



Jesus instructed his Apostles: 'Have no fear...What I tell you in the dark, say in the light and what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops.'

Matthew 10:26,27

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

21 June 2026

Twelfth Sunday of the Year

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 & 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 20 - 28 June 2026

Saturday 20 June	4.30pm Sacred Heart	Terry & Mary Maguire & Patricia Lanning (dec.)
	5.30pm St Philip Neri	Jackie Hodgson (dec.) [GSC]
Sunday 21 June (Day for Life)	9.00am St Mary	Kath Airey (dec.) [SK]
Twelfth Sunday of the Year (Year A)	10.30am Immaculate Heart	People of the Parish
Monday 22 June	1.30pm Sacred Heart	Priest's Intention
Tuesday 23 June	9.30am Immaculate Heart	Deceased Members of McHugh Family [MMCh]
Wednesday 24 June <i>Nativity of St John the Baptist</i>	9.30am St Philip Neri	Priest's Intention
Thursday 25 June	9.30am St Mary	Priest's Intention
Friday 26 June		
Saturday 27 June	4.30pm Sacred Heart	Canon Laurence Hollis (dec.) [MM]
	5.30pm St Philip Neri	Harry Attrill (dec.) [SA]
Sunday 28 June	9.00am St Mary	James Cunningham (dec.) [PC]
Saints Peter & Paul, Apostles	10.30am Immaculate Heart	People of the Parish

Weekday Readings: Ordinary Time Week 12 Year 2

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 at Immaculate Heart on Tuesday & St Mary's on Thursday

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

1.00pm - 1.25pm on Monday at Sacred Heart, 9.00am - 9.25am on Tuesday at Immaculate Heart,
 Wednesday at St Philip Neri & Thursday at St Mary's

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK Jessica Butler, Veronica Coleman, Brigitte Jones, Peter Jones, 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).

DAY FOR LIFE This Sunday 21 June, we mark the Day for Life under the theme "The Wonder of the Child in the Womb." The theme also recognises the loss of children who died before birth and the grief of their parents. A message and prayers for Day for Life from the Bishops of England and Wales, Ireland and Scotland can be found at www.cbcew.org.uk/day-for-life/. **There will be a Retiring Collection at all Masses this weekend 20/21 June to support the Day for Life Fund**, which distributes grants to organisations that promote respect for life from conception until natural death. You can also donate online via the Day for Life link above.

GIFT FOR LIFE SUMMER SOCIAL – NEXT SUNDAY! There's just one week to go for our *Gift for Life* Summer Social - it all happens next Sunday 28 June from 2pm at St Mary's Hall and garden (weather permitting). So how can you help?

- Sign up to come to the event - sign up sheets on the notice boards in each church.
- Buy some raffle tickets - you could win our amazing first prize of £100 cash - or one of the other great prizes!
- Make or buy something for the cake stall or perhaps donate something for the raffle or tombola. Plants, bottles and children's books in good condition are very welcome too.
- Pray for good weather – we're hoping for 'Shine Jesus, Shine' rather than 'Our God Reigns'!

Let's make this a really great parish event – with some lovely refreshments, games, face-painting, quizzes and lots of stalls too. Thank you for all for your support and very generous contributions. Any questions or offers of help, please see a member of the *Gift for Life* group – or email us on giftforlife20@gmail.com

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT: PARISH FOOD BANK UPDATE

For over six years, our parish has provided vital support to families in need. This mission has been sustained entirely by your incredible generosity and the hard work of five dedicated volunteers.

Planned Closure

The current volunteer team, all aged 70+, has decided it is time to retire from the physical demands of shopping, packing, and delivering. Therefore, the Food Bank will close on 31 July 2026, with the final delivery taking place on Thursday 30 July.

This transition is supported by recent government changes to Universal Benefits, which have provided significant financial relief to many of the larger families we serve.

Immediate Actions

- **Donations: Please cease all food and monetary donations immediately.**
- Remaining Funds: Surplus stock and funds will be used through July, with any remainder being gifted to Blaydon Food Bank, Joe's Place and Corpus Christi Food Co-op.

An Opportunity to Continue

If a new group of parishioners wishes to take over the running of this outreach (as it is run now or with a new methodology), the current team is happy to provide mentoring and support during a transition period. Please contact the Parish Office if you feel called to lead this ministry.

A Note of Gratitude

We celebrate the wonderful impact this project has had over the last six years. Thank you for your constant encouragement and support; you have made a profound difference in the lives of many local families.

DIOCESAN PASTORAL STRATEGY - PARTNERSHIP MEETING

On Thursday 11 June a gathering of 30+ laity and clergy met to begin the Partnership response to the Diocesan Discernment Process. The meeting was facilitated by Amy Cameron and Emma Wynne. The meeting began with an agreement on the purpose of this meeting and where the second meeting might take us. The hope is to present one response but one which may have varying outcomes for different areas of the partnership. It was agreed that we would let the planning be led by Mission and then revisit whether this would be better done as one large Partnership plan or split into a different grouping.

There was a lot of passion and positivity in the room and well as some uncertainty. We had the opportunity to look at the main themes which emerged from the 18 individual parish responses from stage one. This focused on what the majority of parishes had said, and we then discussed whether this covered our individual parish plans and whether the plans for Mission went far enough.

In the second part of the meeting, we began to look at some data for the area (rather than individual parishes which was available for stage one).

Key figures in that data included:-

Bishop Stephen's instruction for us to consider plans which could see a reduction in the priests of the partnership by one third and also by half. In practical terms this means reducing from the current 8 priests firstly to 5 and then 4. How could 5 or 4 priests serve our current 18 parishes?

A question was raised that this seems to be a worst case scenario. It is, but, as we were reminded by one person present "best to plan for the worst and then hope for the best, better to adjust if the situation is better."

Other key information included these financial predictions/estimates:-

Current financial resources of all 18 parishes is a little under £2 million pounds.

Predicted repair and maintenance costs for the 18 parishes over the next 4-5 years £2.1 million.

This would leave the collective 18 parishes in 5 years time with an overall deficit of £159,000.

The meeting concluded with the request that those representing the parishes consider these facts, along with the many others presented and meet on 24 June to consider how we can continue the Mission of the Church in our area in Worship, Teaching, Serving and Building Community with the knowledge we have gained from the parish responses and the data that has been shared.

The meeting did conclude on a positive note that we are the Church of today, the Holy Spirit is with us and will help us face the necessary changes.

Please do continue to pray for our diocese and your parish representatives during this time of discernment.

RE-ENERGISING OUR PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

As part of the Pastoral Planning discernment process for the Parish of Our Lady and St Philip Neri, we identified the need to 're-energise' our Parish Pastoral Council (PPC). At the PPC meeting on 19 May it was agreed that the best way to do this was for all existing members to stand down and for an open and inclusive process for forming a new PPC to take place as soon as practicable.

A small group of former PPC members is reviewing the most recent PPC guidelines and will publish these and details of the process for forming the new Parish Pastoral Council in the next few weeks. In the meantime please pray for this process and do consider whether you, or someone you know in the parish, might be being called to serve our parish in this way.

SACRED HEART 150TH ANNIVERSARY In October we will be celebrating the 150th Anniversary of Sacred Heart Church. If you have any old photographs, newspaper clippings or other memorabilia, could you please lend them to Fr Endre for scanning and reproduction.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO ROME Places are still available for those who would like to attend the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Rome in October 2027. The details of the pilgrimage and how to book can be found on the Diocesan website: <https://diocesehn.org.uk/news/diocesan-pilgrimage-to-rome-assisii/>

DIOCESAN PROPERTY TRUSTEE VACANCY The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle is looking to appoint a Trustee with property skills and experience. Chaired by the Bishop, The Board of Trustees provides leadership and determines the overall strategic direction of the organisation. Individuals with significant property, estates management and acquisitions experience and knowledge of charity law relating to land are encouraged to visit the Diocesan Website to download the role descriptor and application form. How to apply: Please visit <https://diocesehn.org.uk/vacancy/diocesan-trustee/>
Closing Date: 26 June 2026.

Jen's Weekly Prayer

The gentle rays of the sun not fully risen
are fragile and delicate, calming and soothing,
as they grow steadily stronger they can allow us
to feel we are being enfolded in a calming cloak
and the peace of that early gentle light
remains to enfold us in our often troubled, uncertain
and sometimes painful day ahead.
Help us to embrace the tranquil beauty and strength
of the light of early dawn and the frequent rainbow
coloured light of the sun as it sets its blended colours
either vivid or almost translucent and almost
a reflection of ourselves, for joy is bright
like the sun in its zenith and the final rays
upon our tapestry can be as calming and as gentle
as a small child's hand.
Give us please the strength to cope with each day's
joys and pain and for all who face very dark days or the
constant uncertainty of conflict or lack of the basic
needs of life, may they find courage, hope, resilience
and the zenith like light of love and peace.

Jen Jones © June 2026

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER Fellside Methodist Church on Saturday 27 June 10am to 12 noon. Shared Coffee Morning in aid of World Day of Prayer. If anyone would like to contribute anything for the table, cakes, scones etc. Also if anyone can help on the morning either serving tea and coffee, washing up or arriving about 9.30am to help to set up it would be much appreciated.

LANCHESTER ST BEDE'S SCHOOL Open Day to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of our School opening. We are delighted to invite pupils, families, former students, staff and members of the community to our School Open Day on Saturday 27 June 10.00am to 2.00pm at the school site.

LITURGY AND MUSIC DAY 27 JUNE The Diocesan Church Music Association (DCMA) invites all parish musicians to a day of reflection on the role of the liturgy and music in the Mass at the beautiful setting of Ushaw College, Durham, on Saturday 27 June from 10.00am - 4.00pm. The day will be an opportunity to reflect on the liturgy and the role of music in the Mass, and to meet fellow musicians from across the Diocese. It will be led by Fr Adrian Dixon (Diocesan Liturgy team), Philip Robinson (Diocesan Choir) and Alison McLean (DCMA) and there is a £7.50 charge. To book a place, please email: dcma@diocesehn.org.uk

LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR FUNDRAISING NIGHT 4 JULY The Little Sisters of the Poor are hosting a 50s and 60s night at St Joseph's Home, Newcastle on Saturday 4 July at 7.00pm. There will be live entertainment, a licensed bar and bingo. Tickets cost £7. Please call 0191 273 1279 to book. All proceeds will go to St Joseph's Home.

THE NORTHERN CROSS June 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 9.00am on Thursday 25 June.**

SAFEGUARDING IN THE DIOCESE OF HEXHAM AND NEWCASTLE

The agency that oversees safeguarding in the Catholic Church has observed 'good practice' in the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle across all eight of the recognised National Safeguarding Standards. In an audit report published recently, the Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (CSSA) in particular hailed major improvements in Church leadership, governance, ministry, culture and the care of those people who have been harmed. To read the CSSA final report please visit <https://diocesehn.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Hexham-and-Newcastle-final-for-full-publication.pdf> To read the Diocesan statement in full please visit <https://diocesehn.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Press-Release-from-the-Diocese-of-Hexham-and-Newcastle-audit-report-February-2025.pdf>

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*Jeremiah 20:10-13*

Jeremiah said:
 I hear many whispering.
 Terror is on every side!
 'Denounce him! Let us denounce him!'
 say all my close friends,
 watching for my fall.
 'Perhaps he will be deceived;
 then we can overcome him
 and take our revenge on him.'
 But the Lord is with me as a dread warrior;
 therefore my persecutors will stumble;
 they will not overcome me.
 They will be greatly shamed,
 for they will not succeed.
 Their eternal dishonour
 will never be forgotten.
 O Lord of hosts, who tests the righteous,
 who sees the heart and the mind,
 let me see your vengeance upon them,
 for to you have I committed my cause.
 Sing to the Lord;
 praise the Lord!
 For he has delivered the life of the needy
 from the hand of evildoers.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.**Responsorial Psalm** *Ps 69(68):8-10. 14, 17. 33-35. R/14c***R/ In your great mercy, answer me, O Lord.**

It is for you that I suffer taunts,
 that shame has covered my face.
 To my own kin I have become an outcast,
 a stranger to the children of my mother.
 Zeal for your house consumes me,
 and taunts against you fall on me. **R/**

But I pray to you, O Lord,
 at an acceptable time.
 In your great mercy, answer me, O God,
 with your faithful salvation.
 Lord, answer, for your mercy is kind;
 in your great compassion, turn towards me. **R/**

The poor when they see it will be glad,
 and God-seeking hearts will revive;
 for the Lord attends to the needy,
 and does not spurn his own in their chains.
 Let the heavens and the earth give him praise,
 the seas and everything that moves in them. **R/**

Second reading*Romans 5:12-15*

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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.**Gospel Acclamation***John 15:26b, 27a***Alleluia, alleluia.**

The Spirit of truth will bear witness about me, says the Lord,
 and you also will bear witness.

Alleluia.**Gospel***Matthew 10:26-33*

At that time: Jesus instructed his Apostles: 'Have no fear of them, for nothing is covered that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known. What I tell you in the dark, say in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops. And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father knowing. But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows. So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven, but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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