



Jesus said 'And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.'
Cf. Luke 21:27

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

Parish Telephone 0191 460 4274

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Parish Website www.theparish.org.uk

Diocesan Website www.diocesehn.org.uk



The John Ingram Partnership
Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle

28 November 2021

First Sunday of Advent

Year C

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

- Live broadcasts of Mass from various locations and at various times can be found via the Diocesan website www.diocesehn.org.uk and on the following website: 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.

Please note public weekday Masses this week are on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday as indicated below.

Saturday 27 November

Vigil Mass 5.30pm St Philip Neri People of the Parish

Sunday 28 November 9.00am St Mary Priest's Intention

First Sunday of Advent (Year C) 10.30am Immaculate Heart Geoff Taylor (dec.)

Monday 29 November

Tuesday 30 November *St Andrew* 10.30am St Philip Neri Memorial Mass for Austin Mallett (dec.)

Wednesday 1 December 9.30am Immaculate Heart Deceased of the Rossi Family

Thursday 2 December 9.30am St Mary Priest's Intention

Friday 3 December *St Francis Xavier (Day of Special Prayer for Migrants and Refugees)*

Saturday 4 December

Vigil Mass 5.30pm St Philip Neri Bernard & Joe Oxley (dec.)

Sunday 5 December 9.00am St Mary Marjorie Gray (ann.)

Second Sunday of Advent (Year C) 10.30am Immaculate Heart People of the Parish

This weekend 27/28 November we are pleased to welcome Bishop Robert who is celebrating the Saturday Vigil and Sunday morning Masses with us.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 9.00am on Wednesday at Immaculate Heart and 9.00am on Thursday at St Mary's

Readings at Mass this week: Advent Week 1

This Sunday, in the Sacrament of Baptism, we welcome into the Family of the Church Ada Grace Watson

RECENTLY DECEASED Please remember in your prayers George Turnbull who died recently and whose Requiem Mass will be celebrated at 10.30am on Friday 10 December at St Mary's Church followed by cremation at Mountsett Crematorium. May he rest in peace. Amen.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK: Raymond Deponio, Julia Gill, Barney Hayes, Clare Jolly-Lingard, Maria Thi Kien Chiene Le, Kath Lee, John Leitch, Pauline Mulholland, Astrid Muse (Gower), Joseph Relph, Freya and Neave Ruddick, Barbara Stephenson, 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).

Current Diocesan COVID Controls

The decisions outlined below have been made giving consideration to the following points:

- the increasing local infection rate
- the increasing number of hospital admissions
- the reducing efficacy of the vaccine
- the slowing uptake of the vaccine in the 18-30 age range
- Health officials in the region have advised that maintaining COVID control measures such as social distancing and face coverings throughout the autumn/winter period will be vital to controlling COVID infections

Until further notice, arrangements for our three churches will be as follows:

- Stewards will continue for the time being
- Hand sanitiser will continue to be offered as you enter and leave church
- Face masks are recommended to be worn whilst in church
- Social distancing is 1 metre (minimum) between households/bubbles
- Test, track & trace system is still recommended. To facilitate this, there is a poster on display in each church with the church's QR code which can be scanned using the NHS COVID-19 app (to download the app to your mobile phone, visit www.covid19.nhs.uk). Otherwise, please provide you name and contact details to one of the stewards as you arrive at church.
- Booking-in for the Saturday Vigil and Sunday morning Masses is no longer required
- Altar Servers, Readers and Eucharistic Ministers may resume their ministries
- Hymn books and Mass cards may be used
- Congregational singing may resume (N.B. face masks should be worn whilst singing)
- The Sign of Peace remains suspended for the time being
- Holy Communion will continue to be distributed under one kind and at the normal time during Mass (i.e. before the Concluding Prayer and Blessing)
- If anyone would like to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation/Confession, please speak to Fr Peter

For the most recent guidance published by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales (CBCEW) please follow the links below:

[CBCEW-COVID-Step-4-Guidance-150721b.pdf](#)

[COVID-19: guidance for the safe use of places of worship - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

If you would like to join our group of dedicated volunteer stewards, please contact Katie Wilkinson tel. 07837 386760 or email teachkate1@gmail.com

SYNOD 2021-2023

AND

THE DIOCESAN YEAR OF THE EUCHARIST

SYNOD 2021-2023

Pope Francis and the Synod Office in Rome are inviting the whole Church to become *Synodal*. We are invited to journey together, listening to the promptings of the Holy Spirit in our lives and in the lives of the people we meet. The whole Synod will be a two-year process beginning in every diocese in October 2021 and moving on to a national then international listening exercise. For further information, please visit the diocesan website www.diocesehn.org.uk

A message from Fr Peter:

We have now begun our time of reflection and listening as a parish community, responding to Pope Francis' invitation to the Universal Church to engage in the Synod. The purpose of this time is to listen to the gift of the Holy Spirit speaking in our hearts as we continue our journey of faith as the Church amidst the joys and sorrows of our time. The third and final leaflet in our series of consultations is now available so please take one this weekend and then take the opportunity to gently reflect on the questions in the leaflet, being attentive to what the Holy Spirit is saying to you. Please return the leaflets by weekend 11/12 December. Thank you.

DIOCESAN YEAR OF THE EUCHARIST

In this Year of the Eucharist we hope to:

- **Revitalise** and renew our faith through a deepening prayer and devotion of the Eucharist.
- **Grow** as a Diocese in our love and appreciation of the Eucharist.
- **Deepen** our appreciation of the liturgical celebration of the Eucharist through the rites.
- **Celebrate** Eucharist as being at the heart of the life and mission of the Church, gathering people back.
- **Go out** to love and serve the world nourished by the Eucharist.

Various events, invitations, publications and resources will be available throughout this coming year and can be accessed on the diocesan website www.diocesehn.org.uk

ADVENT ALMS 2021 A message from Moira Ashman, CEO of

St Cuthbert's Care: *This Advent, we ask you to consider supporting St Cuthbert's Care. Our charity provides frontline registered care services for people with complex disabilities, residential homes and fostering for young people and two Catholic nursing homes for older people. All Advent donations will help to purchase gifts for all our residents in our care this Christmas, along with new electronic devices to help our older residents keep pace with our digitised world. Your support is precious to us and helps us to continue to provide outstanding care and peace of mind to families. Thank you so much. For further information and to donate, please visit: www.stcuthbertscare.org.uk*

FOOD DONATIONS FOR THE FOOD BANK & REFUGEE PROJECT We have a very regular cohort of amazing parishioners who either donate food or money each week. This appeal is to ALL parishioners - even if you can only donate one or two items it will make such a huge difference to our continued support to a number of vulnerable families in our own area. We follow the Trussell Trust guidance for the items we provide, please click on the link for more details - <https://www.trusselltrust.org/get-help/emergency-food/food-parcel/>

Items we REALLY NEED please: tinned tomatoes, fruit, mince, stewing steak, hot dogs, meatballs, custard, rice pudding, feminine hygiene products, washing/laundry powder, biscuits & sweets for the kids.

Other items we put into the weekly food bags: quash, tea, coffee, biscuits, cereal, tinned tomatoes, soup, baked beans, potatoes, corned beef, tuna, sugar, tomato purée shampoo, shower gel, washing up liquid, cooking oil, washing up liquid, spray cleaner, toilet rolls, kitchen roll etc.

Every Thursday volunteers are in Immaculate Heart Church between 9.30am-10.30am so you can drop donations off then or whenever you attend church. Any queries, please contact Katie Wilkinson 1 Mayfield, Whickham either via mobile 07837 386760 or email teachkate1@gmail.com

INDIVIDUAL CHRISTMAS CARDS (and others) are now available to purchase from Immaculate Heart & St Mary's churches. Boxed cards also available at St Mary's. Please refrain from touching any items unnecessarily and when making purchases from our stalls, please sanitise your hands before looking, and after purchase, to help keep each other safe. Your support is greatly appreciated as each purchase made helps support our parish.

DIOCESAN VACANCIES

The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle has the following vacancies:

Our Lady Immaculate & St Cuthbert, Crook - Cleaner, permanent, 6 hours per week.

St Anne, Darlington - Cleaner, permanent, 3 hours per week.

Closing date for both applications is Friday 3 December.

For further information and details of how to apply please visit website <https://diocesehn.org.uk> or contact tel. 0191 243 3301

HOLY ISLAND VINNIE CAMP 2022 Holy Island Camp will be running holidays for children in 2022. Our helpers are all volunteers and in order to go ahead successfully in 2022 we urgently need new volunteers to help in the kitchens, preparing food, washing up and clearing the dining hall. We also need caretaking staff who would be able to carry out a cleaning role. The work is tiring but also fun (you would be joining an established and very welcoming team) and the young people benefit enormously from a traditional seaside type holiday. The commitment can be for as little as three days a year in Term Time or more if you are able to help on multiple weeks or through the Summer Holidays. All helpers will be required to obtain a free Diocesan DBS check and some training. If you are interested, please visit the SVP website: www.svp.org.uk/microsite/holy-island/about-camp

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 Sunday 19 December** and don't forget to indicate in which church you would like the candle to be lit.

LOVE CHRISTMAS UPDATE This Christmas we are collecting for the Foodbank recipients - gifts, for the children, and food items for the hampers - plus our Angel Trees in each church offer parishioners a chance to buy gifts for children who are at risk of not receiving a gift this Christmas.

GIFT FOR LIFE This weekend **27th/28th November**, following Mass, parishioners will be able to buy some new Christmas decorations for their tree whilst also helping to raise some funds for the parish's long term outreach work, *Gift for Life*.

Here's how you can support all our outreach work:

- At the back of each church there's a food list of special items for the hampers - extras are available please take one - please hand all food items in by **the weekend of 11th/12th December** there's a box at the back of each church for these donations.
- There's a list of the Foodbank children's gender and age - once you have chosen a name, please cross it off the list. These gifts do not require wrapping and must be handed in by **the weekend of 11th/12th December** - please leave these at the back of each church.
- **Angel Trees** are now in each church - please take a label, or use your own, then wrap and return the gift by **Sunday 12th December**

We appreciate some parishioners may still be isolating or perhaps would prefer someone else to shop - please feel free to donate cash and volunteers will shop on your behalf.

Some amazing parishioners have already volunteered to meet at **Immaculate Heart Church at 10am & 6.30pm on Wednesday 15th December** to wrap and pack hampers - if you'd like to help please come along.

COUNTERS URGENTLY NEEDED Can you help and join the St Mary's counting team? Due to illness or changes in circumstances for some parishioners, we've lost a number of our counters over lockdown. We therefore need new volunteers please. It doesn't take long, it's not complicated, you won't be on your own and it's straight after Sunday morning Mass at St Mary's. Please help to support our parish. The more volunteers we have on the rota, the less everyone will need to do. Thanks for your support. Kindly contact David on 07979 574166.

First Reading*Jeremiah 33:14-16*

See, the days are coming - It is the Lord who speaks - when I am going to fulfil the promise I made to the House of Israel and the House of Judah:

'In those days and at that time,
I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David,
who shall practise honesty and integrity in the land.
In those days Judah shall be saved
And Israel shall dwell in confidence.
And this is the name the city will be called:
The Lord-our-integrity.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm*Psalm 24:4-5. 8-9. 10. 14. R/v.1*

R/ To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

1. Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are God my saviour.
2. The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who stray,
he guides the humble in the right path;
he teaches his way to the poor.
3. His ways are faithfulness and love
for those who keep his covenant and will.
The Lord's friendship is for those who revere him;
to them he reveals his covenant.

Second Reading*1 Thessalonians 3:12 - 4:2*

May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and the whole human race as much as we love you. And may he so confirm your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his saints.

Finally, brothers, we urge you and appeal to you in the Lord Jesus to make more and more progress in the kind of life that you are meant to live: the life that God wants, as you learnt from us, and as you are already living it. You have not forgotten the instructions we gave you on the authority of the Lord Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation*Psalm 84:8*

Alleluia, alleluia!

Let us see, O Lord, your mercy
and give us your saving help.
Alleluia!

Gospel*Luke 21:25-28. 34-36*

The Lord be with you

And with your spirit

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'There will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations in agony, bewildered by the clamour of the ocean and its waves; men dying of fear as they await what menaces the world, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand.

'Watch yourselves, or your hearts will be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life, and that day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap. For it will come down on every living man on the face of the earth. Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.'

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.

Jen's Weekly Prayer

The candle flame flickers in the darkness.
It's unerring strength is it's gentle core.
Silent yet strong, wavering yet firm.
May the Spirit of fire be your strength.
As he guides and envelops you
in a mantle of love, healing and peace.

Jen Jones © 2021

CHRISTMAS EVE AND CHRISTMAS DAY MASS TIMES AT OUR THREE CHURCHES N.B. Booking in for the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses will be required and details of how you may do this will be in next Sunday's Newsletter.

Friday 24 December Christmas Eve The Nativity of the Lord	5.00pm 7.00pm	Mass at Immaculate Heart of Mary, Lobley Hill Mass at St Mary's, Whickham
Saturday 25 December Christmas Day The Nativity of the Lord	9.30am N.B.	Mass at St Philip Neri, Dunston No Saturday Evening Vigil Mass
Sunday 26 December Feast of the Holy Family	9.00am 10.30am	Mass at St Mary's, Whickham Mass at Immaculate Heart of Mary, Lobley Hill