

The temple of God is sacred; and you are that temple. *1 Corinthians 3:16*

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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Parish Website www.theparish.org.uk

Diocesan Website www.diocesehn.org.uk



The John Ingram Partnership
 Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle

19 February 2023

Seventh Sunday of the Year

Year A

The Parish Secretary, Julie Hindmarsh, will be in the Parish Office at Immaculate Heart Presbytery this week on Friday 10am - 2pm. She can also be contacted Wednesday 10am – 12noon and Friday 10am - 2pm by email stmarysphilip@aol.co.uk or by telephone 0191 460 4274

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

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS 18 - 26 February 2023

Saturday 18 February	5.30pm	St Philip Neri	Theresa Irving (dec.)
Sunday 19 February	9.00am	St Mary	People of the Parish
Seventh Sunday of the Year	10.30am	Immaculate Heart	Joan McStea (ann.)
Monday 20 February			
Tuesday 21 February	9.30am	Immaculate Heart	Moira Andison (dec.)
Ash Wednesday 22 February Season of Lent begins	9.30am	St Philip Neri	Turnbull Family (liv. & dec.)
(Day of Fasting and Abstinence)	6.30pm	Immaculate Heart	Special Intention (DS)
Thursday 23 February	10.00am	St Mary	Requiem Mass - Susan Helena Cobb RIP
Friday 24 February	9.30am	St Mary	Prayer Shawl Recipients
	6.30pm	Immaculate Heart	<i>Stations of the Cross</i>
Saturday 25 February	5.30pm	St Philip Neri	George Manning (ann.)
Sunday 26 February	9.00am	St Mary	Terry Burke (ann.)
First Sunday of Lent	10.30am	Immaculate Heart	People of the Parish

Weekday Readings: Monday, Tuesday - Ordinary Time, Week 7 Year 1; from Wednesday - Season of Lent

Sacrament of Reconciliation

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

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

9.00am - 9.25am on Tuesday at Immaculate Heart and Friday at St Mary's

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS Susan Helena Cobb and Margaret Tickle who have died recently. The Requiem Mass for Susan Helena Cobb will be on Thursday 23 February at 10am at St Mary's Church. The Requiem Mass for Margaret Tickle will be on Tuesday 28 February at 10am at St Mary's Church. May they rest in peace. Amen.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK: Raymond Deponio, Barney Hayes, Clare Jolly-Lingard, Maria Thi Kien Chiene Le, Kath Lee, John Leitch, Cheryl Anne McDonald, Pauline Mulholland, Astrid Muse (Gower), Joseph Relph, 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: Revd Paul Nichol). For the RVI and Freeman Hospitals in Newcastle, tel. 0191 233 6161 (Catholic Chaplain: Fr Mariadass 0191 273 3903).

CAFOD SYRIA - TURKEY EARTHQUAKE APPEAL Many thanks to everyone who contributed so generously to the CAFOD Syria - Turkey Earthquake Appeal last weekend which raised £862.75. Contributions can still be made using the CAFOD envelopes at the back of church or by donating online at www.cafod.org.uk. Thank you.

LENTEN ALMS 2023 A message from Moira Ashman, CEO St Cuthbert's Care:

This Lent, we hope to call upon your generosity once again to help us raise funds to purchase a small vehicle across our two nursing homes. Your continued support allows us to offer the little extras that mean the world to our residents – for this I am deeply grateful. Thank you. We currently have vacancies at our two nursing homes in Newcastle and Sunderland. If you or anyone you know would like more information, please contact Gill Ennis, our registered manager, on 07779 248 185 and she will be delighted to help. My very best wishes.

(There will be a retiring collection to support Lenten Alms later in Lent.)

LENTEN REFLECTIONS The Diocesan Vicariate for Faith & Mission has now produced the first booklet of Lenten reflections ahead of the beginning of Lent on Ash Wednesday 22 February. The reflections have been contributed by a mix of clergy, religious and lay people to express the richness and variety of our diocesan community. The dedicated Lenten reflection page on the diocesan website can be found here: <https://bit.ly/DHNLent2023>

ROOFING ISSUES AT ST PHILIP NERI CHURCH
A message from Fr Peter:

At the meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) on 15 February, I raised with PPC members the fact that the roof of St Philip Neri Church is now in a very poor state of repair and that decisions will need to be made in the near future about how we will address this situation. The current view of the Diocesan Property Department is that to resolve the issue effectively a complete renewal of the roof would be necessary and that such work is likely to cost in the region of £135,000 plus VAT (i.e. £162,000). Clearly this level of expenditure would have major implications for parish finances and all options will need to be carefully considered. We are awaiting a further quotation and additional advice from the Diocese, but I felt it was important to let you know the current position and to assure you that we will put in place any immediate action deemed necessary to ensure the safety of parishioners and those attending or visiting the school as well as the local community.

CONFIRMATIONS 2023 All young people in our parish who will be in Year 7 or above from September 2023 are invited to join in a preparation programme for the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation later this year. The programme is being run in conjunction with St Mary & St Thomas Aquinas Parish, Stella. The preparation sessions will be on Thursday 7, 14 & 21 September (6.00pm - 6.45pm), all taking place at St Mary & St Thomas Aquinas Meeting Room, Stella (NE21 4LR). Application & Parental Consent forms are available at the back of our three churches. Any queries, please contact Canon Peter.

FOOD DONATIONS FOR THE FOOD BANK AND REFUGEE PROJECT UPDATE:

Priority items in VERY SHORT SUPPLY: tinned meat (mince & onions, stewing steak etc.), rice pudding, custard, gravy granules, pasta sauce, UHT milk, toilet roll.

Other priority items: tomato purée, crisps, tinned tuna, carrots, soup, hot chocolate, biscuits, sweets & long grain rice.

Items we put into the weekly food bags: dried pasta, ketchup, mayonnaise, tomato purée, tinned tomatoes, potatoes, sweetcorn, garden peas, rice, custard, cereal, coffee, teabags, sugar, cooking oil, toothpaste, antiperspirant, shampoo, feminine hygiene, laundry powder/liquid, washing up liquid plus any other non-perishable items.

Every Thursday, volunteers will be in Immaculate Heart Church between 9.30am - 10.30am so parishioners can drop off donations 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

MARY'S PLACE/MERCY HUB The Asda Green Tokens Scheme is supporting various local charities, giving different amounts of money to each charity, depending on the number of votes received. Voting can take place online without requiring a visit to an Asda store. Mary's Place (The Mercy Hub), is asking for people to vote online to help us increase our funding for those in need in these difficult times. You can vote at www.asda.com/green-tokens and select **Gosforth** from the drop-down box. Each person will be able to vote once every seven days. Please vote for the **Mercy Hub** every week and encourage friends and families to vote for us. It could make a difference of £200 to our finances. Thank you.

LOCAL PLACES SERVING FREE MEALS A list of local places serving free meals is posted at the back of each church and can be viewed on the link on the parish website homepage www.theparish.org.uk

WARM SPACES Whickham Volunteer Library is part of the Warm Space Initiative and as such has opened the Library Lounge for everyone to enjoy the space. Newspapers, jigsaws and games are on offer along with tea, coffee and biscuits. A warm welcome can be expected with dignity and respect. The Lounge is open whenever the Library is.

THE NORTHERN CROSS February edition is available this weekend, price £1.50.

NEWSLETTER ITEMS Please send any items for next weekend's Newsletter to the Parish Office **by 10.00am on Thursday 23 February.**

HOLY ISLAND SVP VINNIE CAMP 2023 Are you interested in your child having a holiday in 2023? Let them join us for a week on Holy Island, They'll stay in our Centre and be looked after by DBS checked and trained helpers who will ensure they have a safe, fun time. We do lots of interesting and enjoyable activities such as rock pooling, longball, football, rounders, walking, craft and art, table tennis, long ball, quizzes and competitions and marathons as well as laser tag, silly sports, sandcastle building, swimming and scavenger hunts. Girls and boys can be aged 9-12 and it is a great way for them to meet new people and make friends from all over the North East. A week's all-inclusive holiday costs £150 and can be paid in instalments. In some circumstances children may be able to receive partial or full funding to attend. If you're interested, or know of a child who could benefit from such a holiday, please visit our website for further details at <https://www.svp.org.uk/microsite/holy-island> Applications open from 10 February 2023.

CENTRE FOR CATHOLIC STUDIES The Centre for Catholic Studies (CCS) at Durham University, is seeking to appoint a part-time Administrator, 21 hours per week, whose work will focus on CCS events and communications. Do you know anyone who might be interested in applying? Full details are attached, and can also be accessed at [Job Description - CCS Administrator \(22001983\) \(taleo.net\)](#) The closing date for applications is midnight on Monday 20 February 2023.

Jen's Weekly Prayer

As we look up and enjoy the soft pinks and blues suffusing our slightly later afternoon, winter skies help us to revel in their gentle beauty. Their colour is almost transient, for evening falls quickly as the cloth of night draws in her veil.

Yet we have been gifted beauty at a time when the light and warmth of day has gone and we can dwell upon each piece of wonder and joy as we gather them to us in uncertain challenging and anxious times.

To immerse ourselves in the deep and healing balm of nature's beauty of friendship, care, compassion, love, is to be open to the light which is a constant.

Sometimes we are afraid to acknowledge its existence but it is there,

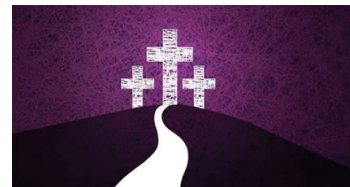
total darkness need not consume or frighten us.

We have been aware of the incredible acts of courage by so many people across our planet who will not allow the darkness to blot out the radiant light of hope they carry within them.

Help us be strong with and for them and see the joy of the simple snowdrops and crocus encourage the tiny signs of life on bush and tree and be lights for all we encounter,

for joy spreads like the stream to become a wider river of continuing love and hope.

Jen Jones © February 2023



THE SEASON OF LENT begins this week and gives us all a wonderful opportunity through our Lenten prayer, fasting and almsgiving to be renewed and refreshed in preparation for the celebration of Easter, 'The Great Feast.' To help with this, **Walk with Me Lenten booklets**, which include a daily reflection, are now available to purchase at each church (price £1).

Ash Wednesday 22 February (Day of Fasting and Abstinence)

There will be two Masses on Ash Wednesday (both Masses will include the distribution of ashes):

9.30am at St Philip Neri

6.30pm at Immaculate Heart

There will be Stations of the Cross at 6.30pm on the following Fridays during Lent:

Friday 24 February at Immaculate Heart, Friday 3 March at St Mary, Friday 10 March at St Philip Neri,

Friday 17 March at Immaculate Heart, Friday 24 March at St Mary, Friday 31 March at St Philip Neri

EASTER TRIDUUM

Holy Thursday 6 April

6.30pm Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper at Immaculate Heart

Good Friday 7 April (Day of Fasting & Abstinence)

3.00pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion St Mary's

Holy Saturday 8 April

5.30pm Easter Vigil and First Mass of Easter at St Philip Neri

Easter Sunday 9 April

10.00am Mass of Easter Morning at Immaculate Heart

First Reading*Leviticus 19:1-2. 17-18*

The Lord spoke to Moses; he said: 'Speak to the whole community of the sons of Israel and say to them: "Be holy, for I, the Lord your God, am holy.

"You must not bear hatred for your brother in your heart. You must openly tell him, your neighbour, of his offence; this way you will not take a sin upon yourself. You must not exact vengeance, nor must you bear a grudge against the children of your people. You must love your neighbour as yourself. I am the Lord."'

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm*Psalm 102:1-4. 8. 10. 12-13. R/v.8*

Response: The Lord is compassion and love.

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord,
all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings.
2. It is he who forgives all your guilt,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love and compassion.
3. The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.
He does not treat us according to our sins
nor repay us according to our faults.
4. As far as the east is from the west
so far does he remove our sins.
As a father has compassion on his sons,
the Lord has pity on those who fear him.

Second Reading*1 Corinthians 3:16-23*

Didn't you realise that you were God's temple and that the Spirit of God was living among you? If anybody should destroy the temple of God, God will destroy him, because the temple of God is sacred; and you are that temple. Make no mistake about it: if any one of you thinks of himself as wise, in the ordinary sense of the word, then he must learn to be a fool before he really can be wise. Why? Because the wisdom of this world is foolishness to God. As scripture says: The Lord knows wise men's thoughts: he knows how useless they are, or again: God is not convinced by the arguments of the wise. So there is nothing to boast about in anything human: Paul, Apollos, Cephas, the world, life and death, the present and the future, are all your servants; but you belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation*John 14:23*

Alleluia, alleluia!

If anyone loves me he will keep my word,
and my Father will love him,
and we shall come to him. Alleluia!

Gospel*Matthew 5:38-48*

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: 'You have learnt how it was said: Eye for eye and tooth for tooth. But I say this to you: offer the wicked man no resistance. On the contrary, if anyone hits you on the right cheek, offer him the other as well; if a man takes you to law and would have your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. And if anyone orders you to go one mile, go two miles with him. Give to anyone who asks, and if anyone wants to borrow, do not turn away.

'You have learnt how it was said: You must love your neighbour and hate your enemy. But I say this to you: love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you; in this way you will be sons of your Father in heaven, for he causes his sun to rise on bad men as well as good, and his rain to fall on honest and dishonest men alike. For if you love those who love you, what right have you to claim any credit? Even the tax collectors do as much, do they not? And if you save your greetings for your brothers, are you doing anything exceptional? Even the pagans do as much, do they not? You must therefore be perfect just as your heavenly Father is perfect.'

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