



For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? *Luke 14:28*

THE PARISH OF OUR LADY AND ST PHILIP NERI
Immaculate Heart of Mary • Lobley Hill
St Mary • Whickham
St Philip Neri • Dunston
and
THE PARISH OF SACRED HEART, BYERMOOR

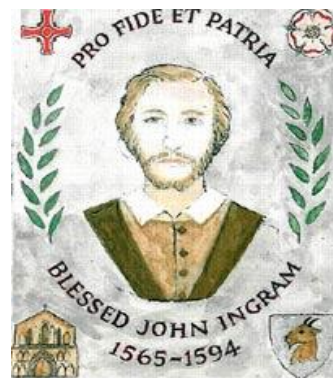
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Parish Website www.theparish.org.uk

Diocesan Website www.diocesehn.org.uk



The John Ingram Partnership
 Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle

7 September 2025

Twenty Third Sunday of the Year

Year C

The Parish Secretary, Theresa Noble, will be available in the Parish Office at Immaculate Heart Presbytery on Tuesday 9.00am - 3.00pm and Friday 9.00am - 1.00pm
She can also be contacted by email olpn.gateshead@diocesehn.org.uk or by telephone 0191 460 4274 on Tuesday and Wednesday 9.00am - 3.00pm and Friday 9.00am - 1.00pm
Postal Address: St Mary's Presbytery, Malvern Gardens, Gateshead, Tyne and Wear NE11 9LL

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS 6 - 14 September 2025

Saturday 6 September	4.30pm	Sacred Heart	Margaret McHugh (dec.)
	5.30pm	St Philip Neri	Stephen Airey (dec.) [KA]
Sunday 7 September	9.00am	St Mary	Helen Jackson (dec.) [CMcT]
Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)	10.30am	Immaculate Heart	People of the Parish
Monday 8 September <i>Birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	<u>1.30pm</u>	Sacred Heart	Priest's Intention (<i>Sacred Heart School attending</i>)
Tuesday 9 September	9.30am	Immaculate Heart	Priest's Intention
Wednesday 10 September	9.30am	St Philip Neri	Molly & John Pinchen (liv.) 65 th Wedding Anniv (<i>St Philip Neri School attending</i>)
Thursday 11 September <i>The Most Holy Name of Mary</i>	9.30am	St Mary	Peter Brown (dec.) [PC] (<i>St Mary's School attending</i>)
Friday 12 September			
Saturday 13 September <i>St John Chrysostom</i>	4.30pm	Sacred Heart	Pauline Turner & Dec'd of Boland Family [HT]
	5.30pm	St Philip Neri	Bill & Sheila Hutchins (dec.) [CS]
Sunday 14 September	9.00am	St Mary	Barbara Stephenson (dec.) [PG]
The Exaltation of the Holy Cross	10.30am	Immaculate Heart	People of the Parish
<i>Day of Special Prayer for those involved in Education</i>			

Weekday Readings: *Ordinary Time Week 23 Year 1 (or Proper to the Feast day)*

Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

4.30pm on Sunday 7 September at Sacred Heart

Sacrament of Reconciliation

5.00pm - 5.20pm on Saturday at St Philip Neri, 1.00pm - 1.20pm on Monday at Sacred Heart,
 9.00am - 9.20am on Tuesday at Immaculate Heart & Thursday at St Mary's

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

1.00pm - 1.25pm on Monday at Sacred Heart, 9.00am - 9.20am on Tuesday at Immaculate Heart,

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS Bernadette Fitzpatrick who has died recently. The Funeral Service for Bernadette will be at Saltwell Crematorium on Thursday 11 September at 2.30pm. May she rest in peace. Amen.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK Kath Airey, Maureen Buckle, Veronica Coleman, Ann Crompton, Teresa Fawcett, Molly Hearne, Tatiane Lambert, Maria Thi Kien Chiene Le, John Leitch, Bill Martin, Cheryl Anne McDonald, Nora Miller, Margaret Murphy, Astrid Muse (Gower), Joseph Relph, Tony Richardson, Gervase Smith.

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).

PARISH EMAIL ADDRESS - IMPORTANT UPDATE In order to provide a shorter and less cumbersome Parish email address, please note the Parish email address has been amended to olpn.gateshead@diocesehn.org.uk Until further notice, the older address ourladystphilipneri.gateshead@diocesehn.org.uk will still function and any emails sent to this older address will be forwarded automatically to the new address. Canon Peter, as Parish Priest, also has a new email address which is pp.olpn.gateshead@diocesehn.org.uk

EDUCATION SUNDAY Next weekend is Education Sunday and the Diocesan Department for Education is asking parishes to pray for our Diocesan Catholic schools, their pupils and staff. In addition, they are using the opportunity to make an appeal for governors at the end of Mass. They are inviting headteachers, school or Catholic Education Trust staff and governors to make the short appeal. The narrative has been provided. Please contact Rebecca Daghish rebecca.daghish@diocesehn.org.uk if you are able to support. Thank you.

There will be a retiring collection at all Masses next weekend for those who wish to contribute towards the work of the Catholic Education Service in England and Wales.

ALIVE IN HOPE: A CHURCH FOR MISSION A Jubilee Day in the Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle with guest speakers, welcome from Bishop Stephen, a choice of seminars to reawaken and empower you for mission, praise and worship led by Set A Fire, and a marketplace with Catholic organisations and groups.

FREE entry - please register (see below)

Bring a packed lunch

Refreshments provided

Ample car parking

Saturday 27 September 2025, 10am - 3pm at Cardinal Hume Catholic School, Old Durham Road, Gateshead NE9 6RZ

Bishop Stephen invites you to a Jubilee Day on Saturday 27 September, from 10am to 3pm at Cardinal Hume Catholic School in Gateshead. Everyone is welcome! There'll be guest speakers from the Prisons' Chaplaincy and the Justice & Peace Refugee Project, and a choice of seminars/forums to reawaken and empower us for mission. This is an opportunity to connect with old friends and new, and to celebrate our diocesan family as we explore what a Church in Mission invites us to be and do! There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and a prayer space in the chapel, and praise and worship led by Durham musicians 'Set A Fire'. Take a look around the marketplace where there'll be stands and gifts from some of our Catholic partners and groups. Registration and refreshments from 9.15am, but please bring a packed lunch. **Ample parking is available and entry is FREE but please register at <https://bit.ly/DHNAlive25> where you'll also find more information about the seminars you'll be able to join during the day.**

'To be a baptised Christian is to have a vocation to build the Kingdom of God here and now. The focus must be mission.'
Bishop Stephen Wright

BLESSED CARLO ACUTIS AND BLESSED PIER GIORGIO FRASSATI In celebration of Pope Leo canonising two new Saints this Sunday 7 September - Blessed Carlo Acutis and Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati - we will be having homemade cake with our hot drinks after 10.30am Mass this Sunday at Immaculate Heart. All welcome. Thank you - Wendy and Megan (tea rota).

CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME 2025-26 - An invitation to all families with children starting Year 9 or above. Our next biennial Sacrament of Confirmation programme for young people, *Emmaus: Journey of Accompaniment*, begins in Autumn 2025. **If your child would like to register to join this programme, please complete the online booking form by no later than Sunday 13 September 2025. The booking link is <https://bit.ly/DHNemmaus25>. This year's programme will be run from St Matthew's, Prudhoe and the Confirmation Mass is due to be celebrated on Friday 3 July 2026.** For more information, please contact the Parish Office or email Mark Hindmarsh, who is the Emmaus Programme Coordinator, at markhindmarsh04@gmail.com

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN FINDING OUT MORE ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH? The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) supports adults who wish to explore their spirituality and discern if they wish to become a Catholic (it is also for Catholic adults who wish to prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation). It is an informal system of regular meetings to explore what it means to be a Catholic. Meetings are generally held on Tuesday evenings at St Patrick's Parish Centre, Felling at 6.30pm for about an hour and a quarter, and only during school term times. These meetings allow participants to talk about topics in an open, non-judgemental way. Topics look at the history of the Church, The Bible, the Sacraments of the Church and prayer. You can suggest topics too. The meetings are based around the Sycamore Course approved by the Church. Participants do not have to make their mind up straight away but can decide as the course progresses - this decision is yours alone. **An initial meeting is planned for Tuesday 23 September at 6.30 pm at St Patrick's Parish Centre, Felling NE10 9LT.** Please feel free to come along for a short introduction to the Programme and a chance to ask any questions you may have. if you are interested in taking part in this Programme, please have a word with Canon Peter or Fr Endre.

GIFT FOR LIFE SEPTEMBER 100 CLUB DRAW The September *Gift for Life* '100 Club' draw takes place after Mass this Sunday (7th September) at Immaculate Heart. Come along for refreshments, good conversation and see the draw take place. It could be you! Thank you for all your brilliant support.

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

IN SHORT SHORT SUPPLY: tinned vegetables, garden peas, sweetcorn, carrots, tuna, spray cleaner.

OTHER priority items - cereal, cooking oil, tomato purée, long grained rice, UHT Milk, Dried pasta, pasta sauce, potatoes, baked beans, chopped tomatoes, meatballs, hot dogs, custard, rice pudding, fruit, sugar, biscuits, washing up liquid, laundry powder/liquid, shampoo, antiperspirant, toothpaste, feminine hygiene (especially tampons), toilet rolls.

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 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 either via mobile 07837 386760 or email teachkate1@gmail.com

SACRED HEART BYERMOOR

- There will be Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at Sacred Heart Church on Sunday 7 September at 4.30pm.
- Mass at Sacred Heart Church on Monday 8 September will be at 1.30pm with Sacred Heart School and parents attending for a Start of Year Mass.
- *The Good to be alive* calendar for 2026 featuring watercolours of local scenes is now on sale, £5 each, with all proceeds going to parish funds.

THE TERMINALLY ILL ADULTS (END OF LIFE) BILL is due to have its second reading in the House of Lords on 12 September. Archbishop John Sherrington, the Lead Bishop on Life Issues has issued a statement which can be viewed on the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales (CBCEW) website - www.cbcew.org.uk/statement-from-archbishop-john-sherrington-on-assisted-suicide-bill-in-the-house-of-lords Right To Life UK has launched an EasyAction tool to help you write to a few Peers with a tailored message to highlight key concerns with the Bill. To do this, please visit www.righttolife.org.uk/aspeers to ask Peers to oppose assisted suicide - it takes just 30 seconds!

GAZA - PRAYER AND ACTION Bishop Nicholas Hudson (Chair of the CBCEW Department for International Affairs) has added his voice to those of Pope Leo, the Patriarchs of Jerusalem, and Caritas Internationalis on the situation in Gaza. His statement and suggested prayers for peace can be read at <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/bishop-hudson-gaza-needs-prayer-and-action-now-more-than-ever/>

NEWMAN TYNESIDE CIRCLE invites you to come and hear Nicholas Sagovsky speak about 'Heart speaks to heart'; what has Newman to do with synodality? in the hall of Holy Name Church, Jesmond, Newcastle NE2 3JX, on Tuesday 30 September, at 7.30pm.

CATHOLIC CERTIFICATE IN RELIGIOUS STUDIES CCRS 2025-2026

The Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies is managed and awarded by the Board of Religious Studies on behalf of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. The programme seeks to ensure that participants have a basic understanding of the central beliefs of the Catholic faith. This programme is available for catechists, lay leaders and other adults wishing to deepen their understanding of the Catholic faith and Catholic education, serving teachers in Catholic and other schools, and teachers in training preparing to take up posts in Catholic schools. The 2025-2026 CCRS course programme is now available on the Diocesan website:

<https://diocesehn.org.uk/education/professional-development-and-formation/#ccrs>

If anyone would like further information, they can contact the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle, Department for Education on 0191 243 3313 or email education@diocesehn.org.uk

THE NORTHERN CROSS September 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 10.00am on Thursday 11 September.**

Jen's Weekly Prayer

Vast swathes of violet, deep purple, holly green, soft pale green, springtime yellow, bright fuchsia pink lights filled the sky like a huge array of silken fabrics unfurling, glowing, enrapturing whilst above this display the diamond glow of multiple stars added to this exquisite ethereal splendour.

Another extraordinary, majestic gift from our natural world.

Help us to cherish these wondrous gifts which transport delight and enhance our lives and help us in darker times to recall their beauty and how the wonder of light from so far away can enfold, support and infuse us with well-being and joy.

For those who are trapped in a place of pain and suffering where such light cannot be seen because of destruction and violence, that peace and reconciliation will wrap around them and bring healing and strength in order that they can once again see wide spectrums of colours not with fear but joy.

Jen Jones @ September 2025

SAFEGUARDING IN THE DIOCESE OF HEXHAM AND NEWCASTLE

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (CSSA) and Diocesan policies and procedures at all times. Each of our churches has a Parish Safeguarding Representative (PSR) indicated on the Safeguarding posters in each church - Angela Bell (Immaculate Heart), Bernadette Salmon & Joe Wheatley (St Mary's), Denise Hebron (St Philip Neri). Alternatively, the Diocesan Safeguarding Team can be contacted on 0191 243 3305 or safeguarding@diocesehn.org.uk

First reading*Wisdom 9:13-18b*

'Who can discern what the Lord wills?'
 What human being can learn the counsel of God?
 Or who can discern what the Lord wills?
 For the reasoning of mortals is worthless,
 and our designs are likely to fail,
 for a perishable body weighs down the soul,
 and this earthly tent burdens the mind full of thoughts.
 We can hardly guess at what is on earth,
 and what is at hand we find with labour;
 but who has traced out what is in the heavens?
 Who has learned your counsel,
 unless you have given wisdom
 and sent your holy spirit from on high?
 And thus the paths of those on earth were set right,
 and people were taught what pleases you.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm *Ps 90(89):3-4. 5-6. 12-13. 14, 17. R/1*

**R/ O Lord, you have been our refuge,
 from generation to generation.**

You turn man back to dust,
 and say, 'Return, O children of Adam.'
 To your eyes a thousand years
 are like yesterday, come and gone,
 or like a watch in the night. **R/**

You sweep them away like a dream,
 like grass which is fresh in the morning.
 In the morning it sprouts and is fresh;
 by evening it withers and fades. **R/**

Then teach us to number our days,
 that we may gain wisdom of heart.
 Turn back, O Lord! How long?
 Show pity to your servants. **R/**

At dawn, fill us with your merciful love;
 we shall exult and rejoice all our days.
 Let the favour of the Lord our God be upon us;
 give success to the work of our hands.
 O give success to the work of our hands. **R/**

Second reading*Philemon 9b-10, 12-17*

Beloved: I, Paul, an old man and now a prisoner also for Christ Jesus - I appeal to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I became in my imprisonment. I am sending him back to you, sending my very heart. I would have been glad to keep him with me, in order that he might serve me on your behalf during my imprisonment for the gospel, but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your goodness might not be by compulsion but of your own accord. For this perhaps is why he was parted from you for a while, that you might have him back for ever, no longer as a bondservant but more than a bondservant, as a beloved brother - especially to me, but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. So if you consider me your partner, receive him as you would receive me.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation*Psalm 119(118):135*

Alleluia, alleluia.
 Let your face shine forth on your servant,
 and teach me your decrees.
 Alleluia.

Gospel*Luke 14:25-33*

The Lord be with you.
And with your Spirit.

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

At that time:

Great crowds accompanied Jesus, and he turned and said to them, 'If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother, and wife and children, and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, saying, "This man began to build and was not able to finish." Or what king, going out to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and deliberate whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace. So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Scripture Readings from the *English Standard Version of the Bible, Catholic Edition (ESV-CE)* © 2017 Crossway. Responsorial Psalm from *Abbey Psalms and Canticles* © 2018 USCCB.