



Jesus said: 'I am the resurrection and the life. If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.'

John 11:25-26

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**

26 March 2023

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Year A

The Parish Secretary, Julie Hindmarsh, will be in the Parish Office at Immaculate Heart Presbytery this week on Tuesday 10am - 4pm & Friday 10am - 2pm and can be contacted during these hours 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 25 March - 2 April 2023

Saturday 25 March <i>The Annunciation of the Lord</i>	5.30pm	St Philip Neri	People of the Parish
Sunday 26 March	9.00am	St Mary	Paul Riley (dec.)
Fifth Sunday of Lent	10.30am	Immaculate Heart	Lawrence Regan (dec.)
Monday 27 March			
Tuesday 28 March	9.30am	Immaculate Heart	In Thanksgiving (AC)
	5.30pm	St Philip Neri	<i>First Sacrament of Reconciliation</i>
Wednesday 29 March	9.30am	St Philip Neri	Priest's Intention
Thursday 30 March	<i>N.B.</i>	<i>No Service</i>	
Friday 31 March	<u>10.00am</u>	St Mary	Requiem Mass - Maureen Embley RIP
	6.30pm	St Philip Neri	<i>Stations of the Cross</i>
Saturday 1 April	5.30pm	St Philip Neri	People of the Parish
Sunday 2 April	9.00am	St Mary	Phyllis Cunningham (ann.)
Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord	10.30am	Immaculate Heart	Deceased of the Rossi Family

Weekday Readings
Season of Lent Week 5

Sacrament of Reconciliation
*5.00pm - 5.20pm on Saturday at St Philip Neri, 9.00am - 9.20pm on Tuesday at Immaculate Heart
Please pray for the children from St Philip Neri School who will be celebrating their First Sacrament of Reconciliation on Tuesday 28 March.*

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
9.00am - 9.25am on Tuesday at Immaculate Heart and Wednesday at St Philip Neri

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS Maureen Embley who has died recently. The Requiem Mass for Maureen will be at 10.00am on Friday 31 March at St Marys followed by cremation at Saltwell Crematorium. May she rest in peace. Amen.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK: Raymond Deponio, Barney Hayes, 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).

ARCHBISHOP MCMAHON'S DIOCESAN INVESTIGATION The investigation commissioned by the Dicastery for Bishops has issued a survey to be completed by parishioners. This is an anonymous survey, all answers are provided in complete confidence, and you are asked to give your own individual views. **The survey will run until Monday 27 March 2023 and can be accessed at <https://forms.gle/wevQ6zrj1t8SCxNq5>**

HOLY PLACES RETIRING COLLECTION Next weekend 1/2 April, there will be a Retiring Collection at all Masses for the Catholic Community in the Holy Land (Holy Places).

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES for the new Financial Year are now available at the back of each church. If any parishioners do not yet contribute by planned giving or standing order and would like to do so, please contact the Parish Office, email stmarysphilip@aol.co.uk or tel. 0191 460 4274. If you have access to internet banking, you can, if you wish, set up a standing order online. The details required for you to do this are as follows:

Payee: DHN Gateshead Our Lady and St Philip Neri

Sort code: 40-34-45

Account number: 21167936

Reference: insert your own name

Commencing: day/month/year

Frequency: weekly, monthly, quarterly or annually.

GIFT FOR LIFE - WINE AND CHOCOLATE EASTER RAFFLE

With much of Lent behind us now, Easter (and chocolate) is in sight. So the *Gift for Life* Group is running a Wine and Chocolate Raffle with lots of bottles of wine and some lovely chocolate eggs and other goodies to be won. As always, all proceeds will go to the *Gift for Life* causes that you support so generously. Look out for raffle tickets after Masses on the run-up to Easter. Thank you.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday 4 April in Immaculate Heart Church at 1.30pm. If you enjoy knitting or crocheting (the patterns are easy, and wool can be provided) or if you are interested in what we hope to do with this ministry, please come along. All are welcome! For further information, please contact Joan McCoy tel. 0191 488 4395.

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. Please return Application & Parental Consent forms by next weekend 1st/2nd April.** Any queries, please contact Canon Peter.

LENTEN REFLECTIONS The Diocesan Vicariate for Faith and Mission has produced a series of Reflections for each of the days of Lent and the Easter Triduum. The Reflections have been contributed by a mix of clergy, Religious and lay people to express the richness and variety of our diocesan community, and they can be found on the diocesan website here: <https://bit.ly/DHNLent2023>

PARISH FOOD BANK AND REFUGEE PROJECT UPDATE

N.B. We are short of most produce - even if you can only bring along 1 or 2 tins please bring them along to church to help out.

FOOD ITEMS IN VERY SHORT SUPPLY: crisps, pasta sauce, tinned potatoes, chopped tomatoes, cereal & UHT milk.

OTHER priority items: tinned baked beans, soup, sweetcorn, carrots, garden peas, hot dogs, meatballs, custard, rice pudding, meat (corned beef, Pek, mince etc), tuna, fruit, sweets, shampoo, toilet roll, feminine hygiene.

Items we put into the weekly food bags: tinned chickpeas, kidney beans, gravy granules, dried pasta, tomato purée, long grain rice, ketchup mayonnaise, teabags, coffee, sugar, biscuits toothpaste, fruit squash, cooking oil, antiperspirant, laundry powder/liquid, washing up liquid, spray cleaner, plus all other non-perishable items.

Every Thursday, volunteers are 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 (www.mercyhub.org.uk) 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.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2023 The Diocesan Pilgrimage will travel to Lourdes Friday 28 July - Friday 4 August 2023. **Booking forms are now available via the Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage website:** <https://www.hexhamandnewcastlelourdespilgrimage.co.uk/news/booking-forms-pilgrimage-2023/>

THE NEWMAN ASSOCIATION Newman Tyneside Circle invites you to come and hear Isobel Vaughan-Spruce at St Cuthbert's Church Hall, Albion Road West, North Shields, NE29 0JB on Wednesday 29 March, at 7.30pm. *Isobel Vaughan-Spruce, the leader of March for Life, has been arrested twice this year in Birmingham, for silently standing and praying within 50 metres of a closed abortion clinic. She was taken to the police station, asked what she was praying about, searched and charged by the police with ... a thought crime.*

CARITAS SOCIAL ACTION NETWORK (CSAN) are profoundly concerned about the Government's Migration Bill, introduced in the House of Commons on 7 March 2023. This Bill, if passed, will not only deny those people fleeing war and persecution their right to seek safety in the UK and apply for asylum, but will punish them, based on how they came here, not whether they need protection. This would amount to an asylum ban. The Bill would:

- remove the right to seek refugee protection in the UK for those who arrive irregularly.
- breach the UN Refugee Convention, of which the UK is a founding signatory.
- fail to provide the safe routes we need now.
- leave thousands of men, women, and children in limbo, detained, and denied a fair hearing.

For further details please follow this link [CSAN Statement on the Illegal Migration Bill - Caritas Social Action Network - CSAN](#)

NEWSLETTER ITEMS Please send any items for next weekend's Newsletter to the Parish Office **by 10.00am on Thursday 30 March.**

Jen's Weekly Prayer

The snowdrop still stands firm as does the crocus.

They do not bow to the buffeting and beating of the wind rain or snow, their resilience is strong.

It is this resilience which has helped so many who have struggled with the pain and hardship of war, injustice, terrorism, racism and prejudice.

Resilience comes from a deep sense of strength, a strength which allows us to travel dangerous paths strewn with stones, boulders, heavy brambles, in the knowledge that we are held there in a hand waiting to guide and support us or we know that there are circles of love enfolding us even if we cannot see them.

It is the inner knowledge that as communities, we are more than one, when danger, problems, worries and anxiety weigh heavily upon us, we are held by others.

Hope and light are allowed to flourish when ignited by love.

Jen Jones © March 2023



THE SEASON OF LENT gives us all a wonderful opportunity through our Lenten prayer, fasting and alms-giving to be renewed and refreshed in preparation for the celebration of Easter, 'The Great Feast.'

STATIONS OF THE CROSS at 6.30pm on Friday 31 March at St Philip Neri

CHRISM MASS

Holy Thursday 6 April

11.00am at St Mary's Cathedral

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 at 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*I Samuel 16:1. 6-7. 10-13*

The Lord says this: I am now going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this – it is the Lord who speaks.

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm*Psalm 129. R/v.7*

**Response: With the Lord there is mercy
and fullness of redemption.**

1. Our of the depths I cry to you, O Lord,
Lord, hear my voice!
O let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my pleading.
2. If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt,
Lord, who would survive?
But with you is found forgiveness:
for this we revere you.
3. My soul is waiting for the Lord,
I count on his word.
My soul is longing for the Lord
more than watchman for daybreak.
(Let the watchman count on daybreak
and Israel on the Lord.)
4. Because with the Lord there is mercy
and fullness of redemption,
Israel indeed he will redeem
from all its iniquity.

Second Reading*Romans 8:8-11*

People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Glory and praise to you, O Christ!

I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord;
whoever believes in me will never die.

Glory and praise to you, O Christ!

Gospel*John 11:3-7, 17, 20-27,33-45*

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Mary and Martha sent this message to Jesus, 'Lord, the man you love is ill.' On receiving the message, Jesus said, 'This sickness will end not in death but in God's glory, and through it the Son of God will be glorified.' Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, yet when he heard that Lazarus was ill he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judaea.'

On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. When Martha heard that Jesus had come she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that, even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.' 'Your brother' said Jesus to her 'will rise again.' Martha said, 'I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said:

'I am the resurrection and the life.

If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me

will never die.

Do you believe this?'

'Yes Lord,' she said 'I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.'

Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, 'Where have you put him?' They said, 'Lord, come and see.' Jesus wept; and the Jews said, 'See how much he loved him!' But there were some who remarked, 'He opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man's death?' Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb: it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, 'Take the stone away.' Martha said to him 'Lord by now he will smell; this is the fourth day.' Jesus replied 'Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. Then Jesus lifted up his eyes and said:

'Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer.

I knew indeed that you always hear me.

But I speak for the sake of all these who stand round me, so that they may believe it was you who sent me.'

When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, here! Come out!' The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with bands of stuff and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, let him go free.' Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary and had seen what he did believed in him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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