



I can do all things through him who strengthens me... To our God and Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Philippians 4:13. 20

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

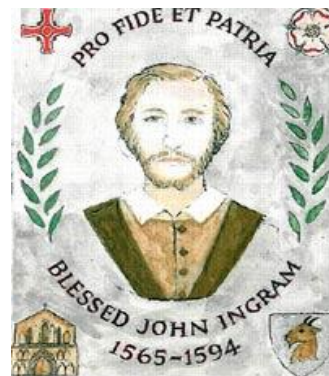
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Diocesan Website www.diocesehn.org.uk



The John Ingram Partnership
Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle

11 October 2026

Twenty Eighth 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 10 - 18 October 2026

Saturday 10 October	4.30pm Sacred Heart	People of the Parish
	N.B. St Philip Neri	Church currently closed
Sunday 11 October	9.00am St Mary	Denis Dunphy (dec.) [DD]
Twenty Eighth Sunday of the Year (Year A)	10.30am Immaculate Heart	Deceased of McCusker Family [AB]
Prisoners Sunday		
Monday 12 October <i>St Wilfrid</i>	1.30pm Sacred Heart	Priest's Intention
Tuesday 13 October <i>St Edward the Confessor</i>	9.30am Immaculate Heart	Priest's Intention
Wednesday 14 October	9.30am St Philip Neri School	Priest's Intention
Thursday 15 October <i>St Teresa of Avila</i>	9.30am St Mary	Priest's Intention
Friday 16 October <i>St Margaret Mary Alacoque</i>		
Saturday 17 October <i>St Ignatius of Antioch</i>	4.30pm Sacred Heart	Clare Doran (dec.) [PB]
	N.B. St Philip Neri	Church currently closed
Sunday 18 October	9.00am St Mary	People of the Parish
Twenty Ninth Sunday of the Year (Year A)	10.30am Immaculate Heart	Deceased of McHugh Family [MMCh]
World Mission Sunday		

Weekday Readings: Ordinary Time Week 28 Year 2

Sacrament of Reconciliation

1.00pm - 1.20pm on Monday at Sacred Heart, 9.00am - 9.20am on Tuesday at Immaculate Heart and 9.00am - 9.20am on Thursday at St Mary's

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

1.00pm - 1.25pm on Monday at Sacred Heart, 9.00am - 9.25am on Tuesday at Immaculate Heart and 9.00am - 9.25am on Thursday at St Mary

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).

PRISONERS SUNDAY - 11 OCTOBER We remember prisoners and their families this weekend at Mass. Prisons are in crisis and life for prisoners and their families in our communities is challenging. PACT, the national Catholic Prison Charity, supports prisoners, their families and their children, offering them hope and the chance to turn their lives around. If you wish to support PACT, there are envelopes at the back of church or you can donate online at www.prisonadvice.org.uk

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY Next Sunday 18 October is World Mission Sunday and the Holy Father invites all Catholics to support *Missio* which is his charity for world mission. This day of prayer, solidarity and giving unites Catholics worldwide to share the Good News of God's love which has the power to transform lives and heal our world. **There will be a retiring collection all Masses next weekend and *Missio* envelopes will be available if you wish to Gift Aid your donation.** You can also donate by telephone 020 7821 9755 (office hours) or visit www.missio.org.uk to give a gift, set up a Direct Debit and Gift Aid your donation if possible.

RED MISSION BOXES The Red Boxes are now due to be emptied. Please see Lilian Gray or leave at the back of St Mary's or Immaculate Heart Church to be collected. For those who usually attended St Philip Neri Church, please leave your box at either one of the other Parish churches as above or contact Denise Hebron on 07554 445679. If you have any further queries please contact Lilian Gray on 07717 853685 or email liliangray@sky.com Thank you for your continued support.

OUR LADY AND ST PHILIP NERI PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL (PPC) The new PPC is now established and the current membership is as follows: Canon Peter Leighton, Fr Endre Kormos, Philip Cunningham, Charis Gray, Warren Gray, Christopher Griffiths, Catherine Hearne, Denise Hebron, Michael McHugh, Maveen Pereira, Tony Sacco, Malcolm Shield, Joe Wheatley, Sarah Williams. **A copy of the minutes of the meeting held on 30 September is available to read this weekend at the back of church and on the parish website.**

GIFT FOR LIFE '100 CLUB' WINNERS The October Gift for Life '100 Club' draw took place at Immaculate Heart last Sunday. The winning numbers were First prize (£50) Number: 31, Second prize (£30) Number: 56, Third prize: (£20) Number: 32. Congratulations to the lucky winners. The next draw takes place at St Mary's on Sunday 1st November. Many thanks for your brilliant support.

SACRED HEART 150TH ANNIVERSARY We will celebrate Sacred Heart's 150th Anniversary of opening on Saturday 24 October at 4.30pm, with Bishop Stephen coming to celebrate the Mass. A reception will follow afterwards in the School Hall. All are welcome.

SACRED HEART SPONSORED WREATHS AND CANDLES This year again there will be sponsored wreaths and candles as part of our Christmas celebration and decoration of Church. Families can sponsor a wreath at a cost of £20 and a candle for £10. There is a list available at the back of Church to sign up for a wreath or candle dedicated to loved ones. Due to limited space please consider doing this soon. Funds raised go to Sacred Heart Church.

ST PHILIP NERI CHURCH - An important message from Canon Peter: *At the Parish Open Meeting on Wednesday 26 August, Andrew Gillingham, Diocesan Head of Property, gave a presentation concerning the necessary church roof replacement and electrical fixed wire renewal, with associated costs, at St Philip Neri Church (the presentation paper may be viewed via the St Philip Neri link at the top of the parish website homepage). Questions and discussion followed and the overall view of those present was that a decision needed to be taken about the present use of the church.*

Having spoken with Bishop Stephen and following consultation with the Diocesan Head of Property and the area Dean, the decision is that, until further notice, the church will cease to be used. This is taking into consideration current health and safety concerns about the building with the need to ensure the safety of those using the building and those in its vicinity, not least the children and staff of St Philip Neri School. I appreciate this closure will come as sad news, but the safety of those using the building and those who may be in its vicinity is paramount.

The viability of the future of St Philip Neri Church will need to be considered within the context of the on-going discernment of the Pastoral Strategy for the Diocese and more information will be provided in due course.

The first meeting of our refreshed Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) took place on Wednesday 30 September. Tony Sacco and Catherine Hearne were nominated and accepted as our Chair and Vice Chair. They will introduce themselves at our Sunday Masses following the second PPC extended meeting planned for Saturday 21 November.

At the meeting on Wednesday, the PPC reflected on the current closure of St Philip Neri church and the effect on parishioners for whom St Philip Neri holds a special place and where they were used to regularly worshipping. While members of the PPC are truly saddened that one of our parish churches has currently closed, they agreed that, given the significant cost of repairs for the church and the health and safety concerns already highlighted, the right decision has been made for now.

The PPC discussed whether other changes to weekend Mass times might be made at this time. It is still very early days since the Vigil Mass at St Philip's was suspended and the view of PPC members was that it seems sensible for the time being to maintain the current Mass schedule and assess how this is working for people before making any further decisions about Mass times which, of course, would be in consultation with parishioners. Fortnightly Wednesday Masses celebrated in St Philip Neri School have continued to be a real joy for children, staff and parishioners. The next Mass in St Philip Neri School will be at 9.30am on Wednesday 14 October.

Meanwhile, regular attendees at the St Philip Neri Saturday evening Vigil Mass are welcome to celebrate the Sunday morning Masses at St Mary, Whickham (9.00am) or Immaculate Heart of Mary, Lobley Hill (10.30am). Alternatively, there are Saturday Vigil Masses at the following churches within the Gateshead area/John Ingram Partnership:

Sacred Heart, Byermoor NE16 6NU 4.30pm
St Alban, Queen Victoria Street, Pelaw NE10 0QN 6.00pm
St Anne, Rokeby View, Harlow Green NE9 7UD 5.00pm
St Joseph (at St Barnabas CofE Church), Sterling Lane, Rowlands Gill, Highfield NE39 1PS 5.30pm
St Mary and St Thomas Aquinas, Stella Road, Stella NE21 4LR 5.00pm
St Wilfrid, Sunderland Road NE8 3QR 5.00pm

FLAME 2027 takes place on **Saturday 6 March 2027**. The theme is **'TAKE COURAGE'**. It is open to anyone from school year 9 to University/young adult age. Under 18s must be part of an organised group. Please talk with your school chaplain, catechist or parish priest if you would like to come along. Two years ago, almost 900 young people from our Diocese travelled to Wembley Arena for this national Catholic youth gathering. Once again YMT is hoping to take a large number of young people (up to 1,000 including accompanying adults).

COST: £55 per person (includes return rail travel, Wembley ticket and London travel card). The cost has been generously subsidised by Significance, the charity founded by Fr Dermott Donnelly. For further information contact Mary Madziva mmadziva@ymt.org

NEWSLETTER ITEMS Please send any items for the Parish Newsletter to the Parish Office **by 10.00am on Thursday 15 October**.

Jen's Weekly Prayer

The sky was lit by the softest yet vibrant golden light.
It glowed and shimmered,
spreading a deep sense of gentle calming peace.
Later the soft light was replaced by a deep golden glow
below a deep cardinal red, both sets of light
offering beauty, wonder, transporting the viewer
to place of joy and hope.
Another wonderful example of the natural world
at its artistic best.
Grant that we may take advantage of these
extraordinary moments and relish and value
the beauty and soothing peace it offers.
As autumn begins to show its extraordinary array
of colours, help us take the time to truly look at them
and with almost childlike wonder celebrate and
recapture the enormous sense of joy from the huge
variety of colours which replace
the calming greens of summer leaves.
Guide all who are seeking refuge from violence, conflict
homelessness, hunger and disasters
to feel your tender love, compassion
and healing strength in the kindness of those who seek
to offer hands of help and grant them peace and hope.

Jen Jones © October 2026

SAFEGUARDING - CHANGE TO DBS LEGISLATION

Currently, anyone carrying out regulated activity with children can be supervised by a DBS holder when carrying out their role. However, this element of supervision is now being removed and **all persons carrying out regulated activity with children will require an enhanced DBS check with child barred list information from the 1st September 2026**. If a person teaches, trains, instructs, cares for, or supervises children often enough (3 times in 30 days), they will be in regulated activity with children even if someone else supervises them. This will also apply to any young helpers over the age of 16, who will also need a DBS check from the 1st of September if they are assisting with activities involving young people.

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*Isaiah 25:6-10a*

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine,
of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined.
And he will swallow up on this mountain
the covering that is cast over all peoples,
the veil that is spread over all nations.
He will swallow up death for ever;
and the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces,
and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the
earth, for the Lord has spoken.
It will be said on that day, 'Behold, this is our God;
we have waited for him, that he might save us.
This is the Lord; we have waited for him;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.'
For the hand of the Lord will rest on this mountain.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm*Ps 23(22):1-3a. 3b-4. 5. 6. R/1*

***R/ In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for length of days unending.***

The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me;
he revives my soul. **R/**

He guides me along the right path,
for the sake of his name.
Though I should walk in the valley of the shadow of death,
no evil would I fear, for you are with me.
Your crook and your staff will give me comfort. **R/**

You have prepared a table before me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. **R/**

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for length of days unending. **R/**

Second reading*Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20*

Brothers and Sisters: I know how to be brought low, and I know
how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the
secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do
all things through him who strengthens me. Yet it was kind of you
to share my trouble. And my God will supply every need of yours
according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. To our God and
Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation*Cf. Ephesians 1:17-18*

Alleluia, alleluia.

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
enlighten the eyes of our hearts,
so that we may know the hope to which he has called us.

Alleluia.

Gospel*Matthew 22:1-10*

At that time: Jesus again spoke to the chief priests and the elders
of the people, in parables, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven may be
compared to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son, and sent
his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding feast,
but they would not come. Again he sent other servants, saying,
"Tell those who are invited, 'See, I have prepared my dinner, my
oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is
ready. Come to the wedding feast.' " But they paid no attention
and went off, one to his farm, another to his business, while the
rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them.
The king was angry, and he sent his troops and destroyed those
murderers and burned their city. Then he said to his servants, "The
wedding feast is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go
therefore to the main roads and invite to the wedding feast as
many as you find." And those servants went out into the roads and
gathered all whom they found, both bad and good. So the wedding
hall was filled with guests.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Scripture Readings from the *English Standard Version of the Bible, Catholic
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