



Jesus said to Thomas: 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.' *John 20:29*

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

16 April 2023

Second Sunday of Easter

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. She can also be contacted Tuesday & Wednesday 10am - 4pm 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 15 - 23 April 2023

Saturday 15 April	5.30pm	St Philip Neri	Cathy Thompson (dec.)
Sunday 16 April	9.00am	St Mary	Susan Helena Cobb (dec.)
Second Sunday of Easter	10.30am	Immaculate Heart	People of the Parish
<i>Divine Mercy Sunday</i>			
Monday 17 April			
Tuesday 18 April	9.30am	Immaculate Heart	Priest's Intention
Wednesday 19 April	9.30am	St Philip Neri	Private Intention
Thursday 20 April	9.30am	St Mary	Michael Short (dec.)
Friday 21 April			
Saturday 22 April	5.30pm	St Philip Neri	People of the Parish
Sunday 23 April	9.00am	St Mary	Paul Elliott (dec.)
Third Sunday of Easter	10.30am	Immaculate Heart	Margaret Cookson (30 th Ann.)

Weekday Readings

Second Week of Eastertide

Sacrament of Reconciliation

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

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).

“SERVING THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED US WELL” - THE NORTHERN BROTHERS FUND (NBF) The annual collection for the Sick and Retired Priests of the Diocese will be taken this weekend 15/16 April 2023, and the Fund will remain open until 5 May for anyone who might like to make further or individual donations. This collection goes to support our Sick and Retired Priests who have served our diocese over many years and we wish to make sure that this Fund is also there for future retired priests, **In the last few years, expenditure has far outweighed the amount received and the Fund is now severely drained. In 2017 the collection brought in over £62k; the four collections from 2018-2021 raised £54k; the 2022 collections has so far only brought in just over £14k. The Main Fund, which is used to support the monthly grants to sick and retired priests, now has only £10,000.00. The situation is very grave. If you could give a suggested minimum of £5 or £10 per person (and if possible, Gift Aid your donation and/or set up a Standing Order using the forms available), this would be a great gesture as we now seek to “serve those who have served us well” i.e. all the retired and sick priests who have ministered so faithfully in our parishes over many years.** For further information on Gift Aid, one-off larger donations, or a bequest in your Will, please do not hesitate to contact us on 0191 586 4319.

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.

SENIOR MOMENTS CORONATION CELEBRATION Wednesday 3 May 11.30am in St Mary's Hall. Join us in a Parish Celebration for the accession of King Charles III to the Throne. **If you would like to join us for afternoon tea and royal frivolities (!) let us know by next Sunday 23 April by including your name on the list at the entrance of church. There will be a small charge of £3.00pp.** Any questions, contact Denise Hebron 07554 445679 or Katie Wilkinson 07837 386760. Thank you.

GIFT FOR LIFE EASTER RAFFLE A big thank you to everyone who bought tickets for the *Gift for Life* Easter Raffle. Your generosity raised the brilliant total of £293, every penny of which will go towards our Gift for Life causes. Thank you so much for your support - it makes a huge difference to the lives of some of the world's most vulnerable people. Prize winners are being notified and Easter eggs and bottles of alcohol are being distributed this week.

RED MISSION BOXES are now due to be emptied. Monies can be given to Lilian Gray at Immaculate Heart, Denise Hebron at St Philip's and Kathleen Cunningham at St Marys. Thank you.

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: pasta sauce, tinned, sweetcorn, carrots, garden peas, custard, rice pudding, crisps, cereal & UHT milk.

OTHER priority items: tinned baked beans, soup, hot dogs, meatballs, meat (corned beef, Pek, mince etc), tuna, fruit, potatoes, chopped tomatoes, sweets, shampoo, toilet rolls, feminine hygiene.

Other items we put into the weekly food bags: tinned chickpeas, kidney beans, gravy granules, dried pasta, tomato purée, long grain rice. cooking oil, ketchup mayonnaise, fruit squash, teabags, coffee, sugar, biscuits, toothpaste, 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 via 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 open.

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

Administrator, Vicariate for Faith and Mission (maternity cover) - full-time. Closing date: 18 April 2023.

Senior Administrator, Department for Education, Diocesan Offices, Newcastle - full-time. Closing date: 18 April.

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

A DAY FOR CATECHISTS - A Day for exploring Catechesis, Accompaniment and Evangelisation. Are you involved with Baptismal Preparation, First Holy Communions, Confirmations, Marriage Preparation, RCIA, Children's Liturgy or other faith sharing initiatives? We are excited to host the largest gathering of Catechists the diocese has seen in recent times. This will be a special opportunity to come together and renew our approach to sacramental preparation and faith-sharing post-pandemic. Whether you are a seasoned Catechist or just considering becoming one, we want you to join us. We will be sharing key principles from the new *Directory for Catechesis* and affirming good practices, as well as providing new ideas and inspiration. **Date and Venue: Saturday 15 July 2023, 10am - 3pm, at St Robert of Newminster Catholic School, Biddick Lane, Fatfield, Washington, NE38 8AF (refreshments included, please bring a packed lunch).** Individuals and parish groups welcome. To book your place(s), visit <http://bit.ly/DHNDOC23> or scan this QR code:



NEWSLETTER ITEMS Please send any items for next weekend's Newsletter to the Parish Office **by 10am on Thursday 20 April.**

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.

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First Reading*Acts of the Apostles 2:42-47*

The whole community remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the brotherhood, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers. The many miracles and signs worked through the apostles made a deep impression on everyone. The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common; they sold their goods and possessions and shared out the proceeds among themselves according to what each one needed. They went as a body to the Temple every day but met in their houses for the breaking of bread; they shared their food gladly and generously; they praised God and were looked up to by everyone. Day by day the Lord added to their community those destined to be saved.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm*Psalms 117:2-4. 13-15. 22-24. R/ v.1*

**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. I was thrust, thrust down and falling
but the Lord was my helper.
The Lord is my strength and my song;
he was my saviour.
There are shouts of joy and victory
in the tents of the just.
3. 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.

Second Reading*1 Peter 1:3-9*

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy has given us a new birth as his sons, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead, so that we have a sure hope and the promise of an inheritance that can never be spoilt or soiled and never fade away, because it is being kept for you in the heavens. Through your faith, God's power will guard you until the salvation which has been prepared is revealed at the end of time. This is a cause of great joy for you, even though you may for a short time have to bear being plagued by all sorts of trials; so that, when Jesus Christ is revealed, your faith will have been tested and proved like gold - only it is more precious than gold, which is corruptible even though it bears testing by fire - and then you will have praise and glory and honour.

You did not see him, yet you love him; and still without seeing him you are already filled with a joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls.

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 refuse 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!

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