



The Lord says this: 'A blessing on the man who puts his trust in the Lord.... He is like a tree by the waterside that thrusts its roots to the stream.....it has no worries in a year of drought and never ceases to bear fruit.'  
*Jeremiah 17:7-8*

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

**Immaculate Heart of Mary ▪ Lobley Hill  
 St Mary ▪ Whickham  
 St Philip Neri ▪ Dunston**

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*Diocesan Website* [www.diocesehn.org.uk](http://www.diocesehn.org.uk)



The John Ingram Partnership  
 Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle

**27 February 2022**

**Eighth Sunday of the Year**

**Year C**

*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.*

*Postal Address: St Mary's Presbytery, Malvern Gardens, Gateshead, Tyne and Wear NE11 9LL*

- Live broadcasts of Mass from various locations and at various times can be found via the Diocesan website [www.diocesehn.org.uk](http://www.diocesehn.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

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

<b>Saturday 26 February</b>	<b>5.30pm</b>	<b>St Philip Neri</b>	George Manning (ann.)
<b>Sunday 27 February</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	<b>St Mary</b>	Terry Burke (ann.)
<b>Eighth Sunday of the Year</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Immaculate Heart</b>	People of the Parish
<i>Day of Prayer for the Unemployed</i>			
Monday 28 February			
Tuesday 1 March	9.30am	Immaculate Heart	In Thanksgiving (AC)
<b>Ash Wednesday 2 March Season of Lent begins</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>St Mary</b>	Prayer Shawl Group
<b>(Day of Fasting and Abstinence)</b>	<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Immaculate Heart</b>	Anthony & Lily Keating (dec.)
Thursday 3 March	9.30am	St Mary	Edward & Mary Ann Arnold (ann.)
Friday 4 March	2.00pm	St Philip Neri	<i>World Day of Prayer Service</i>
<i>World Day of Prayer</i>	6.30pm	Immaculate Heart	<i>Stations of the Cross</i>
<b>Saturday 5 March</b>	<b>5.30pm</b>	<b>St Philip Neri</b>	Deceased of the Doyle Family (dec.)
<b>Sunday 6 March</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	<b>St Mary</b>	People of the Parish
<b>First Sunday of Lent</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Immaculate Heart</b>	George Turnbull (dec.)

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

*Readings at Mass during the week: Monday & Tuesday: Week 8 Year 2, Ash Wednesday - Saturday: Season of Lent*

*This Sunday, in the Sacrament of Baptism, we welcome Alfie Jack Groves into the Family of the Church*

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS** Michael Lant who has died recently. 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

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 coverings are recommended whilst in church**
- **Social distancing of 1 metre (minimum) between households/bubbles is recommended**
- **The test, track & trace system is no longer in operation and there is no need to sign in when coming to 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 recommended whilst singing)
- Holy Communion will continue to be distributed under one kind
- 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) and the Government, please follow the link below:

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/covid-guidance-collective-worship/>

*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)*

**THE SEASON OF LENT begins this year on Ash Wednesday 2 March. Masses in the parish (including the distribution of Ashes) will be celebrated at the following times:**

**9.30am at St Mary's, Whickham**

**6.30pm at Immaculate Heart of Mary, Lobley Hill**

**Stations of the Cross on Friday 4 March, 6.30pm at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church**

**LENTEN REFLECTIONS** As we approach the Season of Lent, beginning on Ash Wednesday 2 March, the Diocesan Vicariate for Faith and Mission has produced the first part of a booklet of Lenten reflections which can be found on the Diocesan website [here](#). As Christians, we have a hope that shines at the end of every rough road, and we trust that this year's booklet will foster prayerful reflection on the Scriptures' relevance to our daily Christian living as we look forward to Easter. The reflections have been contributed by a mix of clergy, religious and lay people to express the richness and variety of our diocesan community.

### SYNOD 2021-2023

**OUR LADY AND ST PHILIP NERI AND THE SYNOD** If you haven't yet done so, you can pick up a copy of the summary of responses from our parish at the back of church or they can be viewed online [here](#).

**'THE SYNOD AND A LISTENING CHURCH' - Webinar, Saturday 5 March 11am with Sr Nathalie Becquart.** Sr Nathalie is the Under-Secretary to the Synod of Bishops at the Vatican. She is currently organising the Synod Process and empowering the Church across the world to journey towards the International Synod in 2023. She will be the guest speaker at a webinar on Saturday 5 March 11am-12.30pm for people across the diocese. A time to listen, discuss and question her on the Church and the way forward. To register, please email [admin@ymt.org](mailto:admin@ymt.org) requesting 'webinar registration'.

**FOOD DONATIONS FOR THE FOOD BANK & REFUGEE PROJECT** Please note if you cannot or would rather not shop for the Food Bank, we're happy to accept a cash donation to shop on your behalf. Every week we follow the Trussell Trust guidance for the items we provide: <https://www.trusselltrust.org/get-help/emergency-food/food-parcel/>

**Items we need & use - please and thank you:** sweets, UHT Milk, long grain rice, pasta, pasta sauce, dried chickpeas & lentils, tinned fruit, custard, rice pudding, tomatoes, all vegetables, potatoes, chickpeas, kidney beans, & tuna, long grain rice, tomato purée, shampoo, shower gel, cooking oil, washing up liquid, spray cleaner, toilet rolls, kitchen roll.

**Other items we put into the weekly food bags:** tinned hotdogs, meatballs, meat (corned beef, pek, spam), baked beans, jam, tea, coffee, squash, sugar, biscuits, cereal, antiperspirant, laundry powder/gel, feminine hygiene, toothpaste.

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

Any queries please contact Katie Wilkinson, 1 Mayfield, Whickham either via mobile 07837 386760 or email [teachkate1@gmail.com](mailto:teachkate1@gmail.com)

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER - FRIDAY 4 MARCH** This year's World Day of Prayer and Praise Service has been prepared by Christian women of the United Kingdom.

All are welcome to Services in our area:

**Whickham** - Church of St Mary the Virgin Church Chare, Whickham, NE16 4SH at 1.30pm.

**Dunston Area** - St Philip Neri Church, Ellison Road, Dunston at 2pm.

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING (PPC)** The next PPC meeting is scheduled to take place on Wednesday 16 March 2022. If you have any issues or queries you would like to raise, please contact one of your church representatives:

Immaculate Heart - Allen Bell, Ann Short, Wendy O'Reilly, Maveen Pereira

St Mary's - Phil Cunningham Janice Hall, Jen Jones, Tony Sacco

St Philip Neri - Denise Hebron, John Pinchen, Michael Waugh, Katie Wilkinson

Youth issues - David Khachikian Val Douglass, Joe Wheatley



**OUTREACH HOUSING GATESHEAD** Exactly one year ago, Outreach Housing was born after some of our Outreach Group attended a webinar presentation given by **Green Pastures**, ([www.greenpastures.net](http://www.greenpastures.net)), a national Christian charity that seeks to end homelessness. We recognised that an urgent need in Gateshead was to provide a home for new refugees who have recently received right to remain and to offer them support until they are ready to take the next step in settling and creating a new life in the UK. In October, our Diocese became a partner of Green Pastures and in December the charity bought a house in Bensham for us to lease and to turn into a home for three refugees.

We are grateful to all those who have supported us in so many ways. Please keep this project and especially our first residents in your prayers. This is an exciting but very new venture and we can only do this if we work and pray together as a community. Thank you especially to those who volunteered to clean the house last Tuesday and to those who cleared the small front garden and backyard. We are also grateful for the donations we have received of a fridge freezer and washing machine, furniture, curtains and kitchen equipment.

The project has, however, incurred a number of expenses including the installation of a new boiler at a cost of £2100. We are appealing for donations to cover this cost and the cost of various smaller items as we fit out the house with necessary furnishings and equipment. For example we need to purchase stepladders, iron and ironing board, doormat etc.

We have also been strongly advised by Green Pastures to set up a contingency fund for future repairs and expenses as we go forward. If you would like to donate to this fund, there are a number of options:

- **One-off Bank Transfer to 'DHN Outreach Housing Gateshead'**  
**Sort Code 40-34-18 Account Number 54630076**
- **Regular donation by Standing Order (Bank details as above)**

*If you want to Gift Aid either of the above options, please contact Anne Porter for a form:  
[anne@outreachhousing.co.uk](mailto:anne@outreachhousing.co.uk) or 07963 304364*

- **Donation via the Diocesan Website, please click [here](#) or use the Donate Button at the top of the Diocesan website homepage [www.diocesehn.org.uk](http://www.diocesehn.org.uk) and then searching for 'Outreach' or 'Housing'.**
- **Cash donation: please place in an envelope marked 'Outreach Housing' and leave at the back of church or in the presbytery letter-box at Immaculate Heart. If you wish your donation to be Gift Aided, then please use a green Gift Aid envelope which you can find at the back of church and mark the envelope 'Outreach Housing'.**

If you would like to find out more or offer any practical support e.g. fundraising, communication, please contact Mary Hughes: [mary@outreachhousing.co.uk](mailto:mary@outreachhousing.co.uk) or tel. 07962 126304. Thank you.

**DIOCESAN VACANCY** The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle is looking to appoint a new Head of Finance. The role will be based in the Diocesan Offices in Newcastle, and agile working is available. Full-time or 30 hours a week. Closing date for applications: 12 March 2022. For full details, please visit [www.diocesehn.org.uk](http://www.diocesehn.org.uk) or contact us 0191 243 3301.

**ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER** If you have any items for the newsletter, please either email to [stmarysphilip@aol.co.uk](mailto:stmarysphilip@aol.co.uk) or post through the presbytery letterbox at Immaculate Heart by **12 noon on Thursday 3 March**. Thank you.

### Jen's Weekly Prayer

In turbulent times  
words and actions do have consequences.  
Fear, anguish, bitterness and resentment  
can rob us of our sense of the sweet and gentle light  
of reason's balm from the Spirit of enlightenment.  
Like the moon guides the weary traveller to safety  
and to rest may the sweet and gentle light of balm  
carry us through the tangled web of darkness  
into which conflict and uncertainty can entrap us.  
May reason, right judgment understanding  
and discernment guide all who make decisions  
which effect the daily lives of others.  
Yet we need not be diminished  
by the actions of others for like pebbles thrown into  
a pond grow and spread enable us to harness wisdoms  
silent reasoning and acknowledge that more good  
comes from caring and loving than enmity and division.  
We are never alone we are always accompanied  
by the gentle light of love to bring us comfort and strength  
and fill us with hope and peace to face our challenges.

*Jen Jones © February 2022*

Ash  
Wednesday   
Day of Prayer and Fasting  
for Peace in Ukraine

Pope Francis has called on people to pray and fast for peace in Ukraine on Ash Wednesday. At his general audience on 23 February, the pope called on believers and nonbelievers to combat the "diabolical insistence, the diabolical senselessness of violence" with prayer and fasting. He said "I invite everyone to make March 2, Ash Wednesday, a day of fasting for peace. I encourage believers in a special way to devote themselves intensely to prayer and fasting on that day. May the Queen of Peace protect the world from the folly of war."

**First Reading***Ecclesiasticus 27:4-7*

In a shaken sieve the rubbish is left behind, so too the defects of a man appear in his talk. The kiln tests the work of the potter, the test of a man is in his conversation. The orchard where the tree grows is judged on the quality of its fruit, similarly a man's words betray what he feels. Do not praise a man before he has spoken, since this is the test of men.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Responsorial Psalm***Psalm 91:2-3. 13-16. R/ cf. v.2*

**R/ It is good to give you thanks, O Lord.**

1. It is good to give thanks to the Lord  
to make music to your name, O Most High,  
to proclaim your love in the morning  
and your truth in the watches of the night.
2. The just will flourish like the palm-tree  
and grow like a Lebanon cedar.
3. Planted in the house of the Lord  
they will flourish in the courts of our God,  
still bearing fruit when they are old,  
still full of sap, still green,  
to proclaim that the Lord is just.  
In him, my rock, there is no wrong.

**Second Reading***I Corinthians 15:54-58*

When this perishable nature has put on imperishability, and when this mortal nature has put on immortality, then the words of scripture will come true: Death is swallowed up in victory. Death, where is your victory? Death, where is your sting? Now the sting of death is sin, and sin gets its power from the Law. So let us thank God for giving us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Never give in then, my dear brothers, never admit defeat; keep on working at the Lord's work always, knowing that, in the Lord, you cannot be labouring in vain.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation***cf. Acts of the Apostles 16:14*

Alleluia, alleluia!

Open our hearts, O Lord,  
to accept the words of your Son.

**Alleluia!**

**Gospel***Luke 6:39-45*

The Lord be with you

**And with your spirit**

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus told a parable to his disciples. 'Can one blind man guide another? Surely both will fall into a pit? The disciple is not superior to his teacher; the fully trained disciple will always be like his teacher. Why do you observe the splinter in your brother's eye and never notice the plank in your own? How can you say to your brother, "Brother, let me take out the splinter that is in your eyes," when you cannot see the plank in your own? Hypocrite! Take the plank out of your own eye first, and then you will see clearly enough to take out the splinter that is in your brother's eye.

'There is no sound tree that produces rotten fruit, nor again a rotten tree that produces sound fruit. For every tree can be told by its own fruit; people do not pick figs from thorns, nor gather grapes from brambles. A good man draws what is good from the store of goodness in his heart; a bad man draws what is bad from the store of badness. For a man's words flow out of what fills his heart.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

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