



Jesus said: 'I tell you most solemnly, I am the gate of the sheepfold.... Anyone who enters through me will be safe.'

*Cf. John 10:7-9*

**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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The John Ingram Partnership  
Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle

**30 April 2023**

**Fourth 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](mailto: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 29 April - 7 May 2023**

<b>Saturday 29 April</b> <i>St Catherine of Siena</i>	<b>5.30pm</b>	<b>St Philip Neri</b>	People of the Parish
<b>Sunday 30 April</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	<b>St Mary</b>	Special Intention (BS)
<b>Fourth Sunday of Easter</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Immaculate Heart</b>	John & Nancy Mulligan (ann.)
<i>World Day of Prayer for Vocations</i>			
Monday 1 May			
Tuesday 2 May <i>St Athanasius</i>	9.30am	Immaculate Heart	Priest's Intention
Wednesday 3 May <i>SS Philip and James, Apostles</i>	9.30am	St Philip Neri	Priest's Intention
Thursday 4 May <i>The English Martyrs</i>	9.30am	St Mary	Norma & Michael Kavanagh (dec.)
Friday 5 May			
<b>Saturday 6 May</b>	<b>5.30pm</b>	<b>St Philip Neri</b>	People of the Parish
<b>Sunday 7 May</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	<b>St Mary</b>	Olga Maddison (ann.)
<b>Fifth Sunday of Easter</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Immaculate Heart</b>	Brian James Bartley (ann.)

**Weekday Readings**

*Fourth 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 & 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*

**Coronation of King Charles III**

*The Bishops' Conference of England and Wales ([www.cbcew.org.uk](http://www.cbcew.org.uk)) has recommended that Catholic communities celebrate the Coronation on Saturday 6 May and pray for the King and Queen during this coming week. Prayer cards are available at the back of church this weekend - please take one. The Church of England has produced a book of daily prayers which can be found at: <https://www.chpublishing.co.uk/features/coronation-prayers>*

*In celebration of the Coronation of King Charles III, there will be a Diocesan Mass at 12.05pm on Friday 5 May at St Mary's Cathedral to which everyone is very welcome (Principal Celebrant: Bishop Emeritus Séamus Cunningham).*

**RECENTLY DECEASED** Please remember in your prayers Fr John Reid and Mandy Jayne Tellyn who have died recently. May they rest in peace. Amen. Mandy's Funeral Service will be held on Wednesday 3 May at 2.45pm at Mountsett Crematorium.

**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).*

**LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR RETIRING COLLECTION** There will be a retiring collection at all Masses this weekend 29/30 April to support the work of the Little Sisters of the Poor. Gift Aid envelopes are available and please make any cheques payable to: *Little Sisters of the Poor*.

**A MESSAGE FROM THE LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR:**

*The Little Sisters of the Poor at St Joseph's Home in Newcastle are finding these difficult economic times, which everyone is facing, increasingly more challenging. It is certainly a worrying and anxious time for us all. The current economic climate is having a significant 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 working hard to raise vital funds to help with the cost of replacing the three lifts in the Home. They have served us well over the years and with us relying heavily on them, they are in constant need of expensive repairs. As you can appreciate, the lifts play an integral role in helping to maintain the safety of our residents at all times, helping to increase their level of mobility and allowing them to maintain their independence for longer. For this reason we are appealing for urgent donations to assist us in our efforts to make critical upgrades to our lifts, which in turn will help the Sisters and Staff deliver essential person centred care at all times.*

*Cheques made payable to 'Little Sisters of the Poor' can be sent to: St Joseph's Home, Westmorland Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE4 7QA. Alternatively, secure, online donations can be made at:*

<http://www.littlesistersofthepoor.co.uk/donate-here/>

*Thank you for your continued support and prayers. We are extremely grateful to you for the kindness shown to us.*

**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](mailto: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.*

**PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY** Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday 2 May 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.

**THE SENIOR MOMENTS CORONATION CELEBRATION** will take place on Wednesday 3 May 11.30am in St Mary's Hall. Any queries, please contact Denise Hebron 07554 445679 or Katie Wilkinson 07837 386760. Thank you.

**ST MARY'S SCHOOL GIFT FOR LIFE DONATION** Many thanks to the children from St Mary's School and their parents/carers who have raised a wonderful £470.00 for our Parish Gift for Life Charities.

**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:** tinned potatoes, baked beans, carrots, garden peas, crisps, biscuits, ketchup, mayonnaise & spray cleaner.

**OTHER priority items:** UHT milk, cereal, pasta sauce, tinned meatballs, hot dogs, sweetcorn, soup, meat (corned beef, Pek mince etc), tuna, rice pudding, fruit, chopped tomatoes, sweets, toilet rolls.

**Other items we put into the weekly food bags:** tinned chickpeas, kidney beans, gravy granules, dried pasta, tomato purée, long grain rice. fruit squash, teabags, coffee, biscuits, sugar, cooking oil, toothpaste, shampoo, laundry powder/liquid, washing up liquid, spray cleaner, antiperspirant, feminine hygiene, 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](mailto: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](http://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](http://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](http://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.

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING (PPC)** The next PPC meeting is scheduled to take place on Wednesday 17 May 2023. 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 & Joe Wheatley

Financial matters - Malcolm Shield

**PARISH FINANCIAL REPORT 2022/23** The Financial Report for the 12 months to the end of March has been prepared and shows parish funds at £258,290 plus a total of £16,538 being held on behalf of Gift for Life, Foodbank and Special Collections. Parish funds have declined by £34,467 over the course of the year despite Offertory Collections/Gift Aid receipts of £65,892 being £6,508 (+11%) higher than last year and benefitting from £10,040 received in the form of will legacies.

There are 2 main reasons for the decline in funds:

1. Repair expenditure is extremely high at £65,000 and includes these works at St Mary's: replacement of church entrance doors/frontage (£9,960), hall exterior decoration (£2,160), new gas mains pipework for church and presbytery (£18,378), temporary (electric) winter heating for the presbytery (£7,055) and the installation of a new gas boiler for the presbytery (£5,540). The necessary roof replacement for Dockendale Cottage cost £13,867 for which, as landlord, we are responsible.

2. Utility costs have risen to nearly £23,000 in the face of price rises and increased consumption as the churches were open for the full 12 months after 2 years of only partial opening during the Covid pandemic with the associated saving in usage during that time.

Looking ahead and still to be considered are what we are to do about the replacement of the roof of St Philip Neri Church and in due course of wall heaters at Immaculate Heart Church. However, it is worth remembering that when the single parish was formed in 2018, our funds stood at £230,000, and we are now still nearly £30,000 better off and thankfully in a healthier financial position than many other parishes in the diocese.

Once again, thank you for your continued generosity which is very much appreciated.

**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/DHND0C23> or scan this QR code:



**GIFT FOR LIFE SUMMER SOCIAL - Save the Date!** Following the positive feedback on last year's gathering, the *Gift for Life* team is planning an afternoon event at **2pm on Sunday 11 June at St Mary's Hall (and, weather permitting, the Walled Garden.)** More details to follow - but think tea, cakes, scones, raffle, games, plants and a chance to catch up on the gossip! What's more, it's all in aid of *Gift for Life* so you'll be making a difference there too. Please put the date in your diary and if you wish to donate a raffle prize, make cakes or would be prepared to get involved with the running of the event, we would love to hear from you: [giftforlife20@gmail.com](mailto:giftforlife20@gmail.com)

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

Deputy Director of Education (Leadership) and Deputy Director of Education (Inspection). Both roles are permanent and full-time, term-time. Closing date for applications: 2 May. Please visit [www.diocesehn.org.uk](http://www.diocesehn.org.uk) for full details or contact us on 0191 243 3301.

**NEWSLETTER ITEMS** Please send any items for next weekend's Newsletter to the Parish Office **by 10am on Thursday 4 May.**

### Jen's Weekly Prayer

Like a myriad of stars scattered across a purple blue sky,  
friendship and love spreads and is visible and yet  
invisible like the stars when clouds cover them.

We know that they are there  
even when we cannot see them.

Our knowledge is not diminished by the cloud  
just as separation cannot diminish the truth that  
even when we are not physically close  
to those we love and hold dear to us  
together we are as one separated yet united.

Love, trust, hope and joy all underpin the knowledge  
we share with each other.

Time and distance cannot shake the bonds  
which unite and strengthen.

May our continued love flourish, grow and develop,  
allowing that love to shine like stars in the night sky  
and glow with the warmth of summer light  
bringing laughter, comfort, strength and unity  
as we continue our journey together.

Jen Jones © March 2021

**First Reading***Acts of the Apostles 2:14. 36-41*

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd with a loud voice: 'The whole House of Israel can be certain that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified both Lord and Christ.'

Hearing this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the apostles, 'What must we do, brothers?' 'You must repent,' Peter answered 'and every one of you must be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise that was made is for you and your children, and for all those who are far away, for all those whom the Lord our God will call to himself.' He spoke to them for a long time using many arguments, and he urged them, 'Save yourselves from this perverse generation.' They were convinced by his arguments, and they accepted what he said and were baptised. That very day about three thousand were added to their number.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Responsorial Psalm***Psalm 22:1-6 R/v.1*

**R/ The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**

1. The Lord is my shepherd;  
there is nothing I shall want.  
Fresh and green are the pastures  
where he gives me repose.  
Near restful waters he leads me,  
to revive my drooping spirit.
2. He guides me along the right path;  
he is true to his name.  
If I should walk in the valley of darkness  
no evil would I fear.  
You are there with your crook and your staff;  
with these you give me comfort.
3. You have prepared a banquet for me  
in the sight of my foes.  
My head you have anointed with oil;  
my cup is overflowing.
4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me  
all the days of my life.  
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell  
for ever and ever.

**Second Reading***1 Peter 2:20-25*

The merit, in the sight of God, is in bearing punishment patiently when you are punished after doing your duty. This, in fact, is what you were called to do, because Christ suffered for you and left an example for you to follow the way he took. He had not done anything wrong, and there had been no perjury in his mouth. He was insulted and did not retaliate with insults; when he was tortured he made no threats but he put his trust in the righteous judge.

He was bearing our faults in his own body on the cross, so that we might die to our faults and live for holiness; through his wounds you have been healed. You had gone astray like sheep but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation***John 10:14*

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;

I know my own sheep and my own know me.

Alleluia!

**Gospel***John 10:1-10*

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: 'I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and a brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.'

Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them.

So Jesus spoke to them again:

'I tell you most solemnly,

I am the gate of the sheepfold.

All others who have come

are thieves and brigands;

But the sheep took no notice of them.

I am the gate.

Anyone who enters through me will be safe:

he will go freely in and out

and be sure of finding pasture.

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy.

I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

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