



The Lord is close to the broken-hearted;
those whose spirit is crushed he will save.
Psalm 33:18

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

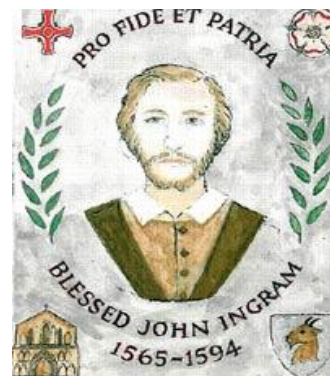
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The John Ingram Partnership
Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle

26 October 2025

Thirtieth 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 25 October - 3 November 2025

Saturday 25 October	4.30pm	Sacred Heart	People of the Parish
	5.30pm	St Philip Neri	Priest's Intention
Sunday 26 October	9.00am	St Mary	Ann Tate (dec.) [MD]
Thirtieth Sunday of the Year	10.30am	Immaculate Heart	Deceased Members of Connor & Henderson Families
Monday 27 October	N.B.	Sacred Heart	No Mass today
Tuesday 28 October <i>Ss Simon & Jude</i>	9.30am	Immaculate Heart	Priest's Intention
Wednesday 29 October	9.30am	St Philip Neri	Priest's Intention
Thursday 30 October <i>The Martyrs of Douai College</i>	9.30am	St Mary	Ann Tate (dec.) [MT]
Friday 31 October			
Saturday 1 November	4.30pm	Sacred Heart	Priest's Intention
	5.30pm	St Philip Neri	Stephen Airey (dec.) [CN]
Sunday 2 November	9.00am	St Mary	Deceased relatives & friends of Cunningham Family
Solemnity of All Saints	10.30am	Immaculate Heart	People of the Parish
Monday 3 November	9.30am	Immaculate Heart	The Faithful Departed
<i>All Souls (Commemoration of the Faithful Departed)</i>	2.15pm	Sacred Heart	The Faithful Departed (<i>Sacred Heart School attending</i>)
	6.00pm	Sacred Heart	The Faithful Departed
	(N.B. 5.30pm - Blessing of Graves in Sacred Heart Cemetery)		

Weekday Readings: Ordinary Time Week 30 Year 1 (or Proper to the Feast Day)

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 - 9.20am on Tuesday at Immaculate Heart, Wednesday at St Philip Neri & Thursday at St Mary's

Reception and Confirmation

Please pray for Molly Nixon and Sebastian Ziri-Sayle who are to be received into Full Communion with the Catholic Church and Confirmed during the 9.00am Mass at St Mary's this Sunday

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).

CLERGY TRAINING FUND COLLECTION This weekend 25/26 October there will be a retiring collection for the Diocesan Clergy Training Fund. Envelopes are available at the back of church for any donations you may wish to Gift Aid.

THE SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS is celebrated on Sunday 2 November and Masses will be celebrated at the usual Saturday Vigil/Sunday morning times.

ALL SOULS (The Commemoration of the Faithful Departed) is celebrated on Monday 3 November. There will be Mass at 9.30am at Immaculate Heart of Mary and 2.15pm & 6.00pm at Sacred Heart, Byermoor.

QUIZ NIGHT WITH PIE & PEA SUPPER (including your first drink - any vegetarians will be catered for). Remember you can also bring along your own drink & refreshments however, extra drinks will be available for a donation.

Let's have a social get together with any money raised going to parish funds and our "Love Christmas" project, although it's not really about raising money, it's about spending some enjoyable social time with each other.

When? Thursday 13 November, 6.30pm at Immaculate Heart Church, Lobley Hill. Warren and Lilian Gray have very kindly agreed to organise the quiz which will include a variety of interesting, fun and wide-ranging topics for all ages.

Tickets are on sale now at the back of each church - adults £5, children £3.

Be quick, as we can only accommodate a limited number, so get that purse/wallet out, get those tickets bought and come along for a fun quiz night, raffle, food and drink and of course good company!

Any queries please contact Denise Hebron 07554 445679 or Katie Wilkinson 07837 386760.

FOOD BANK & REFUGEE PROJECT 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.

SHORT SUPPLY: UHT Milk, dried pasta, pasta sauce, tinned meat (corned beef, mince beef, pek etc), potatoes, tuna, hot dogs.

OTHER priority items: cereal, tomato purée, cooking oil, long grained rice, tinned vegetables - garden peas, carrots, sweetcorn, chopped tomatoes, baked beans, meatballs, custard, rice pudding, fruit, sugar, biscuits, toothpaste, washing up liquid, spray cleaner, 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

SERVICE OF LIGHT You are cordially invited to our annual Service of Light to remember those we love who have died in the Gateshead area.

Date and venue: Sunday 16 November, 3pm at St Mary's RC Church, Whickham NE16 4EN. The Service will be led by Revd Paul Nichol, Chaplain to St Bede's Unit, QE Hospital. All are welcome to join us for an hour of quiet pray and reflection. Light refreshments will be available in the Church Hall afterwards.

OUR LADY AND ST PHILIP NERI FINANCIAL UPDATE Parish funds have fallen by £5,168 to £265,946 in the 6 months to the end of September. Loose Plate offertory collections of £12,582 are an impressive 28% up on last year's £9,781 while Standing Orders and envelopes remain fairly static at £17,278.

On the downside spend on repairs are £2,334 higher with a new boiler and new windows at Dockendale Cottage being the main items of expenditure. Fr Endre's duties as Assistant Priest bring a charge of £6,000 as we share his Clergy Allowance and presbytery utility costs with Sacred Heart Parish.

SACRED HEART PARISH NEWS

BLESSING OF GRAVES at 5.30pm on All Souls, Monday 3 November, meeting at the Crucifix in the cemetery. (Mass will follow at 6.00pm).

FINANCIAL UPDATE Parish funds have increased slightly by £682 to £63,434 in the 6 months to the end of September. Offertory collections in all forms totaled £6,800 which is £315 up on the same period last year. Despite the increase, this sum is insufficient to fund a full-time priest and associated presbytery costs. Therefore, Our Lady and St Philip Neri Parish is contributing £1,000 per month towards Fr Endre's costs to cover his duties across both parishes.

Repair expenditure is significantly down on last year but items that need addressing over the coming months include presbytery drainage, possible felling of trees close to the church, repairs to pathways and making safe the perimeter wall that is falling down.

CALENDAR 2026 *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.

CHRISTMAS WREATHS Starting in Advent this year, Christmas Wreaths will be on display in the church. If you would like one dedicated to your loved ones, please make a donation of £20 or more to the Parish. Please speak to Mary Young for details.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE Donations for our Christmas Raffle would be greatly appreciated.

MAKE YOUR GIVING GO FURTHER WITH GIFT AID! Did you know that if you're a UK taxpayer, your donations to the parish can go even further at **no extra cost to you**? With Gift Aid, the government adds 25% to your gift, helping us support our church, ministries, and community projects even more!

- It's simple to sign up and makes a huge difference:
- Your regular donations go further.
- You help the parish care for our community and facilities.
- It costs you nothing extra!

Sign up today by contacting your local parish Gift Aid Organiser (via the Parish Office) or visit:

<https://forms.office.com/e/BrxQTPnn3a?origin=lprLink>

Together, we can strengthen our parish and continue our mission to serve God and our community. Thank you for your generosity!

NEWSLETTER ITEMS Please send any items for next weekend's Newsletter to the Parish Office **by 10.00am on Thursday 30 October.**

LOVE CHRISTMAS 2025 - ADVANCED NOTICE - GET INVOLVED

Christmas is just 9 weeks away!

How can you become involved? Over the coming weeks buy in advance and be super ready.

- You could look for special offers and buy food items for the hampers (chocolate biscuits, tub of sweets, cheese biscuits, Christmas crackers etc.) ready to donate in November.
- You could purchase special gift offers appropriate for both genders ages 0 - 20 (we always struggle for 13+ children, especially boys, so please try to focus upon this group) and be ready for the Angel Tree launch the weekend of **Christ the King (22/23 November)** you don't need to wrap them (although putting the present in a gift bag with the Angel Tree tag would be greatly appreciated).
- From the weekend of **Christ the King (22/23 November)** there will be a food list of special food items for the hampers plus a box at church (food items already purchased can be handed in from this date)
- There will be an Angel Tree in each of our three churches the weekend of **22/23 November** - each tree will have tags with gender & age of gifts required - please take one - or two!
- All gifts and food donations need to be handed in by **Sunday 14 December**.
- Become a Santa's Little Helper - **save the day - Tuesday 16 December** - come along to Immaculate Heart Church and help wrap all donated presents plus organise the food hampers - details of times will be announced.
- One final important date for our Seniors' diaries (and all volunteers) - the annual Christmas Lunch will be held on **Wednesday 3 December**. There will be the opportunity to attend **Mass at 11am then lunch, in St Mary's Hall**, will follow.

Finally

- Please remember, if you would prefer someone else to shop on your behalf, feel free to donate cash.

Any queries please contact either Katie Wilkinson via email teachkate1@gmail.com telephone 07837 386760 or Denise Hebron via email denisehebron@yahoo.co.uk telephone 07554 445679.

TRADITION v CHANGE? THE NICENE CREED AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF DOCTRINE Does faith change, or does it stay the same? In this 1700th anniversary year of the first Ecumenical Council of Nicaea (which formulated the Nicene Creed we proclaim at Mass), Professor Karen Kilby from Durham University will explore the Council, the Creed and the question of development of doctrine on Tuesday 4 November at 7pm in the Holy Name Hall, Jesmond NE2 3JX. All are welcome.

DIOCESAN FORMATION WEBINARS As part of the Diocese's ongoing commitment to becoming a more synodal diocese, we are pleased to offer a new series of formation webinars. Starting this month, these monthly interactive sessions will support reflection and development across Parish, Partnership, and Diocesan Councils. Each webinar will explore key principles for building and sustaining effective pastoral councils. A full list of all the seminars in the series, and a link to register can be found at: <https://diocesehn.org.uk/whats-on/event/reimagining-pastoral-councils/>

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL at Spoor Memorial Methodist Church - Thursday 4, Friday 5 and Saturday 6 December 2025.

It's coming up to that time of year, and once again we are organising this community event as part of the Christmas celebrations at Spoor. We would like to invite you to take part by decorating a tree. We do hope you are able to take part and in doing so promote your own business/school/organisation. Trees can be of any material, real or artificial and of any design. The only criteria we stipulate is to have battery operated lights. Decoration of trees: Wednesday 3 December 10.00am till 2:00pm.

Festival: Thursday, Friday and Saturday 4, 5 & 6 December 10.00 am till 4.00 pm. Refreshments will be available. Dismantling and collection of trees: Sunday 7 December 12 noon till 1.00pm, Monday 8 December 9.00am - 11.00am We are sure that this event is enjoyed by the whole community in Whickham, and we do hope you will feel able to participate. Please let us know if you would like to take part by 1st November at the latest. If you have any questions, please feel free to either telephone or email: Ruth Blundred tel. 0191 488 6971 Ann Clay email: ann.clay1949@gmail.com Christine Norman tel. 07957 810471.

Jen's weekly prayer

In our times of pain and doubt
you are there to shelter us.
When we are weak we need the knowledge
that through our gifts we can search our hearts.
May we look deep into our hearts and feel
your strength at this time.
Comfort us as we stray through many
unchartered waters of ourselves.
We will stumble and fall as we seek our way.
Guide us in the weariness to see the glorious light
clothed like the summer evening sky.
Days which have been dark are transformed
from bleakness to radiance.
Help us by our openness to one another to move
from bleakness to radiance.
May we seek not to wound but to illuminate.
Our pathways will vary,
some may be steep and smooth,
whilst others may be narrow and rock strewn,
and others meeting many crossroads and diversions.
Give us all strength that we may,
with gentle knowledge born of love,
begin anew, to shape a path
to understanding, hope and peace.

Jen Jones © July 2007

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*Sirach 35:15b-17, 20-22b*

The Lord is the judge, and with him is no partiality. He will not show partiality in the case of a poor man; and he will listen to the prayer of one who is wronged. He will not ignore the supplication of the orphan or the widow when she pours out her story. He whose service is pleasing to the Lord will be accepted, and his prayer will reach to the clouds. The prayer of the humble pierces the clouds, and he will not be consoled until it reaches the Lord; he will not desist until the Most High visits him and does justice for the righteous and executes judgement. And the Lord will not delay.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm*Psalm 34(33):2-3, 17-18, 19, 23, R/ cf. 7a*

R/ The lowly one called, and the Lord heard him.

I will bless the Lord at all times,
praise of him is always in my mouth.
In the Lord my soul shall make its boast;
the humble shall hear and be glad. **R/**

The Lord turns his face against the wicked
to cut off their remembrance from the earth.
When the just one cries out, the Lord hears,
and rescues him in all his distress. **R/**

The Lord is close to the broken-hearted;
those whose spirit is crushed he will save.
The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants.
All who trust in him shall not be condemned. **R/**

Second reading*II Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18*

Beloved: I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me, but also to all who have loved his appearing. At my first defence no one came to stand by me, but all deserted me. May it not be charged against them! But the Lord stood by me and strengthened me, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation*II Corinthians 5:19*

Alleluia, alleluia.

God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself,
and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.
Alleluia.

Gospel*Luke 18: 9-14*

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: Jesus told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt: 'Two men went up into the Temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: "God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get." But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner!" I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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