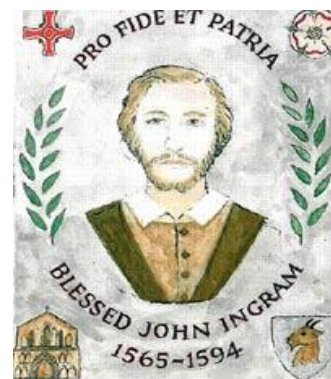




'As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love.'
John 15:9-10

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
 Parish Telephone 0191 460 4274
 Parish E-mail stmarysphilip@aol.co.uk
 Parish Website www.theparish.org.uk
 Diocesan Website www.diocesehn.org.uk



The John Ingram Partnership
 Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle

5 May 2024

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Year B

The Parish Secretary, Julie Hindmarsh, will be in the Parish Office at Immaculate Heart Presbytery this week on Tuesday & Friday 10am - 4pm. She can also be contacted Tuesday & Friday 10am - 4pm & Thursday 1.30pm - 5.30pm 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 4 - 12 May 2024

Saturday 4 May <i>The English Martyrs</i>	5.30pm	St Philip Neri	People of the Parish
Sunday 5 May	9.00am	St Mary	Maureen Clearkin (dec.)
Sixth Sunday of Easter	10.30am	Immaculate Heart	Matthew Bullock (ann.)
Monday 6 May			
Tuesday 7 May	<i>N.B.</i>	<i>No Service</i>	
Wednesday 8 May			
Vigil Mass for The Ascension of the Lord	6.30pm	Immaculate Heart	Brian James Bartley (dec.)
Thursday 9 May The Ascension of the Lord	9.30am	St Mary	People of the Parish
	12.30pm	Immaculate Heart	Requiem Mass - Mary Theresa Cookson RIP
Friday 10 May			
Saturday 11 May	5.30pm	St Philip Neri	Olga Maddison (dec.)
Sunday 12 May	9.00am	St Mary	People of the Parish
Seventh Sunday of Easter	10.30am	Immaculate Heart	Joan Stephenson (dec.)
<i>World Communications Day</i>			

Weekday Readings

Sixth Week of Eastertide

Sacrament of Reconciliation

5.00pm - 5.20pm on Saturday at St Philip Neri

Thursday 9 May is the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord and is a Holyday of Obligation
There will be 6.30pm Vigil Mass on Wednesday 8 May at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church and 9.30am Mass on Thursday 9 May at St Mary's Church (St Mary's School attending)

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS Mary Theresa Cookson and Pauline Ann Thompson who have died recently. The Requiem Mass for Mary Cookson will be at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church on Thursday 9 May at 12.30pm followed by cremation at Saltwell Crematorium. The Requiem Mass for Pauline Thompson will be at St Philip Neri Church on Friday 17 May at 10:45am followed by burial at Saltwell Cemetery. May they rest in peace. Amen.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK Veronica Coleman, Ann Crompton, Raymond Deponio, Veronica Hayes, John Jukes, Maria Thi Kien Chiene Le, John Leitch, Frank McCoy, 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.

MISSION APPEAL BY THE COMBONI MISSIONARIES

This weekend 4/5 May, we warmly welcome Fr Melaku Tafesse Amente of the Comboni Missionaries (Verona Fathers) who will celebrate our three weekend Masses and also make a Mission Appeal (retiring collection) on behalf of the Comboni Missionaries. For more information, please visit www.comboni.org.uk

WORLD COMMUNICATIONS SUNDAY Next Sunday 12 May is World Communications Day, when we take up the command of Jesus to preach the Good News of the Gospel to the whole world. Vital to this is good communication - through our websites, publications and social media channels. The Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales works hard to forge positive relationships with media outlets to communicate news relating to every aspect of the life of the Catholic Church and her people. **There will be a retiring collection to support this work at all Masses next weekend 11/12 May.** For further information, please visit: www.cbcew.org.uk/world-communications-day/

GIFT FOR LIFE EVENTS

Gift for Life '100 Club' draw and next Gift for Life Group Meeting Our May Gift for Life '100 Club' draw takes place after Mass this Sunday (5th May) 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 Wednesday 8th May 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.

Summer Social - Save the date! Following the positive feedback on last year's gathering, the *Gift for Life* team is planning an afternoon event from **2pm on Sunday 30 June** at St Mary's Hall (and, weather permitting, the Walled Garden.) More details to follow - but think tea, cakes, scones, crafts, stalls, raffle, games, quizzes and a chance to catch up on the gossip! There will be something for all ages and it's a great way to build up our parish community. 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 or plants, 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

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 7 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.

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. Monetary donations are also very much appreciated.

FOOD ITEMS IN SHORT SUPPLY: UHT milk, long grained rice, dried pasta, pasta sauce, cooking oil, tinned custard, rice pudding, tuna, meat (mince, corned beef, pek), chopped tomatoes, tomato purée, toilet rolls.

OTHER priority items: gravy granules, squash, tomato ketchup, mayonnaise, cereal, tinned hotdogs, meatballs, baked beans, potatoes, sweetcorn, carrots, garden peas, soup, fruit, crisps, jam, teabags, coffee, sugar, biscuits, toothpaste, spray cleaner, washing up liquid, laundry powder/liquid, feminine hygiene (towels & tampons), antiperspirant, shampoo, shower gel.

Other items we put into the monthly food bags, especially 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 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

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.

HOLY ISLAND SVP VINNIES CAMP There are places still available for boys and girls in school years 5-7 (inclusive) at Holy Island Children's camp. A week's traditional holiday with meals and transport costs just £150! If you would like your child to have a week's holiday on Holy Island this Summer please visit our site <https://svp.org.uk/microsite/holy-island> If you know of any child who would benefit from this opportunity but may need assistance in paying, please email holyislandapplications@svp.org.uk

FAITH EVENTS AT USHAW

Sung Vespers (Evening Prayer) This Sunday 5 May at 4pm, please join us for Sung Vespers in St. Cuthbert's Chapel at Ushaw. Please note that this is not a concert performance, but an opportunity to pray together the Evening Prayer of the Church for the Sixth Sunday of Easter. As the format of this service may be new to some people, we will also be offering some reflections on praying Vespers as a group. All are welcome to join us for the service. No ticket is required.

Corpus Christi: Eucharistic Procession with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament On Sunday 2 June, Ushaw will be hosting a Eucharistic Procession with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, led by Bishop Stephen Wright, and starting at 3pm in St. Cuthbert's Chapel. Weather permitting, the procession will go through Ushaw's gardens, returning to the Chapel for Benediction. Teas and coffees will be available after the service. You do not need a ticket for this event, but please sign up at <https://ushaw.org/whats-on-at-ushaw/> or on the sheet at the back of church, to help Ushaw to estimate numbers - this will help Ushaw to manage car parking requirements.

Workshop on Synodality On Saturday 8 June, Ushaw will be holding a day workshop on what the Synod on Synodality means for us. There will be sessions on the current stage of the worldwide Synod, including an opportunity to look at some of the outputs of last October's General Assembly in Rome. The workshop will also look at some practical examples of synodality in our local parishes and church groups. The workshop costs £10. The day starts with welcome and refreshments at 10.30am and will finish by 4pm. Bring a packed lunch, or you will be able to buy lunch in Ushaw's café. You can book for the workshop on Ushaw's website at <https://ushaw.org/whats-on-at-ushaw/> For those who are new to synodality and would like to find out more about what the Synod is, and why it is important for our local church, there will be an optional introductory session starting at 9.30am.

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

IT Field Engineer (two posts) Diocesan Offices, Newcastle – full-time, 9-month fixed term contract. Closing date is 6 May. For further details on both vacancies, please visit www.diocesehn.org.uk or tel. on 0191 243 3301.

TRUSTEE VACANCY WITH MARRIAGE CARE Marriage Care is a Catholic organisation providing marriage preparation and relationship counselling services across England, Wales and Gibraltar. We are looking for **Trustees** to strengthen our board and to help us continue to provide vital relationship support services to the Catholic community and beyond. For more information please visit: www.marriagecare.org.uk or email: volunteer@marriagecare.org.uk

NEWSLETTER ITEMS Please send any items for next weekend's Newsletter to the Parish Office **by 10.00am on Thursday 9 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 10:25-26. 34-35. 44-48*

As Peter reached the house Cornelius went out to meet him, knelt at his feet and prostrated himself. But Peter helped him up. 'Stand up,' he said 'I am only a man after all!'

Then Peter addressed them: 'The truth I have now come to realise' he said 'is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.'

While Peter was still speaking the Holy Spirit came down on all the listeners. Jewish believers who had accompanied Peter were all astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit should be poured out on the pagans too, since they could hear them speaking strange languages and proclaiming the greatness of God. Peter himself then said, 'Could anyone refuse the water of baptism to these people, now they have received the Holy Spirit just as much as we have?' He then gave orders for them to be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ. Afterwards they begged him to stay on for some days.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm *Psalm 97:1-4. R/ cf. v.2*

Response: The Lord has shown his salvation to the nations.

1. Sing a new song to the Lord
for he has worked wonders.
His right hand and his holy arm
have brought salvation.
2. The Lord has made known his salvation;
has shown his justice to the nations.
He has remembered his truth and love
for the house of Israel.
3. All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.
Shout to the Lord all the earth,
ring out your joy.

Second Reading *I John 4:7-10*

My dear people, let us love one another since love comes from God and everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God. Anyone who fails to love can never have known God, because God is love. God's love for us was revealed when God sent into the world his only Son so that we could have life through him; this is the love I mean: not our love for God, but God's love for us when he sent his Son to be the sacrifice that takes our sins away.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

John 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus said: 'If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him.'

Alleluia!

Gospel Reading

John 15:9-17

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:

'As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my own joy may be in you and your joy be complete. This is my commandment: love one another, as I have loved you. A man can have no greater love than to lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends, if you do what I command you. I shall not call you servants anymore, because a servant does not know his master's business; I call you friends, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father. You did not choose me, no, I chose you; and I commissioned you to go out and to bear fruit, fruit that will last; and then the Father will give you anything you ask him in my name. What I command you is to love one another.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Scripture Readings from *The Jerusalem Bible* © 1966 by Darton, Longman & Todd Ltd and Doubleday and Company Ltd.

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