



Behold 'We saw his star as it rose and have come to do the king homage.'
Matthew 2:2

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

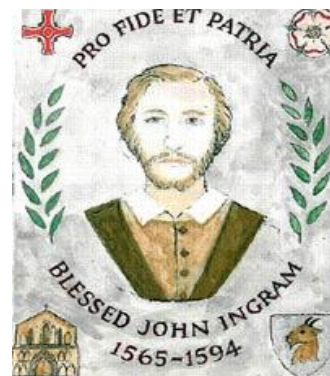
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Diocesan Website www.diocesehn.org.uk



The John Ingram Partnership
Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle

4 January 2026

Second Sunday of Christmas

Year A

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 3 - 11 January 2026

Saturday 3 January	4.30pm Sacred Heart	Denis Dunphy (dec.) [PB]
	5.30pm St Philip Neri	Bill & Shiela Hutchins (dec.) [ML]
Sunday 4 January	9.00am St Mary	People of the Parish
Second Sunday of Christmas	10.30am Immaculate Heart	Pauline Thomas (dec.)
Monday 5 January		
Vigil Mass for the Epiphany of the Lord	6.30pm Sacred Heart	Priest's Intention
Vigil Mass for the Epiphany of the Lord	6.30pm Immaculate Heart	Maureen Buckle (dec.) [EA]
Tuesday 6 January The Epiphany of the Lord	9.30am St Mary	People of the Parish (<i>St Mary's School Attending</i>)
(Holyday of Obligation)	9.30am Sacred Heart	Priest's Intention (<i>Sacred Heart School Attending</i>)
Wednesday 7 January <i>Weekday after Epiphany</i>	9.30am St Philip Neri	Priest's Intention
Thursday 8 January <i>Weekday after Epiphany</i>	10.00am St Mary	Requiem Mass - Denis Dunphy RIP
	10.00am St Philip Neri	Requiem Mass - Maureen Young RIP
Friday 9 January <i>Weekday after Epiphany</i>	--	--
Saturday 10 January	4.30pm Sacred Heart	Priest's Intention
	5.30pm St Philip Neri	Anthony (Tony) Blakeley (dec.) [ES]
Sunday 11 January	9.00am St Mary	Teresa Kelly (dec.) [EW]
The Baptism of the Lord	10.30am Immaculate Heart	People of the Parish

Sacrament of Reconciliation

5.00pm - 5.20pm on Saturday at St Philip Neri

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

9.00am - 9.20am on Wednesday at St Philip Neri

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS Denis Patrick Dunphy and Maureen Young who have died recently. The Requiem Mass for Denis will be on Thursday 8 January at 10.00am in St. Mary's Church followed by burial at Garden House Cemetery. The Requiem Mass for Maureen will be on Thursday 8 January at 10.00am in St. Philip Neri Church followed by burial at Saltwell Cemetery. May they rest in peace. Amen.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK Kath Airey, 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.

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).

BISHOP STEPHEN - PARISH VISITATION Next weekend, 10/11 January, we look forward to welcoming Bishop Stephen as he makes a visitation to Our Lady and St Philip Neri Parish. Bishop Stephen will preside at the Saturday 5.30pm Vigil Mass and at the Sunday 9.00am & 10.30am Masses.

GIFT AID Acknowledgement letters relating to Parish Gift Aid donations are now available - please contact the Parish Office if you would like a copy. Thank you.

FOOD BANK & REFUGEE PROJECT REOPENS THURSDAY 8 JANUARY 2026 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.

Priority items - Coffee, UHT Milk, dried pasta, tomato purée, tinned custard, fruit, rice pudding & biscuits, pasta sauce, cereal, cooking oil, long grained rice, meat (corned beef, mince beef, pek etc), tinned garden peas, carrots, sweetcorn, potatoes, tuna, meatballs, hot dogs, chopped tomatoes, baked beans, sugar, toilet rolls, washing up liquid, spray cleaner, laundry powder/liquid, toothpaste, antiperspirant, shampoo & feminine hygiene (especially tampons).

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 contact Katie Wilkinson either via mobile 07837 386 760 or email teachkate1@gmail.com

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 31 July - 7 August 2026

Celebrating 100 years since the First Diocesan Pilgrimage

Bookings are now open for the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes. We travel on Friday 31 July and return on Friday 7 August 2026 is the 100th anniversary since the first Diocesan Pilgrimage took place led by Bishop Joseph Thorman. If you would like to book, or for further information, please contact Tangney Tours, our Tour Operator by going to their website <https://www.tangney-tours.com/tours-and-pilgrimages/diocese-hexham-newcastle/> or by calling 01732 886 666.

SAFEGUARDING ADMINISTRATOR Supporting the Safeguarding team, the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle is looking for a consummate administrative professional who handles sensitive information with the utmost discretion and confidentiality. Similarly, you'll be a person who has an eye for detail recognising the need for accuracy and precision.

Salary scale - £26,000 to £27,768

If you are interested in applying for this 12 month Fixed Term Contracted Safeguarding position, please get in touch to request an Applicant Pack by emailing Bernadette Aquino HR Business Partner at Bernadette.aquino@diocesehn.org.uk

Please note the Diocese cannot accept CV's and as such to be considered for the position you must request our Applicant Pack and then complete and return our Application Form.

The closing date for applications is 09:00am Friday 9th January 2026 although we reserve the right to close the position early.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION 2026 If your child is currently in Year 4 (or above) and they are not attending a Catholic School and you would like them to prepare to celebrate their First Holy Communion in 2026, please contact the Parish Office at Immaculate Heart Presbytery as soon as possible by email or telephone:

e-mail olpn.gateshead@diocesehn.org.uk

tel. 0191 460 4274. Please provide your name, address, telephone number and email address. Thank you.

SACRED HEART PARISH Thank you for your kind donations for the Christmas Flowers.

NEWSLETTER ITEMS Please send any items for next weekend's Newsletter to the Parish Office **by 10.00am on Thursday 8 January.**

Jen's Weekly Prayer

Endings and beginnings,
the opposite ends of our yearly continuum.
At this time we can reflect upon the many blessings and generous acts of kindness and compassion gifted to us.

It is the simplest of many of these gifts
that can restore and rejuvenate us,
the seemingly ordinary, everyday things
which are transformed by a kind gesture
into extraordinary because they come
with care and love, a generosity of self.

The snowdrop and the crocus which greet us in
the early months of our year brighten our days
and fill us with joy and hope.

If we reach out to others we can be their colour
in a time of darkness, worry or anxiety,
easing or soothing them as the sun warms the earth
to allow these early Plants to bloom.

Guide our hearts and minds
to be open to the small opportunities
to be the blooming sun warmed plant and give thanks
for the selfless and generous acts of others.

Jen Jones © December 2022

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 24:1-2, 8-12

Wisdom will praise herself and will boast in the midst of her people. In the assembly of the Most High she will open her mouth, and in the presence of his forces she will boast: 'Then the Creator of all things commanded me, and the one who created me gave my tent a resting place. And he said, "Make your dwelling in Jacob and in Israel receive your inheritance." From eternity, in the beginning, he created me, and for eternity I shall not cease to exist. In the holy tabernacle I ministered before him, and so I was established in Sion. In the beloved city likewise he gave me a resting place, and in Jerusalem was my dominion. So I took root in an honoured people, in the portion of the Lord, his inheritance.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm *Psalm 147: 12-13. 14-15. 19-20. R/cf. 12a*

R/ The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.

O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord!

O Sion, praise your God!

He has strengthened the bars of your gates;

he has blessed your children within you. **R/**

He established peace on your borders;

he gives you your fill of finest wheat.

He sends out his word to the earth,

and swiftly runs his command. **R/**

He reveals his word to Jacob;

to Israel, his decrees and judgements.

He has not dealt thus with other nations;

he has not taught them his judgements.

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us. R/

Second reading

Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-18

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.

For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Cf. 1 Timothy 3:16

Alleluia, alleluia.

Glory to you, O Christ, proclaimed among the nations.

Glory to you, O Christ, believed in throughout the world.

Alleluia.

Gospel

John 1: 1-18

The Lord be with you.

And with your Spirit.

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the Only Begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth. John bore witness about him, and cried out, 'This was he of whom I said, "He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me."'

For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God; the only begotten God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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