

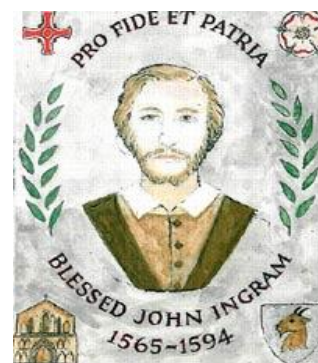


Then Jesus spoke to Thomas, '.....Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' *John 20:27-28*

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
Parish E-mail stmarysphilip@aol.co.uk
Parish Website www.theparish.org.uk
Diocesan Website www.diocesehn.org.uk



The John Ingram Partnership
Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle

24 April 2022

Second Sunday of Easter

Year C

The Parish Secretary, Julie Hindmarsh, will be in the Parish Office at Immaculate Heart Presbytery this week on Tuesday and Friday between 10am - 2pm. She can also be contacted Tuesday - Friday 10am - 2pm by email 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 and on the following website: www.churchservices.tv
- As part of the pastoral care of parishioners and others during the COVID-19 pandemic, 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

Saturday 23 April	5.30pm	St Philip Neri	Claire Dunne (dec.)
Sunday 24 April	9.00am	St Mary	Paul Elliott (ann.)
Second Sunday of Easter	10.30am	Immaculate Heart	People of the Parish
Divine Mercy Sunday			
Monday 25 April St Mark			
Tuesday 26 April St George	9.30am	Immaculate Heart	In Thanksgiving (AC)
Wednesday 27 April	9.30am	St Philip Neri	Priest's Intention
Thursday 28 April	9.30am	St Mary	Mariella Deubler (ann.)
Friday 29 April St Catherine of Siena			
Saturday 30 April	5.30pm	St Philip Neri	People of the Parish
Sunday 1 May	9.00am	St Mary	Paul & Maria Elliott (dec.)
Third Sunday of Easter	10.30am	Immaculate Heart	Mary Carrick & Family

Sacrament of Reconciliation

5.00pm - 5.20pm on Saturday at St Philip Neri
9.00am - 9.20am on Tuesday at Immaculate Heart
9.00am - 9.20am on Thursday at St Mary's

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

9.00am - 9.25am on Tuesday at Immaculate Heart, Wednesday at St Philip Neri, Thursday at St Mary's

This Sunday, in the Sacrament of Baptism, we welcome Lenny Nicholas and Alice Elsie Wharton into the Family of the Church

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: awaiting appointment). 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:

- If you are displaying any symptoms of Covid-19 you should stay at home and not travel to church or participate in person
- Stewards will continue for the time being
- Hand sanitiser will continue to be offered as you enter and leave church
- Face coverings - those who wish to wear a face covering may do so during the celebration of Mass
- Social Distancing - there is no requirement for social distancing but we should continue to be sensitive to the wishes of other people
- Ventilation – it is still important to ventilate our buildings. This has the effect of diluting and dispersing viral particles
- Congregational Singing – indoor congregational singing can continue to take place with a general encouragement that face coverings are worn
- Holy Communion will continue to be distributed under one kind
- The Sacrament of Reconciliation/Confession - see times on the front page of the Newsletter

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

THE SICK AND RETIRED PRIESTS COLLECTION is this weekend 23/24 April. The Northern Brethren Fund (NBF), which looks after our sick and retired priests, gives out a total of approximately £15,000 per month to assist our sick and retired diocesan priests. We need your support to keep this going. However, in recent years our collections have been very small: In 2021, the Collection raised just £5,928; in 2020, £7,908; and in 2019, it was £21,465. TOTAL in 3 years = £35,301.

We currently have forty seven retired priest and each one can receive a grant of £450 each month. So your financial support is greatly needed. Every one of us will be able to recall a priest, who has been a support to us in our journey of faith. One of those priests may now be relying on your support. Our priests give their lives to work in our parishes, to be with you through your good times and to be at your side through more difficult times as well. **Can you support this collection this weekend? The Northern Brethren Fund really relies on your financial support.** We also encourage legacies in people's wills, or regular donations as Standing Orders, and Gift-Aided Donations. A one-off donation is also a great help throughout the year. More information and advice on all of the above is available from the NBF Treasurer, Fr Ian Jackson, on 0191 586 4319 or email blackhall.stjoseph@rcdhn.org.uk. Thank you.

CAFOD FAMILY FAST AND UKRAINE APPEALS CAFOD have written to thank us for our Parish Family Fast contribution of £296 and Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal contribution of £708.

FOOD DONATIONS FOR THE FOOD BANK & REFUGEE PROJECT UPDATE 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. Every week 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 need & use - please and thank you: crisps, tinned meat (corned beef, pek, spam), tinned hot dogs, meatballs, soup, custard, rice pudding all vegetables, potatoes & tuna, UHT Milk, biscuits tomato purée, laundry powder/liquid, antiperspirant.

Other items we put into the weekly food bags: feminine hygiene (tampons), toothpaste, shower gel, pasta sauce, fruit, tomatoes, baked beans, sugar, long grain rice, jam, tea, tomato purée, & all other non-perishable items.

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

GIFT FOR LIFE - PLANT SALES After last year's successful plant sales the *Gift for Life* Group is organising another three - after all Masses on the weekend of 14/15 May. Plants will include Marigolds, Sunflowers, Zinnia, Cosmos, Cornflower, Sweet peppers, Chilli peppers, Aubergines and Tomatoes. Please bring money for donations and bags to carry off your bargains! Brighten up your garden and make a difference to the lives of those we support. Thank you.

The next meeting of the *Gift for Life* Group takes place by Zoom on Thursday 12 May at 7pm. If you are interested in attending or simply want to find out more about the work of the group please get in touch on giftforlife20@hotmail.com

UPDATE FROM BALAMMA SATRAM Sr Teresa and the community of Carmelite Sisters have sent an update letter and Easter Blessings. They are pleased to confirm that there remains no COVID cases despite the virus being widespread throughout India. The residents and Carmelite Community are in reasonably good health, they say this due to our kindness by making sure everyone has enough food to eat and clean drinking water plus medical and educational needs. Mary Skaag visited in February and organised for the ambulance and other vehicle to have an overhaul. During her stay 2 of the orphans made their First Holy Communion on 11th February. The birth date of one of the orphans was unknown so Fr. Sarves chose the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, so it was a double celebration for the little boy! The Sisters are hoping to have a new Bishop within the next few months and Mary Skaag is aiming to visit again in August. Sr Teresa would like to provide the Parish with a quarterly update.

A copy of the letter in full and the Easter Blessing along with some photos can be found via the Parish website homepage, by clicking [here](#) and on the Facebook Page.

THE LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR ANNUAL APPEAL will be made at all Masses on the weekend of 7/8 May. The Little Sisters of the Poor at St Joseph's Home in Newcastle are finding the current economic climate increasingly more difficult. The emergency lockdown measures we have had to implement to aid efforts to fight the COVID-19 pandemic and keep our residents safe have had a massive impact on our fundraising activities and the charitable donations we rely on to meet the ever increasing daily running costs of the Home. We are appealing for urgent donations to help us continue with our work of caring for the elderly. In these uncertain times, small acts of kindness can make a huge difference in helping our Home.

Thank you for your continued support and prayers. We are extremely grateful to you for the kindness shown to us. Cheques made payable to 'Little Sisters of the Poor' can be sent to: **St Joseph's Home, Westmoreland Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE4 7QA.**

Alternatively, secure, online donations can be made by visiting: www.littlesistersofthepoor.co.uk/donate-here/

CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE Bishop Robert has kindly agreed to preside at a Celebration of Marriage and Family Life Mass in the Cathedral on Saturday 21 May 2022 at 12.00 noon. The Mass will focus on couples celebrating significant anniversaries in 2022 but is open to engaged couples preparing for marriage, those who have been married since our last Mass in 2021 and all married couples. We include those widowed and bereaved who were unable to visit wives and husbands in hospital and homes prior to their deaths. In these unprecedented times, we remember couples in crisis and individual adults and children experiencing difficulties and abuse in their family relationships. We wish all to know that no-one is forgotten and that the Sacramental life, despite our Covid experiences over the past two years, is very much alive and prayed for.

While Covid restrictions have been lifted in all our churches, parishioners remain encouraged to wear a mask if they wish and to hand sanitise on entry to the Cathedral.

Anyone celebrating a special anniversary can request a certificate by completing this form with their details: bit.ly/3NTqjoC or scan the QR code below using a smartphone camera - this will take you directly to the form.



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

Property Surveyor - Full-time, fixed term contract – 2 years. Flexible working is available. Closing date for applications: 28 April 2022

Hexham, St Mary

Parish Secretary - 20 hours a week; Cleaner - 4 hours a week
Closing date for applications: 4 May 2022

Please visit www.diocesehn.org.uk for full details or contact us 0191 243 3301.

Jen's Weekly Prayer

Each day each waiting time is an invitation.
We take ourselves and those we love on our journey.
Sometimes the pathway is strewn with flowers,
dancing trees surround us with fresh scents and wonders
as we journey along.
The gentle swaying branches bring
shelter, shade and hope.
Their leaves soft and graceful as they dance
to their quiet melody; wonder, beauty, grace and peace.
When the pathway is filled with stones
and pebbles catch the unsuspecting foot we stumble.
Where is beauty, where is peace?
Whose hand will reach out and give us hope?
Is it then we see the figure who hugged the distance
the shape we did not know?
Is it the light which leads us from stumbling pathway
to a path of kinder turf?
Who helps with our feet to walk on rougher ground
who shares our pain?
We can walk alone enjoy the beauty or only see the stone.
Help us dear Lord to see your cloak,
your face in those who can help us on our road.
May we see that when we fall there is a hand
outstretched in love to support us.
Give us the wisdom to smile, hope to move forward
and courage not to look back;
to be filled with peace and healing love.

Jen Jones © 1998 slightly revised 2021

A Prayer for the People of Ukraine

Loving God, We pray for the people of Ukraine,
for all those suffering or afraid,
that you will be close to them
and protect them.
We pray for world leaders,
for compassion, strength and wisdom
to guide their choices.
We pray for the world that, in this moment of crisis,
we may reach out in solidarity
to our brothers and sisters in need.
May we walk in your ways so that peace and justice
become a reality for the people of Ukraine
and for all the world. Amen.

www.cafod.org.uk

First Reading*Acts of the Apostles 5:12-16*

The faithful all used to meet by common consent in the Portico of Solomon. No one else ever dared to join them, but the people were loud in their praise and the numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily. So many signs and wonders were worked among the people at the hands of the apostles that the sick were even taken out into the streets and laid on beds and sleeping-mats in the hope that at least the shadow of Peter might fall across some of them as he went past. People even came crowding in from the towns round about Jerusalem, bringing with them their sick and those tormented by unclean spirits, and all of them were cured.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm*Psalm 117:2-4. 22-27. R/v.24*

**Response: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
for his love has no end.**

1. Let the sons of Israel say
'His love has no end.'
Let the sons of Aaron say:
'His love has no end.'
Let those who fear the Lord say:
'His love has no end.'
2. The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes.
This day was made by the Lord;
we rejoice and are glad.
3. O Lord, grant us salvation;
O Lord grant success.
Blessed in the name of the Lord
is he who comes.
We bless you from the house of the Lord;
the Lord God is our light.

Second Reading*Apocalypse 1:9-13. 17-19*

My name is John, and through our union in Jesus I am your brother and share your sufferings, your kingdom, and all you endure. I was on the island of Patmos for having preached God's word and witnessed for Jesus; it was the Lord's Day and the Spirit possessed me, and I heard a voice behind me, shouting like a trumpet, 'Write down all that you see in a book.' I turned round to see who had spoken to me, and when I turned I saw seven golden lamp-stands and, surrounded by them, a figure like a Son of man, dressed in a long robe tied at the waist with a golden girdle. When I saw him, I fell in a dead faint at his feet, but he touched me with his right hand and said, 'Do not be afraid; it is I, the First and the Last; I am the Living One. I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever, and I hold the keys of death and of the underworld.'

Now write down all that you see of present happenings and things that are still to come.'

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation*John 20:29*

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus said: 'You believe because you can see me.

Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.

Alleluia!

Gospel*John 20:19-31*

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me,

so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.

For those whose sins you forgive,

they are forgiven;

for those whose sins you retain,

they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'we have seen the Lord', he answered, 'unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refused to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'my Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him: 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

The Gospel of the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, alleluia, alleluia!

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.