



Jesus said, 'Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market.' Then the disciples remembered the words of Scripture: 'Zeal for your house will devour me.' *John 2:16-17*

THE PARISH OF OUR LADY AND ST PHILIP NERI

Immaculate Heart of Mary ▪ Lobley Hill

St Mary ▪ Wickham

St Philip Neri ▪ Dunston

Parish Priest Canon Peter Leighton

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Diocesan Website www.diocesehn.org.uk



The John Ingram Partnership
Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle

3 March 2024

Third Sunday of Lent

Year B

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 4274/07891 162205.

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

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS 2 - 10 March 2024

Saturday 2 March	5.30pm	St Philip Neri	People of the Parish
Sunday 3 March	9.00am	St Mary	Lawrence Regan (dec.)
Third Sunday of Lent (Year B)	10.30am	Immaculate Heart	Elizabeth Jukes (dec.)
Monday 4 March			
Tuesday 5 March	9.30am	Immaculate Heart	Priest's Intention
Wednesday 6 March	9.30am	St Philip Neri	N.B.F.
Thursday 7 March	9.30am	St Mary	Shelagh Kelly (liv.)
Friday 8 March	6.30pm	Immaculate Heart	<i>Stations of the Cross</i>
Saturday 9 March	5.30pm	St Philip Neri	People of the Parish
Sunday 10 March	9.00am	St Mary	Terry Burke (ann.)
Fourth Sunday of Lent (Year B)	10.30am	Immaculate Heart	Joe Welsh (dec.)

Weekday Readings - Third Week of Lent

Sacrament of Reconciliation

5.00pm - 5.20pm on Saturday at St Philip Neri, 9.00am - 9.20am 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 REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS Fr John McElhone and Fr Mark Whelehan CP who have died. May they rest in peace. Amen.

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

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).

SUMMARY OF LISTENING EXERCISES, RESULT OF QUESTIONNAIRE AND BISHOP STEPHEN'S RESPONSE All of the summaries from the various listening exercises that have been running in the Diocese since the summer of 2023, the results of the Questionnaire for the Dicastery of Bishops Report from March 2023 and Bishop Stephen's response to what has been presented to him are available to view on the diocesan website [here](#)

LENTEN ALMS - ST CUTHBERT'S CARE A collection to support the work of St Cuthbert's Care will be taken at all Masses next weekend 9/10 March. For further information on the charitable work of St Cuthbert's Care, please visit www.stcuthbertscare.org.uk

DIOCESAN LENTEN REFLECTIONS The Diocesan Vicariate for Faith and Mission has produced booklets of Daily Lenten Reflections which are available via this weblink: <https://bit.ly/DHNLentReflections>

SYCAMORE - ONLINE SESSIONS FOR LENT 2024 Take some time out with God during this Lenten season and join us online (via Zoom) for a series of Sycamore sessions as we explore how we can live out our 'Ministry of Love'. The sessions will take place on Thursdays throughout Lent from 7.00pm to 8.15pm.

7 March "The Gift of Faith"
14 March "Finding True Freedom"
21 March "The Meaning of Love"

All are welcome! Each session can stand alone so there is no obligation to attend all if you can't commit to every week. Please register your interest to receive the Zoom link. You can do this by calling the Diocesan Admin. Team on tel. 0191 243 3316.

LENTEN DAY FOR FAMILIES Catholic Mothers and the Carmelite Friars invite you to a Lenten Family Day at St John Vianney, Hillhead Parkway, West Denton, Newcastle NE5 1DP on Saturday 9 March. The day will begin with 10am Mass followed by a short talk, opportunity for Confession, a soup lunch, children's activities and social time. All ages and families welcome. For more information email catholicmothersne@gmail.com

GIFT FOR LIFE UPDATE Gift for Life has had a very successful year thanks to the loyalty and generosity of parishioners. Your continued support and your regular giving is transforming lives. Thank you for supporting the Summer Afternoon Event, the Plant Sales and now the 100 Club. They all make a huge difference to people in dire need. For the latest update from the GfL-supported project in Kenya please follow the link on the Parish website home page. It shows in words and pictures how invaluable your support is and how it is a real force for good in the world.

GIFT FOR LIFE '100 CLUB' DRAW AND NEXT GIFT FOR LIFE GROUP MEETING Our March Gift for Life '100 Club' draw takes place after Mass this Sunday 3 March at St Mary's. Come along for refreshments, good conversation and see the draw take place. It could be you! Also, the next Gift for Life Group meeting takes place at 7pm on Thursday 7 March at St Mary's Church Hall. Please let us know if you wish to attend by emailing giftforlife20@gmail.com. Many thanks for all your support.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday 5 March 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.

FOOD BANK & REFUGEE UPDATE We welcome ALL non-perishable produce - even if you can only bring along 1 or 2 tins please bring them along to church to help out. Monetary donations are also very much appreciated.

FOOD ITEMS IN SHORT SUPPLY: pasta sauce, dried pasta, tinned potatoes, soup, biscuits.

Other priority items: UHT milk, tinned meat (mince, corned beef, pek), meatballs, hotdogs, tuna, custard, rice pudding, chopped tomatoes, baked beans, fruit, soup, sweetcorn, carrots, garden peas, long grained rice, tomato purée, gravy granules, crisps, biscuits, jam, cereal, squash, tomato ketchup, mayonnaise, sugar, teabags, coffee, biscuits, cooking oil, spray cleaner, washing up liquid, laundry powder/liquid, feminine hygiene (especially tampons), anti-perspirant toilet rolls, shampoo, toothpaste.

Other items we put into the monthly food bags, for the Refugee Project: tinned chickpeas & kidney beans.

Every Thursday volunteers are in Immaculate Heart church between 9.30am -10.30am so parishioners can drop donations off here 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, via mobile 07837 386 760 or email teachkate1@gmail.com

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL (PPC) Copies of the approved minutes of the PPC meeting held in November 2023 are now available to read at the back of each church.

SENIOR MOMENTS Save the date - **Wednesday 3 April 11.30am.**

THE NORTHERN CROSS March edition is now on sale at the back of church, price £1.50.

LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 2024 Our Lady of Lourdes invites us to come to the Holy Grotto at Lourdes to experience the love and healing of her Son. As a diocesan family we will be responding to her call as we make our diocesan pilgrimage from the 26 July - 2 August 2024. Everyone is welcome. We will welcome back our youth pilgrims and offer a special welcome to those who have never been to Lourdes before. The theme in Lourdes this year is, "come here in procession." It is the third part of the theme over the last three years based on Our Lady's words to St Bernadette, "Go tell the priests to build a chapel here and people are to come here in procession." The theme fits well with 2024 being a year of prayer. We will join thousands of pilgrims from around the world in coming to Lourdes in procession and prayer. Please consider coming on pilgrimage. If that is not possible then please do participate with your prayers from home. You may wish to participate via the live streams from the Lourdes Sanctuary, which are available online every day. For further details, <https://www.hexhamandnewcastlelourdespilgrimage.co.uk/>. please pray for the success of our diocesan pilgrimage.

NEWSLETTER ITEMS Please send any items for next weekend's Newsletter to the Parish Office **by 10.00am on Thursday 7 March.**

LOUDfence at St. Mary's Cathedral and Newcastle Cathedral [St Nicholas] Sunday 3 to Wednesday 6 March - Welcome to All. Together with the Church of England Diocese of Newcastle, our diocesan family is privileged to be hosting a LOUDfence at St. Mary's Cathedral and at Newcastle Cathedral. It will begin at the 11.30am Sunday Mass on the 3 March at St. Mary's Cathedral and end with a Service of the Word at Newcastle Cathedral [St Nicholas] on Wednesday 6 March at 7pm. Everyone is welcome to these liturgies and to visit both Cathedrals during the days to offer their prayers and support for all who have suffered abuse within church communities and all contexts. We are invited to leave prayers and messages together with provided items like the prayer ribbons presented to Bishop Stephen at his Installation Mass, which are still tied to his Bishop's Chair. People can leave their prayers and messages within or outside of the Cathedrals, recognising some people would rather not enter a place of worship. There will be people available for pastoral accompaniment if that is requested. As a diocesan family we pray for all who have suffered abuse and recognise our shared duty to safeguard the vulnerable.

POTENTIAL LEGISLATION CHANGES REGARDING ABORTION

A message from the Lead Bishop on Life Issues for the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, Bishop John Sherrington:

From the end of February, it is likely that the Criminal Justice bill will return to parliament and that amendments will be tabled to decriminalise abortion up to the point of birth.

As well as a direct attack on the dignity of the unborn, it is highly likely that these amendments, if passed, will have unforeseen consequences which could be very serious for both unborn babies and their mothers, especially given the increase in home abortions following the legalisation of the provision of abortion pills by post.

*It is possible that there will be other amendments more favourable to the rights of unborn babies. [see * below].*

To find the name and address of your MP, please visit www.littlefighters.org.uk

*Please consider supporting an amendment to reduce the abortion time limit in the UK from 24 weeks to 22 weeks. Research indicates that a significant number of babies born at 22 or 23 weeks can now survive outside the womb, leaving a contradiction in our abortion law. Postcards are available if you wish to contact your MP to support this amendment.

Jen's Weekly Prayer

As we begin to look forward to the coming of spring, grant that we can give thanks for the many blessings and gifts we have been given.

Many are struggling across our societies from loss of employment, poor living conditions, eviction, which can bring homelessness, hunger, and a lack of self-worth.

To a wider picture of suffering, oppression, anxiety, where fear, conflict, aggression, terror, cause extensive hardship and loss of family and friends. Help us open our hearts and minds to truly embrace

the love we receive in so many ways, to know that even if we are physically alone, we are cherished in our community, for love brings comfort and additional strength.

For those where hope has almost faded, may it be rekindled by a gentle touch, a kind word, a listening ear.

Grant that aggression will be replaced with peace, fear with hope, hunger with food, terror with compassion and ears to hear the cries of the needy, and may the healing light of love be a beacon for the future.

Jen Jones © February 2024



STATIONS OF THE CROSS at 6.30pm on the following Fridays during Lent:

Friday 8 March at Immaculate Heart, Friday 15 March at St Mary's, Friday 22 March at St Philip Neri

Holy Thursday 28 March

11.00am Chrism Mass at St Mary's Cathedral

EASTER TRIDUUM

Holy Thursday 28 March

6.30pm Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper at St Mary's

Holy Saturday 30 March

7.00pm Easter Vigil and First Mass of Easter at St Mary's

Good Friday 29 March (Day of Fasting & Abstinence)

3.00pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion at St Philip Neri

Easter Sunday 31 March

10.00am Mass of Easter Morning at Immaculate Heart

First Reading*Exodus 20:1-17*

God spoke all these words. He said, 'I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. You shall have no gods except me. You shall not make yourself a carved image or any likeness of anything in heaven or on earth beneath or in the waters under the earth; you shall not bow down to them or serve them. For I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God and I punish the father's fault in the sons, the grandsons, and the great-grandsons of those who hate me; but I show kindness to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments. You shall not utter the name of the Lord your God to misuse it, for the Lord will not leave unpunished the man who utters his name to misuse it. 'Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath for the Lord your God. You shall do no work that day, neither you nor your son nor your daughter nor your servants, men or women, nor your animals nor the stranger who lives with you. For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth and the sea and all that these hold, but on the seventh day he rested; that is why the Lord has blessed the Sabbath day and made it sacred. Honour your father and your mother so that you may have a long life in the land that the Lord your God has given to you.

'You shall not kill.

'You shall not commit adultery.

'You shall not steal.

'You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.

'You shall not covet your neighbour's house. You shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or his servant, man or woman, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is his.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm*Psalm 18:8-11. R/ John 6:68*

R/ You, Lord, have the message of eternal life.

1. The law of the Lord is perfect,
it revives the soul.
The rule of the Lord is to be trusted,
it gives wisdom to the simple.
2. The precepts of the Lord are right,
they gladden the heart.
The command of the Lord is clear,
it gives light to the eyes.
3. The fear of the Lord is holy,
abiding for ever.
The decrees of the Lord are truth
and all of them just.
4. They are more to be desired than gold,
than the purest of gold
and sweeter are they than honey,
than honey from the comb.

Second Reading*I Corinthians 1:22-25*

While the Jews demand miracles and the Greeks look for wisdom, here are we preaching a crucified Christ; to the Jews an obstacle that they cannot get over, to the pagans madness, but to those who have been called, whether they are Jews or Greeks, a Christ who is the power and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation*John 11:25-26*

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!
I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord,
Whoever believes in me will never die.
Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

Gospel*John 2:13-25*

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, 'Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market.' Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said, 'What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?' Jesus answered, 'Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews replied, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said.

During his stay in Jerusalem for the Passover many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he gave, but Jesus knew them all and did not trust himself to them; he never needed evidence about any man; he could tell what a man had in him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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