



**THE PARISH OF OUR LADY AND ST PHILIP NERI**

**Immaculate Heart of Mary - Lobley Hill  
St Mary - Whickham  
St Philip Neri - Dunston**

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The John Ingram Partnership  
Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still and trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house; if there were not, I should have told you.'  
*John 14:1-2*

**7 May 2023**

**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**Year A**

*The Parish Secretary, Julie Hindmarsh, will be in the Parish Office at Immaculate Heart Presbytery this week on Tuesday & Wednesday 10am - 4pm and 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 6 - 14 May 2023**

<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.)
Monday 8 May			
Tuesday 9 May	<i>N.B.</i>	<i>No Service</i>	
Wednesday 10 May	<i>N.B.</i>	<i>No Service</i>	
Thursday 11 May	<i>N.B.</i>	<i>No Service</i>	
Friday 12 May			
<b>Saturday 13 May</b>	<b>5.30pm</b>	<b>St Philip Neri</b>	People of the Parish
<b>Sunday 14 May</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	<b>St Mary</b>	Catherine & Elizabeth Wilson (ann.)
<b>Sixth Sunday of Easter</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Immaculate Heart</b>	Matthew Bullock (ann.)

**Weekday Readings**

*Fifth Week of Eastertide*

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

*5.00pm - 5.20pm on Saturday at St Philip Neri*

**Sacrament of Baptism**

*This Sunday, in the Sacrament of Baptism, we welcome Nancy Plewes and Siena Mae Belda Hutchinson into the Family of the Church*

*Tuesday 9 May has been chosen by the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales as a Day of Prayer for Victims and Survivors of Abuse. For further information please visit: <https://diocesehn.org.uk/news/day-of-prayer-for-survivors-of-abuse/>*

*A Mass will be celebrated on Tuesday 9 May at 12.05pm in St Mary's Cathedral. All are welcome.*

**Advance Notice: The Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord is on Thursday 18 May and is a Holyday of Obligation.**

*There will be 6.30pm Vigil Mass on Wednesday 17 May at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church and 9.30am Mass on Thursday 18 May at St Mary's Church (St Mary's School attending).*

**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).**

**CANONICAL INVESTIGATION** The Executive Summary of Archbishop McMahon's Canonical Investigation following the resignation of Bishop Robert Byrne can now be viewed on the Diocesan website: <https://diocesahn.org.uk/news/canonical-investigation-report-executive-summary/>

**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.*

**NORTHERN BRETHREN FUND (NBF) COLLECTION** Many thanks to everyone who contributed so generously to the recent NBF Appeal to support our sick and retired diocesan priests. The total received to date is £819.10.

**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

**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)

**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 custard, rice pudding, fruit, potatoes, baked beans, carrots, garden peas, sweetcorn, crisps, biscuits, ketchup, mayonnaise, cooking oil & spray cleaner.

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

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

**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:



**PARISH FINANCIAL REPORT 2022/23** The Financial Report for the 12 months to the end of March 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.

**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.*

**SENIOR MOMENTS CORONATION CELEBRATION** A wonderful afternoon was enjoyed by our senior parishioners last Wednesday to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III and Queen Camilla. Many thanks to all who organised the event and to the Year 4 children from St Mary's School who sang so beautifully!

**THE NORTHERN CROSS** May edition is on sale this weekend, price £1.50.

**NEWSLETTER ITEMS** Please send any items for next weekend's Newsletter to the Parish Office **by 10am on Thursday 11 May.**

**PUBLIC LECTURE** The renowned historian Professor Eamon Duffy, also a frequent broadcaster on radio and television, is visiting Holy Name Church, Jesmond, Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 3JX, on Saturday 20 May at 11am to give an entertaining and informative lecture about a period and subject which will be new to most audiences. He will tell the fascinating story of Father Robert Benson, the most famous Catholic Priest in Edwardian England, and his extraordinary family. Fr Benson's father was Archbishop of Canterbury, while one brother wrote "Land of Hope and Glory" and the other wrote the Mapp and Lucia novels. Booking is not required, doors open at 10.30am and all are welcome.

### Jen's Weekly Prayer

A single note joined with others can create a melody, a rhythm, when extended further it can become an orchestral symphony, or the opening of a gentle soothing lullaby bringing comfort to mother and child.

The many and wonderful genres we enjoy have travelled and changed down the ages yet the notes like words can be rearranged in an infinite number of ways and each will have the ability to make us weep or laugh, rekindle memories or transform and transport us providing us with further memories.

Music can allow us to paint or repaint our journeys, to soothe pain and bring healing.

It provides us with the opportunity of hearing the gifts of others because it is available for everyone to share, make or enjoy, music allows us to reach feelings which we may have buried deep within the part of us known only to ourselves and you.

Music transcends and mingles with the extraordinary, allowing light to shine in dark places and celebrations to be enriched with glowing joy to be alive in the moment.

May we be not a single note but joined in harmony with each other and seek to bring peace hope and love to those we meet.

*Jen Jones © May 2023*

### THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

God save our gracious King,  
long live our noble King,  
God save the King.  
Send him victorious,  
happy and glorious,  
long to reign over us,  
God save the King.

Thy choicest gifts in store  
on him be pleased to pour,  
long may he reign.  
May he defend our laws,  
and ever give us cause  
to sing with heart and voice,  
God save the King.

**First Reading***Acts of the Apostles 6:1-7*

About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: in the daily distribution their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you, brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to the service of the word.' The whole assembly approved of this proposal and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

The word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in Jerusalem was greatly increased, and a large group of priests made their submission to the faith.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Responsorial Psalm***Psalm 32:1-2. 4-5. 18-19. R/v.22*

**R/ May your love be upon us, O Lord,  
as we place all our hope in you.**

1. Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just;  
for praise is fitting for loyal hearts.  
Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp,  
with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs.
2. For the word of the Lord is faithful  
and all his works to be trusted.  
The Lord loves justice and right  
and fills the earth with his love.
3. The Lord looks on those who revere him,  
on those who hope in his love,  
to rescue their souls from death,  
to keep them alive in famine.

**Second Reading***1 Peter 2:4-9*

The Lord is the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him; set yourselves close to him so that you too, the holy priesthood that offers the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God, may be living stones making a spiritual house. As scripture says: See how I lay in Zion a precious cornerstone that I have chosen and the man who rests his trust on it will not be disappointed. That means that for you who are believers, it is precious; but for unbelievers, the stone rejected by the builders has proved to be the keystone, a stone to stumble over, a rock to bring men down.

They stumble over it because they do not believe in the world; it was the fate in store for them. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation***John 14:6*

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus said: 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.  
No one can come to the Father except through me.'  
Alleluia!

**Gospel***John 14:1-12*

The Lord be with you.

**And with your spirit.**

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to his disciples:

'Do not let your hearts be troubled.

Trust in God still, and trust in me.

There are many rooms in my Father's house;

if there were not, I should have told you.

I am now going to prepare a place for you,

and after I have gone and prepared you a place,

I shall return to take you with me;

so that where I am you may be too.

You know the way to the place where I am going.'

Thomas said, 'Lord we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?' Jesus said:

'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.

No one can come to the Father except through me.

If you know me, you know my Father too.

From this moment you know him and have seen him.'

Philip said, 'Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied.' 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip,' said Jesus to him and you still do not know me?

'To have seen me is to have seen the Father,

so how can you say, "Let us see the Father"?

Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me?

The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself:

it is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work.

You must believe me when I say

that I am in the Father and the Father is in me;

believe it on the evidence of this work, if for no other reason.

'I tell you most solemnly, whoever believes in me

will perform the same works as I do myself,

he will perform even greater works,

because I am going to the Father.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

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Responsorial Psalm from *The Psalms: A New Translation* © 1963 The Grail (England) published by HarperCollins.