

Remembrance Sunday 2023
At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them.
Laurence Binyon (1869 - 1943)

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

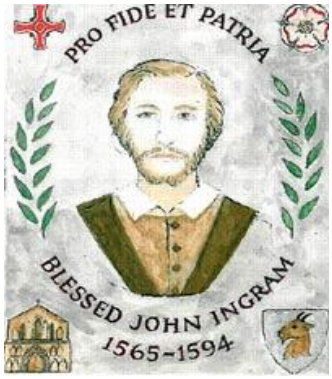
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The John Ingram Partnership
Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle

8 November 2026 — Thirty Second 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 7 November - 15 November 2026

Saturday 7 November	**4.30pm**	**Sacred Heart**	Nancy & Tommy Ashley (dec.) [SH]
	N.B.	**St Philip Neri**	***Church currently closed***
Sunday 8 November	**9.00am**	**St Mary**	People of the Parish
Thirty Second Sunday of the Year (Year A)	**10.30am**	**Immaculate Heart**	Matthew & Francis Bullock (dec.) [AB]
Remembrance Sunday			
Monday 9 November *Dedication of the Lateran Basilica*	1.30pm	Sacred Heart	Priest;s Intention
Tuesday 10 November *St Leo the Great*	9.30am	Immaculate Heart	Priest's Intention
Wednesday 11 November *St Martin of Tours*	9.30am	Immaculate Heart	Priest's Intention
Thursday 12 November *St Josaphat*	9.30am	St Mary	Ann Tate (dec.) [MT]
Friday 13 November			
Saturday 14 November	**4.30pm**	**Sacred Heart**	Clare Doran (dec.) [CH]
	N.B.	**St Philip Neri**	***Church currently closed***
Sunday 15 November	**9.00am**	**St Mary**	People of the Parish
Thirty Third Sunday of the Year (Year A)	**10.30am**	**Immaculate Heart**	Bill & Shiela Hutchins (dec.) [DH]
World Day of the Poor			

***Weekday Readings**: Ordinary Time Week 32 Year 2*

Sacrament of Reconciliation
1.30pm - 1.20pm on Monday at Sacred Heart, 9.00am - 9.20am on Tuesday & Wednesday at Immaculate Heart and 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 & Wednesday at Immaculate Heart and Thursday at St Mary's

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK Jessica Butler, Veronica Coleman, Brigitte Jones, Peter Jones, Maria Thi Kien Chiene Le, John Leitch, Bill Martin, Cheryl Anne McDonald, Nora Miller, Margaret Murphy, Astrid Muse (Gower), Joseph Relph, Patricia Smith, 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).

GIFT FOR LIFE '100 CLUB' NEW NUMBERS ON SALE – and November's winners. The November *Gift for Life* '100 Club' draw took place at St Mary's last Sunday. The winning numbers were First prize (£50) Number: 43, Second prize (£30) Number:47 , Third prize: (£20) Number:19 . Congratulations to the lucky winners. The next draw (the first of the new series) takes place at Immaculate Heart on Sunday 6th December. Numbers for the next year of the '100 Club' are on sale – from now until Sunday 29th November. The cost remains the same at £25 per number for the year but if you buy 3 numbers you will get a fourth one FREE! Payment is in advance either by cash or cheque made payable to Our Lady & St Philip Neri (please write 100 Club on the back of the cheque). The prizes will be finalised once we know how many numbers have been sold but we hope that we will be able to continue with £50 first prize, £30 second prize and £20 third prize. Please note, existing numbers will not be carried over into the new scheme – it is 'first come, first served' for numbers for the new arrangements. If you have any questions, please see one of the *Gift for Life* Group or contact us on giftforlife20@gmail.com Thank you for your generous support.

ANNUAL SERVICE OF LIGHT Sunday 15 November 3pm at St Mary's RC Church, Dockendale Lane, Whickham. You are cordially invited to come along to this Service led by Rev. Paul Nichols from the QE Hospital. It is a quiet and prayerful opportunity to remember our loved ones who have died in the Gateshead area. Light refreshments wil be available in St Mary's Hall afterwards.

ANGEL TREE CHRISTMAS 2026 - collection begins the weekend of 21/22 November. Every Christmas, parishioners actively live their faith by offering support to those in need at Christma and this year we would like to continue with this invaluable outreach work.
We are confident that our parishioners will repeat last year's amazing effort of supplying Christmas gifts to children across Gateshead who have been identified at risk of not receiving a Christmas gift this year (we liaise with Gateshead Social Services to obtain a list of vulnerable children who fall into this category). Social Services have requested that all gifts to be donated must be unwrapped, in a gift bag, tagged with the gender and age of the intended recipient.

- **The Angel Trees** with tags will be in each church from weekend of **21/22 November** - please note there will be more tags this year for 13+ children (especially boys) - Social Services have requested this as they particularly struggle with this age group every year. **All gifts must be handed in by the end of the weekend 12/13 December.**
- Gateshead social services will be collecting all gift donations on **Wednesday 16 December** from Immaculate Heart church.
- **Finally** if you would prefer someone else to shop for you please feel free to donate cash in an envelope marked 'Angel Tree' and placed in the collection plate at church.

Any queries, please contact either Katie Wilkinson via email teachkate1@gmail.com telephone 07837 386760 or Denise Hebron via email denisehebron@yahoo.co.uk telephone 07554 445679.
ST PHILIP NERI REMEMBRANCE The pupils of Year 6 will be leading a Celebration of the Word for Remembrance Day. This will take place in the school hall at 10.45am on Wednesday 11th November. Parishioners are very welcome to join us. It would be lovely to see some of you there.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION 2027 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 2027, 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.

PARISH FINANCES HALF YEAR ACCOUNTS
(April - September 2026)

Our Lady & St Philip Neri
Funds have fallen by £9,326 to £254,025 in the 6 months April - September 2026.
Offertory collections (loose plate, envelopes and Standing Orders) of £32,074 are 7.4% up on last year which is good news while the potential gift aid claim on eligible income is £7,073. This is over £1,000 higher than last year and includes £500 attached to a £2,000 donation for which we are always thankful. Rental income from the three St Mary properties was £13,158 but with repairs for the Cottage alone coming in at £8,187 and hall repairs of £3,526 there is a half year deficit of £2,977. Rent increases have been or will be negotiated with the tenants.
In terms of costs, the large value items are the aforementioned repairs (at £17,279 some £9,878 more than last year), utilities of £8,059, staff wages at £9,725, administration expenses of £6,922, the Diocesan Levy of £5,720 while Fr Endre's duties as Assistant Priest bring a charge of £6,000.
Repair expenditure is the dominant cost that dictates whether we generate a surplus or deficit. The second half year already has spend of £5,427 and £5428.32 is earmarked for St Mary's church oil boiler flue repair and £5932.80 for the purchase and erection of debris netting to make safe the school side of St Philip Neri church.

Sacred Heart, Byermoor
Funds have fallen by £5,818 to £47,622 during the 6 months April - September 2026.
Offertory collections in all forms totalled £6,115 which is pretty much the same as last year and we also received £1,000 from the estate of a parishioner.
Again, costs were very much in line with the same period in 2025 with the exception of repairs. The total figure of £8,114 includes the sum of £6,960 for the removal of the perimeter cemetery wall and laying of top soil. Without this item we would have reported a surplus of over £1,000.

OUR LADY & ST PHILIP NERI AND SACRED HEART PARISHES SENIORS CHRISTMAS PARTY this year is on Thursday 3 December at St. Mary's Hall. Mass will be celebrated at 11.15am followed by lunch and festivities in St. Mary's Hall. There are lists at the entrance of each church - if you would like to attend, please put your name on the list by Sunday 22 November. If you find you are unable to attend, please let us know, even if it is on the morning of the lunch, otherwise food will be wasted. Also, if you know of anyone who would like to attend but is unable to get to church, let us know and we may be able to arrange transport for them. Contact details are Denise Hebron tel. 07554 445679 or Katie Wilkinson tel. 07837 386760.

THE NORTHERN CROSS November edition is on sale this weekend, price £2.00.

NEWSLETTER ITEMS Please send any items for the Parish Newsletter to the Parish Office **by 10.00am on Thursday 12 November.**

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.

Jen's Weekly Prayer

Gazing across the valley was breathtaking, for spread before us was an exquisite sky line . It appeared to be infinite as it spread across the horizon, glowing with depth and uniqueness, from a deep crimson to a rich and gleaming soft gold melting into turquoise. A deep sense of peace and awesomeness filled my being with wonder, joy, delight and a calming strength. Help us Healing Spirit to graciously accept these extraordinary moments of time, gifted to us to weave into our tapestry of memories, to revive and revisit when we need comfort and to feel held for these moments, show us that we are not alone, we are part of a larger canvas. Calm and hold those who are witnessing not to beauty in the skies above, but pain, conflict and suffering, for others emptiness, loneliness and fear, grant them peace hope, light, love and joy once more.

Jen Jones (C) November 2026

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

In Flanders Fields

In Flanders Fields, the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the dead, short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

John McCrae 1872 – 1918



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

DRIVING FOR CHURCH ACTIVITIES If you volunteer to carry out regular parish activities (such as banking monies or taking Holy Communion to the housebound) and this requires you to drive, it might be a good idea to check whether your personal motor insurance policy provides sufficient cover in the case of an accident. Some information and guidelines from the diocese have been displayed at the back of church and are available on the diocesan website. If you have any questions regarding this, please contact the parish office on 0191 460 4274 during office hours or email olpn.gateshead@diocesehn.org.uk and we'll be happy to help.

LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR CHRISTMAS FAYRE The Little Sisters of the Poor will be holding a Christmas Fayre on Saturday 21 November 2026 at St Joseph's Home, Westmorland Road, Newcastle. The Fayre is on from 12 noon until 3pm. There will be a raffle, tombola, bottle stall, arts and crafts and other stalls. They will have a children's stall where everyone is a winner Refreshments will be available. All are welcome.

CONCERT AT LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR HOME The City of Newcastle Male Voice Choir and Gibside Singers will be performing a Christmas Concert in the Chapel at The Little Sisters of the Poor, St Joseph's Home on Saturday 5th December available from St Joseph's Home 0191 2731279.

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 Representa5t0ive (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

Liturgy of the Word **Thirty Second Sunday of the Year** **Year A**

First reading *Wisdom 6:12-16*

Wisdom is radiant and unfading, and she is easily discerned by those who love her and is found by those who seek her. She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her. He who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty, for he will find her sitting at his gates. To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding, and he who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care, because she goes about seeking those worthy of her, and she graciously appears to them in their paths and meets them in every thought.

The word the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm *Ps 63(62):2. 3-4. 5-6. 7-8. R/2b*

R/ For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord, my God.

O God, you are my God; at dawn I seek you;
for you my soul is thirsting.
For you my flesh is pining,
like a dry, weary land without water. **R/**

I have come before you in the sanctuary,
to behold your strength and your glory.
Your loving mercy is better than life;
my lips will speak your praise. **R/**

I will bless you all my life;
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet;
with joyful lips, my mouth shall praise you. **R/**

When I remember you upon my bed,
On you I muse through the watches of the night.
For you have been my strength;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. **R/**

Second Reading *1 Thessalonians 4:13-18*

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. For this we declare to you by the word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation *Matthew 24:42a, 44*

Alleluia, alleluia.
Stay awake and be ready,
for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.
Alleluia.

Gospel *Matthew 25:1-13*

At that time: Jesus told his disciples this parable, 'The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a cry, "Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him." Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out." But the wise answered, saying, "Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves." And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. Afterwards the other virgins came also, saying, "Lord, lord, open to us." But he answered, "Truly, I say to you, I do not know you." Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.'

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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