



We should glory in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, in whom is our salvation, life and resurrection, through whom we are saved and delivered.

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

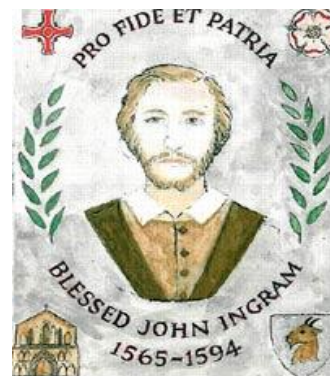
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Parish Website www.theparish.org.uk

Diocesan Website www.diocesehn.org.uk



The John Ingram Partnership
 Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle

14 September 2025

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

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 13 - 21 September 2025

Saturday 13 September	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 (Year C)	10.30am Immaculate Heart	People of the Parish
<i>Day of Special Prayer for those involved in Education</i>		
Monday 15 September <i>Our Lady of Sorrows</i>	<u>1.30pm</u> Sacred Heart	Priest's Intention
Tuesday 16 September <i>Ss Cornelius & Cyprian</i>	9.30am Immaculate Heart	Priest's Intention
Wednesday 17 September	9.30am St Philip Neri	Jim Mohan (dec.) [MP]
Thursday 18 September	9.30am St Mary	Peter Brown (dec.) [DS]
Friday 19 September		
Saturday 20 September <i>Ss Andrew Kim, Paul Chong & Companions</i>		
Saturday 20 September	4.30pm Sacred Heart	Denis Smith (dec.)
	5.30pm St Philip Neri	Vi McVeigh (dec.) [CS]
Sunday 21 September	9.00am St Mary	Thanksgiving [KA]
Twenty Fifth Sunday of the Year (C)	10.30am Immaculate Heart	People of the Parish

Weekday Readings: Ordinary Time Week 24 Year 1 (or Proper to the Feast day)

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,
 Wednesday at St Philip Neri & Thursday at St Mary's

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK Kath Airey, Maureen Buckle, Veronica Coleman, Ann Crompton, Teresa Fawcett, Tatiane Lambert, Maria Thi Kien Chiene Le, John Leitch, Bill Martin, Cheryl Anne McDonald, Nora Miller, Margaret Murphy, Astrid Muse (Gower), Joseph Relph, 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 This 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. Please contact Rebecca Daglish rebecca.daglish@diocesehn.org.uk if you are able to support. Thank you. **There will be a retiring collection at all Masses this 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*

A BIG THANK YOU to everyone who stayed after Mass last Sunday and for all the donations, cakes and help. We raised £66.64 for our parish funds. Everyone had a lovely time and the cake was very nice too. Thanks from Wendy and Megan.

RED MISSION BOXES are due to be emptied this month. Boxes/Money can be given to Lilian Gray at Immaculate Heart and St Mary's or Denise Hebron at St Philip Neri. Copies of the Autumn edition of Mission Today will be distributed but can also be read online at www.missio.org.uk/mission-today This edition focuses on World Mission Sunday which will be celebrated on 19th October. Please contact Lilian Gray on 07717853685 or liliangray@sky.com if you have any queries.

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 this Sunday 14 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.

THE GIFT FOR LIFE SEPTEMBER 100 CLUB DRAW took place last weekend and the lucky numbers were: First Prize (£50) number 47; 2nd Prize (£30) number 2 and 3rd Prize (£20) number 125. Congratulations to the winners! The next draw will take place at St. Mary's on Sunday 5 October. Thank you for your very generous 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: cooking oil, tinned vegetables - garden peas, sweetcorn, carrots, potatoes, tuna, spray cleaner. OTHER priority items: cereal, tomato purée, long grained rice, UHT Milk, dried pasta, pasta sauce, baked beans, chopped tomatoes, meatballs, hot dogs, custard, rice pudding, fruit, sugar, biscuits, toothpaste, washing up liquid, laundry powder/liquid, shampoo, antiperspirant, 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 *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.

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/>

DIOCESAN VACANCIES

Parish Secretary, Parishes of Our Lady Immaculate and St Cuthbert, Crook, St Thomas of Canterbury, Wolsingham; and St Joseph, Tow Law 14 hours per week. 12 Month Fixed Term Contract. The Applicant Pack can be obtained by contacting nell.dewhirst@diocesehn.org.uk or human.resources@diocesehn.org.uk
Closing date: 12:00 noon Tuesday 16 September 2025.

Parish Secretary, Parish of St Bede & Ss Peter and Paul South Shields 12 hours per week; Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 9.00am to 13:00. The Applicant Pack can be obtained by contacting nell.dewhirst@diocesehn.org.uk or human.resources@diocesehn.org.uk Closing Date: 12:00 noon Wednesday 17 September 2025

Parish Secretary, St Mary's Cathedral, St Dominic's and St Michael's, Newcastle 17 hours per week to be agreed. The Applicant Pack can be obtained by contacting nell.dewhirst@diocesehn.org.uk or human.resources@diocesehn.org.uk
Closing date: 12:00 noon on Wednesday 17 September 2025

Parish Secretary, Parish of All Saints, Lanchester 9 hours per week, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9.00am - 12 noon. The Applicant Pack can be obtained by contacting nell.dewhirst@diocesehn.org.uk or human.resources@diocesehn.org.uk
Closing date: 12 noon Thursday 25 September

Cleaner, St Matthew's Presbytery, Jarrow 6 hours per week with a degree of flexibility which can be discussed during the interview process. The Applicant Pack can be obtained by contacting nell.dewhirst@diocesehn.org.uk or human.resources@diocesehn.org.uk
Closing date: 12 noon Tuesday 16 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

HELPING HANDS NEEDED FOR CARE HOME GARDEN Do you enjoy being outdoors and lending a helping hand? St Joseph's Home (Little Sisters of the Poor) are looking for volunteers to help tend their extensive garden. The garden is a special place for the residents, a space for peace, fresh air, and community. We are looking for volunteers to assist with weeding, clearing undergrowth and general upkeep. No special skills or experience are needed, just a willing spirit, kind heart and a bit of time to share. Just bring yourself and we'll provide the tools. If you would like to be part of this rewarding work and share joy with the residents, please contact Sr Brigitte or Anne Whale (Tel: 0191 273 1279) to get involved. Let's join together to make the garden flourish for the residents to enjoy!

LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR - PIE AND PEA SUPPER St Joseph's Home in Newcastle is having a Pie & Pea Supper on Wednesday 24 September at 7.00pm. There will also be bingo, a raffle and entertainment. Tickets are £8 each and are available from the Little Sisters on 0191 273 1279.

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.

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 18 September**.

Jen's Weekly Prayer

An act of love can be but a single word.
It is the tone, the look which communicates.
With love there is breath, there is life.
A touch, a smile, a word, how simple yet how difficult.
We do not always know who will take comfort
from our actions or words.
Help us to remember how it feels to glow in
the touch, the word, the smile of another person.
You give us more than one form of love.
You give us each other, the animals, the beauty and the
aridness of the world in which we live.
The resting tree is still a force of majesty and life.
In springtime it is clothed in a greener mantle
bringing new life.
Each phase, each beginning is a gift of love.
Help us to share with each other these new beginnings.
May we stop, truly look and see enjoy the silence
and hear the gentle murmuring of life around us,
flowing water, bees, birds, swaying leaves.
Enable us to make a commitment to nurture, cherish,
love each other, ourselves, and our weary planet,
by our words and actions
filled with gratitude hope and peace.

Jen Jones © revised October 2021

First reading

Numbers 21:4b-9

In those days: The people became impatient on the way.
And the people spoke against God and against Moses,
'Why have you brought us up out of Egypt
to die in the wilderness?
For there is no food and no water,
and we loathe this worthless food.'
Then the Lord sent fiery serpents among the people,
and they bit the people,
so that many people of Israel died.
And the people came to Moses and said,
'We have sinned,
for we have spoken against the Lord and against you.
Pray to the Lord, that he take away the serpents from us.'
So Moses prayed for the people.
And the Lord said to Moses,
'Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole,
and everyone who is bitten,
when he sees it, shall live.'
So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole.
And if a serpent bit anyone,
he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm *Ps 78(77):1-2. 34-35. 36-37. 38. R/7b*

R/ Never forget the deeds of the Lord!

Give ear, my people, to my teaching;
incline your ear to the words of my mouth.
I will open my mouth in a parable
and utter hidden lessons of the past. **R/**

When he slew them, then they sought him,
repented and earnestly sought God.
They would remember that God was their rock,
God the Most High their redeemer. **R/**

Yet they deceived him with their mouths;
they lied to him with their tongues.
For their hearts were not steadfast towards him;
they were not faithful to his covenant. **R/**

Yet he who is full of compassion
forgave them their sin and spared them.
So often he held back his anger,
and did not stir up all his rage. **R/**

Second reading

Philippians 2:6-11

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God,
did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped,
but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant,
being born in the likeness of men.
And being found in human form,
he humbled himself by becoming obedient
to the point of death, even death on a cross.
Therefore God has highly exalted him and
bestowed on him the name that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Psalm 119(118):135

Alleluia, alleluia.
We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,
because by your Cross you have redeemed the world.
Alleluia.

Gospel

John 3:13-17

The Lord be with you.
And with your Spirit.

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.
Glory to you, O Lord.

At that time: Jesus said to Nicodemus,
'No one has ascended into heaven
except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man.
And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness,
so must the Son of Man be lifted up,
that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.
For God so loved the world,
that he gave his only begotten Son,
that whoever believes in him
should not perish but have eternal life.
For God did not send his Son
into the world to condemn the world,
but in order that the world might be saved through him.'

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.