asked him to lay his hand on him. E took  
him aside in private, away from the crowd, put his fingers into  
the man's ears and touched his tongue with spittle. Then  
looking up to heaven he sighed and he said to him,  
'Ephphatha,' that is, 'Be opened.' And his ears were opened,  
and the ligament of his tongue was loosened and he spoke  
clearly. And Jesus ordered them to tell no one about it, but he  
more in insisted, the more widely they published it. Their  
admiration was unbounded. 'He has done all things well,' they  
said 'he makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Scripture Readings from *The Jerusalem Bible* © 1966 by Darton, Longman & Todd Ltd and  
Doubleday and Company Ltd.

Responsorial Psalm from *The Psalms: A New Translation* © 1963 The Grail (England)  
published by HarperCollins.

**Act of Spiritual Communion**

**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.**