

Unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest.'

John 12:24

THE PARISH OF OUR LADY AND ST PHILIP NERI

Immaculate Heart of Mary ▪ Lobley Hill

St Mary ▪ Whickham

St Philip Neri ▪ Dunston

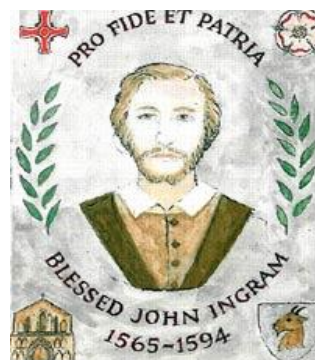
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Diocesan Website www.diocesehn.org.uk



The John Ingram Partnership
Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle

17 March 2024

Fifth 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 16 - 24 March 2024

Saturday 16 March	5.30pm	St Philip Neri	People of the Parish
Sunday 17 March	9.00am	St Mary	Dickie Lindsley (dec.)
Fifth Sunday of Lent (Year B)	10.30am	Immaculate Heart	Tony, Cecilia & Raymond McCusker (dec.)
Monday 18 March			
Tuesday 19 March St Joseph	9.30am	Immaculate Heart	N.B.F.
	5.30pm	St Philip Neri	St Philip Neri School First Reconciliation
Wednesday 20 March St Cuthbert	<u>10.30am</u>	<u>St Mary</u>	Requiem Mass - Margaret Ord RIP
Thursday 21 March	N.B.	No Service Today	
Friday 22 March	<u>12 noon</u>	<u>St Mary</u>	Requiem Mass - Kathleen Cunningham RIP
	6.30pm	St Philip Neri	Stations of the Cross
Saturday 23 March	5.30pm	St Philip Neri	People of the Parish
Sunday 24 March	9.00am	St Mary	Special Intention (MD)
Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord	10.30am	Immaculate Heart	Angela Corrigan (dec.)

Weekday Readings - Fifth 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

Please pray for the children from St Mary's and Philip Neri Schools who are celebrating their First Sacrament of Reconciliation at this time

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

9.00am - 9.25am on Tuesday at Immaculate Heart

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS Margaret Ord and Kathleen Cunningham who have died recently. The Requiem Mass for Margaret Ord will be celebrated at 10.30am on Wednesday 20 March at St Mary's, followed by Cremation at Mountsett Crematorium. The Requiem Mass for Kathleen Cunningham will be celebrated at 12 noon on Friday 22 March at St Mary's, followed by burial at Garden House Cemetery. May they rest in peace. Amen.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK Veronica Coleman, Ann Crompton, Raymond Deponio, Barney & Veronica Hayes, Marie Hogg, John Jukes, 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).

HOLY PLACES RETIRING COLLECTION Next weekend 23/24 March, there will be a Retiring Collection at all Masses for the Catholic Community in the Holy Land (Holy Places).

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 at <https://diocesahn.org.uk/news/bishop-stephens-response-to-the-listening-exercises/>

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES for the new Financial Year April 2024 - March 2025 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 make arrangement 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 to make your regular parish contributions. 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.

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 final session entitled "The Meaning of Love" will take place on Thursday 21 March from 7.00pm to 8.15pm. All are welcome! Please register your interest to receive the Zoom link. You can do this by calling the Diocesan Admin. Team on tel. 0191 243 3316.

GIFT FOR LIFE '100 CLUB' - MARCH DRAW RESULTS The March draw for the Gift for Life '100 Club' took place last weekend at St Mary's and the lucky numbers were: 1st Prize (£50) number 67; 2nd Prize (£25) number 141 and 3rd Prize (£15) number 93. Congratulations to the winners! Thank you for your very generous support.

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: UHT milk, tomato purée, tinned meatballs, hotdogs, tuna, custard, rice pudding, biscuits, tampons, antiperspirant, shampoo.

Other priority items: pasta sauce, dried pasta, tinned meat (mince, corned beef, pek), chopped tomatoes, baked beans, fruit, soup, potatoes, sweetcorn, carrots, garden peas, long grained rice, cooking oil, gravy granules, crisps, biscuits, jam, cereal, squash, tomato ketchup, mayonnaise, sugar, teabags, coffee, toothpaste, spray cleaner, washing up liquid, laundry powder/liquid, feminine hygiene, toilet rolls.

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

SENIOR MOMENTS Celebrate the Easter Season by coming along on Wednesday 3 April at 11.30am at St Mary's Hall Whickham. Pie and pea lunch with entertainment only £3 per person. **Please add your name to the list at the church entrance by this Sunday 24 March.** All welcome!

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.

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.

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.

DIOCESAN VACANCY The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle has the following job vacancy:

HR Adviser, Diocesan Offices, Newcastle - full-time. Closing date: 28 March

Please visit 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 10.00am on Thursday 21 March.**

Jen's Weekly Prayer

Holy Spirit of wisdom love and enlightenment,
pour into the minds and hearts of all a desire for peace.

A peace where the value of all individuals is precious
and treasured and a renewed desire that the well-being
of our planet becomes totally relevant
to bring, food, drink, comfort and healing for all.

We have witnessed many acts of atrocities
yet within the chaos and resentment of such situations
there has been kindness and compassion

from those who value each person
for who they are and who they can become.

Guide us all to seek first for the good,
so many are selfless and caring and we ask you
to repair the darkness and resentful, bitter hearts
who fuel the pain and destruction of individuals, families,
communities, and replace it with harmony, peace and love
which allows hope to flourish.

Jen Jones © March 2024



STATIONS OF THE CROSS at 6.30pm on 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

Good Friday 29 March (Day of Fasting & Abstinence)

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

Holy Saturday 30 March

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

Easter Sunday 31 March

10.00am Mass of Easter Morning at Immaculate Heart

First Reading*Jeremiah 31:31-34*

See, the days are coming - it is the Lord who speaks - when I will make a new covenant with the House of Israel and the House of Judah, but not a covenant like the one I made with their ancestors on the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant of mine, so I had to show them who was master. It is the Lord who speaks. No, this is the covenant I will make with the House of Israel when those days arrive - it is the Lord who speaks. Deep within them I will plant my Law, writing it on their hearts. Then I will be their God and they shall be my people. There will be no further need for neighbour to try to teach neighbour, or brother to say to brother, 'Learn to know the Lord!' No, they will all know me, the least no less than the greatest - it is the Lord who speaks - since I will forgive their iniquity and never call their sin to mind.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm*Psalms 50:3-4. 12-15. R/ v.12*

R/ A pure heart create for me, O God.

1. Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.
In your compassion blot out my offence.
O wash me more and more from my guilt
and cleanse me from my sin.
2. A pure heart create for me, O God,
put a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
nor deprive me of your holy spirit.
3. Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervour sustain me,
that I may teach transgressors your ways
and sinners may return to you.

Second Reading*Hebrews 5:7-9*

During his life on earth, Christ offered up prayer and entreaty, aloud and in silent tears, to the one who had the power to save him out of death, and he submitted so humbly that his prayer was heard. Although he was Son, he learnt to obey through suffering; but having been made perfect, he became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation*John 12:26*

Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!
If a man serves me, says the Lord, he must follow me;
wherever I am, my servant will be there too.
Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!

Gospel*John 12:20-30*

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. These approached Philip, who came from Bethsaida in Galilee, and put this request to him, 'Sir, we should like to see Jesus.' Philip went to tell Andrew, and Andrew and Philip together went to tell Jesus. Jesus replied to them:

'Now the hour has come
for the Son of Man to be glorified.

I tell you, most solemnly,
unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies,
it remains only a single grain;
but if it dies,
it yields a rich harvest.

Anyone who loves his life loses it;
anyone who hates his life in this world
will keep it for the eternal life.

If a man serves me, he must follow me,
Wherever I am, my servant will be there too.
If anyone serves me, my Father will honour him.
Now my soul is troubled.

What shall I say:

Father, save me from this hour?

But it was for this very reason that I have come to this hour.

Father, glorify your name!

A voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.'

People standing by, who heard this, said it was a clap of thunder; others said, 'It was an angel speaking to him.' Jesus answered, 'It was not for my sake that this voice came, but for yours.

'Now sentence is being passed on this world;
now the prince of this world is to be overthrown.

And when I am lifted up from the earth,
I shall draw all men to myself.'

By these words he indicated the kind of death he would die.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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