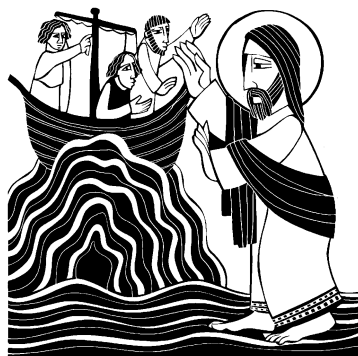




Jesus spoke to them, saying, 'Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid.'

Matthew 14:28

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

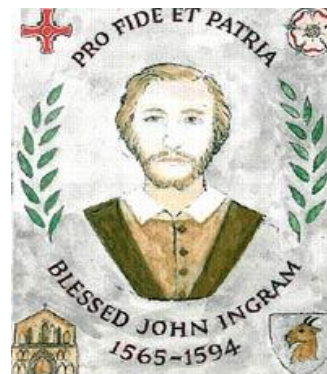
Parish Priest Canon Peter Leighton
Assistant Priest Fr Endre Kormos (0191 716 6367)

Parish Telephone 0191 460 4274

Parish E-mail olpn.gateshead@diocesehn.org.uk

Parish Website www.theparish.org.uk

Diocesan Website www.diocesehn.org.uk



The John Ingram Partnership
Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle

9 August 2026

Nineteenth 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 8 August - 16 August 2026

Saturday 8 August	4.30pm Sacred Heart	Anne Widdecombe (dec.)
	5.30pm St Philip Neri	People of the Parish
Sunday 9 August	9.00am St Mary	Fred Mariddas (dec.) [DA]
Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)	10.30am Immaculate Heart	Ann Tate (dec.) [MT]
Monday 10 August <i>St Lawrence</i>	<i>N.B. No Mass today</i>	
Tuesday 11 August <i>St Clare</i>	9.30am Immaculate Heart	Priest's Intention [AS]
Wednesday 12 August	<u>11.45am Immaculate Heart</u>	Requiem Mass - Mary Carrick RIP
Thursday 13 August	9.30am St Mary	Priest's Intention
Friday 14 August <i>St Maximillian Kolbe</i>		
Saturday 15 August	4.30pm Sacred Heart	Frank Bowes (dec.)
	5.30pm St Philip Neri	People of the Parish
Sunday 16 August	9.00am St Mary	Kath Airey (dec.) [DD]
Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary	10.30am Immaculate Heart	James & Anne McPhee (liv.) [AMcP]

Weekday Readings: Ordinary Time Week 19 Year 2

Sacrament of Reconciliation

5.00pm - 5.20pm on Saturday at St Philip Neri,
9.00am - 9.20am on Tuesday at Immaculate Heart, Wednesday at St Philip Neri & Thursday at St Mary's

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

9.00am - 9.25am on Tuesday at Immaculate Heart, Wednesday at St Philip Neri & Thursday at St Mary's

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS Mary Carrick and Peter Power who have died recently. The Requiem Mass for Mary Carrick will be at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church on Wednesday 12 August at 11.45am. The Requiem Mass for Peter Power will be at St Gregory's Church, South Shields NE34 6NR on Friday 11 September at 10.15am. May they rest in peace. Amen.

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 Relf, 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).

RE-ENERGISING OUR PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL - NOMINATIONS FOR PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL NOW OPEN

You may recall that one of the outcomes from the Pastoral Planning Discernment Process in our parish was to 're-energise the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC)'. The previous PPC has been disbanded and we are now seeking nominations for the new PPC. Nomination forms are available at the back of each church and the nomination process will remain open for 4 weeks, closing at midnight on Sunday 30 August. As well as parish clergy and the head teachers of our two primary schools, membership of the PPC will include 3 representatives from each of our 3 churches. Parishioners can nominate themselves or, with their consent, can be nominated by another parishioner. Full details of the nomination and election process, along with our Parish Pastoral Council Guidelines, can be found via this link [PPC 2026](#) at the top of the parish website homepage.

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.

OUR LADY AND ST PHILIP NERI PARISH - ST PHILIP NERI CHURCH

As some of you may know, St Philip Neri Church requires some urgent and expensive repairs. This includes a complete electrical re-wiring of the church and replacement of the church roof. I have invited Andrew Gillingham, Diocesan Property Manager, to attend an **Open Parish Meeting at 6.30pm on Wednesday 26 August at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church** so that the necessary works and costs can be presented to the Parish and to allow for consideration and discussion of the way forward. All parishioners are welcome to this meeting.

FAREWELL AND THANK YOU FROM THE FOOD BANK TEAM

Thank you for your constant encouragement and support over the past six years. Together, you have made a profound difference to the lives of so many local families, and your generosity has been nothing short of amazing.

While our Food Bank operations have now drawn to a close, our parish is fortunate to have a very active **St. Vincent de Paul (SVP)** group. They meet weekly to support the most vulnerable in our local community. Their vital work relies on ongoing funding, so if you are able, please consider shifting your monetary contributions to support their ongoing mission.

What happens next with our remaining resources:

Residual Stock: Will be donated directly to the **Refugees' Project**.

Residual Funds: It is intended to donate the remaining monetary funds of **£2476.11** between:

Corpus Christi Food Coop and **St. Joseph's Food Bank in Blaydon** (and see *below).

Note on Final Distribution: While a portion was originally intended for Joe's Place in Gateshead, their outreach work is currently under review. *The Food Bank volunteers therefore intend that this final amount could go directly to our **Parish's St Vincent de Paul (SVP) group** to help them continue the vital work our parishioners wish to support.

N.B. If anyone who has made monetary donations to the Food Bank and does not agree with this proposed re-distribution of funds, please contact the Parish Office.

Thank you once again for your incredible kindness, generosity, and dedication over the years.

THE NORTHERN CROSS August edition is now available, price **£2.00**.

THE AUGUST GIFT FOR LIFE '100 CLUB' DRAW took place at Immaculate Heart last Sunday. The winning numbers were First prize (£50) Number: 92, Second prize (£30) Number: 60, Third prize: (£20) Number: 53. Congratulations to the winners. The next draw takes place at St Mary's on Sunday 6 September. Many thanks for your continued support.

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.

CAPTURING PARISH LIFE AT SACRED HEART - A message from Sam Thomson *Sacred Heart is clearly a very special place. As you prepare to mark its 150th anniversary and look back on its remarkable story, 2026 feels like a perfect moment to take a literal snapshot of this place and its community. I hope that in another 150 years people can look back on the photos I take and understand what has gone before. My hope is to meet and to get to know you, to take some photos that tell the story of Sacred Heart as it is today, and to gift to the parish the pictures as a lasting record. I am interested in day to day life in the parish, the church and the people that make it the amazing place I know it is. You might be wondering why? Well... there are a two things about this project which I really love. I live locally, just a few minutes up the road and I have a deep interest in the social history of this part of County Durham. I also just really like taking photos! It is a wonderful way to look at the world, to tell interesting stories and to meet brilliant people. I hope very much to meet you all soon. Sam*

OPPOSE ASSISTED SUICIDE - A MESSAGE FROM THE BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF ENGLAND AND WALES

A Private Members' Bill on assisted suicide - so-called assisted dying - has been reintroduced to the House of Commons. The *Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill* will have its Second Reading and vote on **Friday, 11 September 2026**. Our clear principled objection to this Bill remains and we renew our call for Catholics and people of goodwill to **unite in prayer and compassionate action**. Archbishop Richard Moth, President of the Bishops' Conference, explains our strong opposition to this legislation: "The *Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill* which aims to legalise assisted suicide has returned to the House of Commons, and Members of Parliament will vote on its Second Reading on 11 September. This bill is wrong in principle. It is also deeply flawed and, if passed, could lead to vulnerable people feeling pressured into ending their lives. The Bill has a serious lack of protection for health and social care staff and risks putting many wonderful hospices and care homes in the position of no longer being able to operate. I urge you to write to your Members of Parliament [see below] to petition them to vote against the Bill at Second Reading."

ACT NOW! You can support the Archbishop's call and [contact your MP now](#) as a matter of urgency. Even if you have already done so in the past, please speak up and voice your opposition. The charity [Right to Life UK](#) has a simple online mechanism to do this. It takes little more than a few minutes to enter your postcode, make sure the suggested text suits your viewpoint and submit your message to ask your MP to stop this flawed Bill progressing through parliament

NEWSLETTER ITEMS Please send any items for next weekend's Newsletter to the Parish Office **by 9.00am on Thursday 13 August**.

Jen's Weekly Prayer

The soft silent welcoming rain was soothing and gentle
like the tender touch of a loved one,
and just like ourselves, the dry earth too
needs to be nourished and cared for.

We need the support of others when life becomes hard
or when danger and uncertainty surround us.

Help us give thanks
for the quiet help and care offered to us.

Our natural world also needs our support to cherish
and help it in these challenging times
when drought, wildfires scorch;

yet it continues to present to us moments
of outstanding beauty, the sudden appearance
of a rainbow in the almost twilight sky,

its radiance is magnificent and the shades of
early twilight are vivid in their beauty,
with soft, gentle, pale pink clouds against
a warm baby blue sky changing into deep mauve.

It is as if time is standing still,
peace and hope are spreading
their ethereal mantle around us.

Guide us to remember all who face the challenges
of conflict, natural disasters, hunger, thirst,
because the earth is barren,

and for all who are in pain and suffering,
that your healing light of love will enfold and shelter
them and bring them hope, peace and strength.

Jen Jones © August 2026

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*1 Kings 19:9a, 11-13a*

In those days: Elijah reached Horeb, the mount of God. There he came to a cave and lodged in it. And behold, the word of the Lord came to him. And he said, 'Go out and stand on the mount before the Lord.' And behold, the Lord passed by, and a great and strong wind tore the mountains and broke in pieces the rocks before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind. And after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake. And after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire the sound of a low whisper. And when Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm*Ps. 85(84):9ab, 10. 11-12. 13-14. R/ 8*

***R/ Show us, O Lord, your mercy,
and grant us your salvation.***

I will hear what the Lord God speaks;
he speaks of peace for his people and his faithful.
His salvation is near for those who fear him,
and his glory will dwell in our land. ***R/***

Mercy and faithfulness have met;
justice and peace have kissed.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth,
and justice look down from heaven. ***R/***

The Lord will bestow his bounty,
and our earth shall yield its increase.
Righteousness will march before him,
and guide his steps on the way. ***R/***

Second reading*Romans 9:1-5*

'Brothers and Sisters: I am speaking the truth in Christ. I am not lying. My conscience bears me witness in the Holy Spirit - that I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers and sisters, my kinsmen according to the flesh. They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises. To them belong the patriarchs, and from their race, according to the flesh, is the Christ, who is God over all, blessed for ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation*Psalm 130 (129):5*

Alleluia, alleluia.

I long for you, O Lord,
my soul longs for his word.

Alleluia.

Gospel*Matthew 14:22-33*

After the crowd had eaten and were satisfied: Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them. And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, 'It is a ghost!' and they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, 'Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid.' And Peter answered him, 'Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.' He said, 'Come.' So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink, he cried out, 'Lord, save me.' Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, 'O you of little faith, why did you doubt?' And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshipped him, saying, 'Truly you are the Son of God.'

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.