



'Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favour. Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus.'

Luke 1:31-32

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

24 December 2023

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Year B

The Parish Secretary, Julie Hindmarsh, will be on annual leave this week, returning to the Parish Office on Wednesday 3 January 2023, 10am - 4pm.

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

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS 23 DECEMBER 2023 - 1 January 2024

Saturday 23 December	5.30pm	St Philip Neri	People of the Parish
Sunday 24 December	<u>9.30am</u>	<u>St Mary</u>	People of the Parish
<i>Fourth Sunday of Advent (Year B)</i>	<i>N.B.</i>	<i>No 10.30am Mass today at Immaculate Heart</i>	
Sunday 24 December			
<i>Christmas Eve The Nativity of the Lord</i>	<u>6.30pm</u>	Immaculate Heart	Freddy Bambrough (ann.)
Monday 25 December			
<i>Christmas Day The Nativity of the Lord</i>	<u>9.30am</u>	St Philip Neri	Michael Short (ann.)
<i>*** Please note there are no Weekday Masses Tuesday 26 - Friday 29 December ***</i>			
Saturday 30 December	5.30pm	St Philip Neri	N.B.F.
Sunday 31 December	9.00am	St Mary	People of the Parish
<i>The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph</i>	10.30am	Immaculate Heart	Deceased of the Mulligan Family (AC)
Monday 1 January 2024	10.00am	Immaculate Heart	
<i>Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God</i>			

Sacrament of Reconciliation

5.00pm - 5.20pm on Saturday 31 December at St Philip Neri

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK Veronica Coleman, Ann Crompton, Raymond Deponio, Barney & Veronica Hayes, Maria Thi Kien Chiene Le, John Leitch, Dickie Lindsley, Cheryl Anne McDonald, Nora Miller, Pauline Mulholland, Margaret Murphy, Astrid Muse (Gower), Mary Reid, Joseph Relph, 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).

IMMACULATE HEART CHURCH CHRISTMAS RAFFLE Many thanks to all who supported the Christmas raffle by donating prizes or purchasing tickets. The amount raised was £222 for parish funds.

LITURGICAL FORMATION FOR READERS OF THE WORD OF GOD This short course supports new and existing Readers of the Liturgy of the Word and on completion will conclude with a Commissioning Service. The dates of the course are: **Session 1:** Monday 15 January 2024, 7.00-9.00pm. **Session 2:** Saturday 20 January 2024, 10.30am-3.00pm (to include a Commissioning Service). Participants are asked to bring a packed lunch for the day event - tea and coffee will be provided. **Location:** St Mary's, Dockendale Lane, Whickham, Newcastle upon Tyne. NE16 4EN. **Cost:** £12.50 per person (this will be met by the parish). **If any existing Readers would like to attend the course, please contact the Parish Office by Wednesday 10 January. If you are interested in becoming a Reader, and would like to attend the course, please contact Fr Peter by Wednesday 10 January.**



Fr Peter wishes you and your families all the joys and blessings of the Christmas season. He also thanks you for your cards and gifts which he very much appreciates.



First Reading*Samuel 7:1-5. 8-12. 14. 16*

Once David had settled into his house and the Lord had given him rest from all the enemies surrounding him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'Look, I am living in a house of cedar while the ark of God dwells in a tent.' Nathan said to the king, 'Go and do all that is in your mind, for the Lord is with you.' But that very night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: 'Go and tell my servant David, "Thus the Lord speaks: Are you the man to build me a house to dwell in? I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be leader of my people Israel; I have been with you on all your expeditions; I have cut off all your enemies before you. I will give you fame as great as the fame of the greatest on earth. I will provide a place for my people Israel; I will plant them there and they shall dwell in that place and never be disturbed again; nor shall the wicked continue to oppress them as they did, in the days when I appointed judges over my people Israel; I will give them rest from all their enemies. The Lord will make you great; the Lord will make you a House. And when your days are ended and you are laid to rest with your ancestors, I will preserve the offspring of your body after you and make his sovereignty secure. I will be a father to him and he a son to me; if he does evil, I will punish him with the rod such as men use, with strokes such as mankind gives. Your House and your sovereignty will always stand secure before me and your throne be established for ever.'"

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm*Psalm 88:2-5. 27. 29. R/ cf. v.2*

R/ I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord.

1. I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord;
through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth.
Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever,
that your truth is firmly established as the heavens.
2. 'I have made a covenant with my chosen one;
I have sworn to David my servant:
I will establish your dynasty for ever
and set up your throne through all ages.'
3. He will say to me: 'You are my father,
my God, the rock who saves me.'
I will keep my love for him always;
for him my covenant shall endure.

Second Reading*Romans 16:25-27*

Glory to him who is able to give you the strength to live according to the Good News I preach, and in which I proclaim Jesus Christ, the revelation of a mystery kept secret for endless ages, but now so clear that it must be broadcast to pagans everywhere to bring them to the obedience of faith. This is only what scripture has predicted, and it is all part of the way the eternal God wants things to be. He alone is wisdom; give glory therefore to him through Jesus Christ for ever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation*Luke 1:38*

Alleluia, Alleluia!

I am the handmaid of the Lord:
let what you have said be done to me.
Alleluia!

Gospel*Luke 1:26-38*

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. He went in and said to her, 'Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you.' She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favour. Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?' 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you' the angel answered 'and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too: your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God.' 'I am the handmaid of the Lord,' said Mary 'let what you have said be done to me.' And the angel left her.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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'If the God of the universe was born in a dirty, messy manger, amid conflict and injustice and oppression, there is no mess or brokenness in the world or in our lives that God is not willing to step into. We trust in God's promises of restoration of the world. We stand in hope, peace, joy, and love to ground us as we offer our lives, following God's path toward justice and righteousness in the world.' (CAFOD)

