



Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.
Matthew 4:1

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

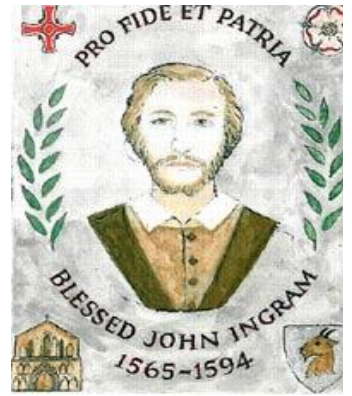
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Parish Website www.theparish.org.uk

Diocesan Website www.diocesehn.org.uk



The John Ingram Partnership
Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle

22 February 2026

First Sunday of Lent

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 21 February - 1 March 2026

Saturday 21 February	4.30pm Sacred Heart	Pauline Turner (dec.) [HT]
	5.30pm St Philip Neri	People of the Parish
Sunday 22 February	9.00am St Mary	Pauline Archbold (dec.) [DA]
First Sunday of Lent (Year A)	10.30am Immaculate Heart	Thomas Quinn (ann.)
Monday 23 February	1.30pm Sacred Heart	Priest's Intention
Tuesday 24 February	9.30am Immaculate Heart	Priest's Intention
Wednesday 25 February	9.30am St Philip Neri	Priest's Intention
Thursday 26 February	<u>11.45am Immaculate Heart</u>	Requiem Mass - Anne Nixon RIP
Friday 27 February	6.30pm St Mary	Stations of the Cross
CAFOD Family Fast Day		
Saturday 28 February	4.30pm Sacred Heart	Pauline Scorer (dec.) [WH]
	5.30pm St Philip Neri	Priest's Intention
Sunday 1 March	9.00am St Mary	Maureen Todd (dec.) [CH]
Second Sunday of Lent (Year A)	10.30am Immaculate Heart	People of the Parish

Weekday Readings: Season of Lent Week 1

Sacrament of Reconciliation

5.00pm - 5.20pm on Saturday at St Philip Neri, 1.00pm - 1.20pm on Monday at Sacred Heart and 9.00am - 9.20am on Tuesday at Immaculate Heart

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

1.00pm - 1.20pm on Monday at Sacred Heart, 9.00am - 9.25am on Tuesday at Immaculate Heart & Wednesday at St Philip Neri

Stations of the Cross

6.30pm on Friday 27 February at St Mary's

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS Anne Nixon, Michael McKenna and Jackie Hodgson who have died recently. The Requiem Mass for Anne Nixon will be at 11.45am on Thursday 26 February at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church followed by cremation at Saltwell Crematorium. The Funeral Service for Michael McKenna will be at 10.15am on Thursday 5 March at Mountsett Crematorium. May they rest in peace Amen.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK Kath Airey, Jessica Butler, Veronica Coleman, Ann Crompton, Tatiane Lambert, Maria Thi Kien Chiene Le, John Leitch, Bill Martin, Cheryl Anne McDonald, Nora Miller, Margaret Murphy, Astrid Muse (Gower), Joseph Relph, Elizabeth Strickson.

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).

THE CAFOD LENT APPEAL (FAMILY FAST) is on Friday 27 February. CAFOD envelopes are available for your donations at the back of each church. For more information about this year's CAFOD Lent Appeal, or to donate online, please visit www.cafod.org.uk

STATIONS OF THE CROSS There will be Stations of the Cross at 6.30pm on the following Fridays during Lent: Friday 27 February at St Mary's, Friday 6 March at St Philip Neri, Friday 13 March at Immaculate Heart, Friday 20 March at St Mary's, Friday 27 March at St Philip Neri.

WALK WITH ME LENTEN BOOKLETS, which include a daily reflection for each day of Lent, are available to purchase at each church, price £1.50.

MASS OF ENROLMENT FOR CONFIRMATION Our young people preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation this year will take part in their Mass of Enrolment at Our Lady and St Cuthbert's Church, Prudhoe, on **Wednesday 4 March at 6.30pm**. During this celebration, the candidates will be formally presented to the parish community and will commit themselves to continue their journey of faith in the months ahead. Please keep them, their families, and their catechists in your prayers as they continue to grow in faith and deepen their relationship with Christ. All from across our parishes are welcome.

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.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday 3 March 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.

FOOD BANK & REFUGEE PROJECT 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: UHT Milk, dried pasta, tinned meat (corned beef, mince beef, pek etc), custard, cereal, spray cleaner.

Other priority items: pasta sauce, long grained rice, tinned baked beans, chopped tomatoes, garden peas, carrots, sweetcorn, potatoes, tuna, hot dogs, meatballs, rice pudding, fruit, cooking oil, tomato purée, sugar, coffee, tea bags, 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

SOMETHING TO FOLLOW FOR LENT - A Partnership Wide Lenten Course focussed on helping people enter more deeply into prayer will be offered on Wednesday evenings during Lent in St Patrick's Parish Centre, Felling at 6.30pm, starting Wednesday 25 February. The course will offer lots of practical tips, wisdom from the bible, stories from the saints, and advice about common difficulties people face when praying. Each hour long session is based on a short filmed presentation by Fr. Stephen Wang (who is also the author of the Sycamore RCIA Course). Topics covered include: Session 1 PRAYER FOR BEGINNERS, Session 2 SEVEN RULES OF PRAYER, Session 3 PRAYING WITH THE BIBLE, Session 4 HOW TO PRAY THE MASS, Session 5 SILENT PRAYER AND THE PRESENCE OF GOD

All are most welcome to attend all or any of these sessions.

SYCAMORE COURSE FOR LENT 'Prayer in my opinion is nothing else than a close sharing between friends; it means taking time frequently to be alone with him who we know loves us.'

St Teresa of Avila

Join us in this season of Lent as we look at how we might enter more deeply into prayer. Using sessions from Sycamore, we will explore wisdom from the Bible, stories from the saints, lots of practical tips and advice about some of the common difficulties we face when praying. The sessions will take place online using Zoom. They will be weekly on Sunday evenings from 6pm to 7.15pm from 22 February until 29 March. Join us for as many sessions as you can, and why not bring a friend? Please register your interest using the link below to receive the Zoom link - <https://bit.ly/DHNSycamoreLent2026>

EASTER IN DISGUISE Following the success of the Advent Book Group, this Lent we will be reading together the 2026 Bloomsbury Lent Book entitled 'Easter in Disguise' by Sr Liz Dodd.

This book is a companion to the six weeks of Lent, with each week and its gospel focus corresponding to one of Jesus' six spiritualities of social justice. It culminates in a fresh look at the traditions of Holy Week.

Everyone is welcome at Corpus Christi, Kelvin Grove NE8 4QP on Wednesdays during Lent (25 February onwards) at 6.30pm for a time of prayer and reflection on the chapter.

Contact St Peter's Parish Office to reserve a copy or source your own copy (available in a variety of formats).

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER - A SERVICE FOR EVERYONE! At St Mary's Parish Church (CofE), Church Chare, Whickham NE16 4SH, 1.30pm on Friday 6 March. The Service is prepared by the Christian Women of Nigeria. All are welcome - come and join us!

SAFEGUARDING The Safeguarding Posters near the entrance of each church are in the process of being updated, please take a moment to familiarise yourself with them. Safeguarding is taken very seriously within our parish and diocese. For all parish volunteers (DBS checked) or anyone who would like to be familiar with our diocesan safeguarding training, please use this link www.training.catholicsafeguarding.org.uk or the QR code below. Completion of the training online only takes a few minutes, then you will be presented with a certificate. Speak to your Parish Safeguarding Representative if you require any explanation or information. Thank You.



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.

HOLY ISLAND SVP SUMMER CAMPS 2026 Applications are now open for children in school Years 5-7 for Holy Island Summer Camps. The children spend a week in our centre on the island over the Summer holidays. Transport takes the children from Tyneside to our residential centre and all meals, accommodation and activities are included in the cost. For more information please visit our website: Holy Island SVP Vinnies Camp <https://svp.org.uk/microsite/ozanam-camp>

Do you have some spare time on your hands and want a fulfilling volunteer role? Our residential centre on Holy Island needs volunteers in 2026. There are lots of roles: Working with the children on our Vinnies Summer Camps, during the Summer holidays as a caretaker, kitchen assistants, cooks, and volunteering to work directly with the children. It's hard work, but so much fun and very worthwhile! No cost, just your time and patience for an interesting week on this beautiful island! Or perhaps you are retired or have flexible holidays and could give some time to help at our Term Time Camps. We need people who can take on a caretaking role or help in the kitchen with serving meals, cooking or operating the dishwasher! These Camps allow hundreds of children from the Diocese and further afield have a great residential holiday in our centre. Guaranteed hard work but fantastic memories too! To join our fabulous team or find out more information about any of the roles and to volunteer, please visit our website: Holy Island SVP Vinnies Camp <https://svp.org.uk/microsite/ozanam-camp> or contact BarbaraT@svp.org.uk

DIOCESAN VACANCY

Role: Parish Finance Officer

Salary Scale: £43,000 to £45,000

Location: St Vincent's Diocesan Offices, West Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE15 7PY

Applicant Pack: From Annie Leaver, Head of

HR annie.leaver@diocesehn.org.uk

Closing Date: Wednesday 4 March 2026 (we reserve the right to close the post early)

Shortlisting: Wednesday 11 March 2026

Interviews scheduled: Tuesday 17 March 2026

The full advert can be viewed at <https://diocesehn.org.uk/job-vacancies/>

NEWSLETTER ITEMS Please send any items for next weekend's Newsletter to the Parish Office **by 10.00am on Thursday 26 February.**

Jen's Weekly Prayer

As the winter chill still clings and wind, snow and rain
tether us to a warm and familiar place,
guide us to look beyond the immediate
and begin to see nature's changes emerging,
the tender, sheltered buds on springtime,
flowering trees, the soft warm and gentle light
which early almost springtime mornings can bring.

A light so bright it spreads its glowing light
across the room like a canopy of fine gossamer.

A gift which continues to spread its beauty
to lighten our days of pain, fear or loneliness.

Help us to take the fine gossamer glow we can feel
in these treasured times to those we meet
on our continuing journeys, each smile, each greeting
a gift for stranger, friend and loved one.

May we try to carry within us the light of hope and love
to share with all we encounter as we travel through
our rough strewn and soft tender paths.

Jen Jones © February 2026

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

Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7

The Lord God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature. And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed. And out of the ground the Lord God made to spring up every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, 'Did God actually say, "You shall not eat of any tree in the garden"?' And the woman said to the serpent, 'We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, but God said, "You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die."' But the serpent said to the woman, 'You will not surely die. For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.' So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

51(50):3-4. 5-6b. 12-13. 14, 17. R/cf. 3a

R/ Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your merciful love;
according to your great compassion,
blot out my transgressions.
Wash me completely from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin. **R/**

My transgressions, truly I know them;
my sin is always before me.
Against you, you alone, have I sinned;
what is evil in your sight I have done. **R/**

Create a pure heart for me, O God;
renew a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence;
take not your holy spirit from me. **R/**

Restore in me the joy of your salvation;
sustain in me a willing spirit.
O Lord, open my lips
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise. **R/**

Second Reading

Romans 5:12-19

Brothers and Sisters: Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned - for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come. But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man's

trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for many. And the free gift is not like the result of that one man's sin. For the judgement following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brought justification. For if, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man; much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ. Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 4:4b

Glory and praise to you, O Christ.
One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.
Glory and praise to you, O Christ.

Gospel

Matthew 4:1-11

The Lord be with you.

And with your Spirit.

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

At that time: Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry.

And the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.' But he answered, 'It is written, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."' '

Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the Temple and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you", and "On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone."' Jesus said to him, 'Again it is written, "You shall not put the Lord your God to the test."' '

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. And he said to him, 'All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.' Then Jesus said to him, 'Be gone, Satan! For it is written, "You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve."' Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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