



'Both apostles share the same feast day, for these two were one;...Let us embrace what they believed, their life, their labours, their sufferings, their preaching, and their confession of faith.' *From a sermon of St Augustine of Hippo, 395 AD*

**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

**28 June 2026**

**Saint Peter and Saint Paul, Apostles**

**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](mailto: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 27 June - 5 July 2026**

<b>Saturday 27 June</b>	<b>4.30pm Sacred Heart</b>	Canon Laurence Hollis (dec.) [MM]
	<b>5.30pm St Philip Neri</b>	Harry Attrill (dec.) [SA]
<b>Sunday 28 June</b>	<b>9.00am St Mary</b>	James Cunningham (dec.) [PC]
<b><i>Saint Peter and Saint Paul, Apostles</i></b>	<b>10.30am Immaculate Heart</b>	People of the Parish
Monday 29 June	1.30pm Sacred Heart	Priest's Intention
Tuesday 30 June <i>First Martyrs of the Church of Rome</i>	9.30am Immaculate Heart	Priest's Intention
Wednesday 1 July	9.30am St Philip Neri	Priest's Intention
Thursday 2 July	9.30am St Mary	Priest's Intention
Friday 3 July <i>St Thomas, Apostle</i>		
<b>Saturday 4 July</b>	<b>4.30pm Sacred Heart</b>	Mary Henderson (dec.) [AH]
	<b>5.30pm St Philip Neri</b>	Bill & Shiela Hutchins (dec.) [DH]
<b>Sunday 5 July</b>	<b>9.00am St Mary</b>	Pauline Archbold (dec.) [DA]
<b><i>Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)</i></b>	<b>10.30am Immaculate Heart</b>	People of the Parish

***Weekday Readings: Ordinary Time Week 13 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*

***Baptisms***

*This Sunday, in the Sacrament of Baptism, we welcome Teddy Wharton and Molly Plewes into the Family of the Church*

**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).***

## **PETER'S PENCE RETIRING COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND 27/28**

**JUNE** Peter's Pence is the name for the financial help offered by the faithful to the Holy Father in his apostolic and charitable mission for the Universal Church and the entire world. Each donation, small or large, also has a powerful symbolic value - it is a concrete sign of communion with the Holy Father. Peter's Pence helps the Holy Father exercise his universal mission in two ways:

- it makes possible many works of service throughout the Universal Church, carried out by the Vatican Dicasteries (Departments) that assist the Pope in evangelization, the promotion of integral human development, education, communication, etc.
- it contributes to numerous charitable works directly assisting the most in need (people and families in distress, populations hit by natural disasters or war, or who are in need of humanitarian assistance or development support).

**GIFT FOR LIFE SUMMER SOCIAL - THE PLACE TO BE THIS SUNDAY! So it's finally here - our *Gift for Life Summer Social* - it all happens this weekend - Sunday 28 June from 2pm at St Mary's Hall and garden. Please come - It's a great opportunity to strengthen our parish community and catch up on the latest news!** There is still time to grab some raffle tickets - you could win our amazing first prize of £100 cash - or one of the other wonderful prizes!

Let's make this a really great parish event - enjoy some lovely refreshments, games, face-painting, quizzes and lots of stalls too. Thank you for all for your support and very generous contributions.

## **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 Blydon 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 as 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 150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY** In October we will be celebrating the 150<sup>th</sup> 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-assisi/>

**RELICS OF ST GERARD MAJELLA** On Tuesday 30th June, the Church of St Teresa (Heaton, NE6 5HN) will host the relics of St Gerard Majella, as part of the celebrations surrounding his 300th anniversary. The Church will be open for prayer with the relics from 6pm, Mass with sermon at 7pm, followed by individual or family blessings with the relics. St Gerard is the patron saint of Mothers, couples trying to conceive, safe delivery, and much more.

#### **Jen's Weekly Prayer**

May we give thanks for the gentle, caressing  
flow of air through the tall trees.

They offer shade, a sense of calm,  
their blends of colour, vivid greens and copper tones.  
Their leaves sway and dance against a bright blue sky,  
offering us a cooling soft and welcoming touch.  
Guide us that we too can take to others a caring touch,  
a smile, an offering of help, for the natural world in its  
wondrous beauty offers to us many gifts.

Show us how to enfold others who are in pain, afraid,  
hungry, homeless, troubled, without hope or peace,  
to feel cherished, shared, fed and comforted  
by open hearts, to once again feel  
the soft and gentle touch of love and care.

*Jen Jones © June 2026*

**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.

**NEWSLETTER ITEMS** Please send any items for next weekend's Newsletter to the Parish Office **by 9.00am on Thursday 2 July.**

#### **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](mailto:safeguarding@diocesehn.org.uk)*

**First Reading***Acts 12:1-11*

In those days: Herod the king laid violent hands on some who belonged to the church. He killed James the brother of John with the sword, and when he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. This was during the days of Unleavened Bread. And when he had seized him, he put him in prison, delivering him over to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending after the Passover to bring him out to the people. So Peter was kept in prison, but earnest prayer for him was made to God by the church.

Now when Herod was about to bring him out, on that very night, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries before the door were guarding the prison. And behold, an angel of the Lord stood next to him, and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him, saying, 'Get up quickly.' And the chains fell off his hands. And the angel said to him, 'Dress yourself and put on your sandals.' And he did so. And he said to him, 'Wrap your cloak round you and follow me.' And he went out and followed him. He did not know that what was being done by the angel was real, but thought he was seeing a vision. When they had passed the first and the second guard, they came to the iron gate leading into the city. It opened for them of its own accord, and they went out and went along one street, and immediately the angel left him. When Peter came to himself, he said, 'Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hand of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting.'

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Responsorial Psalm***Ps 34(33):2-3. 4-5. 6-7. 8-9. R/5*

**R/ From all my terrors the Lord set me free.**

I will bless the Lord at all times,  
praise of him is always in my mouth.  
In the Lord my soul shall make its boast;  
the humble shall hear and be glad. **R/**

Glorify the Lord with me;  
together let us praise his name.  
I sought the Lord, and he answered me;  
from all my terrors he set me free. **R/**

Look towards him and be radiant;  
let your faces not be abashed.  
This lowly one called; the Lord heard,  
and rescued him from all his distress. **R/**

The angel of the Lord is encamped  
around those who fear him, to rescue them.  
Taste and see that the Lord is good.  
Blessed the man who seeks refuge in him. **R/**

**Second reading***2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18*

Beloved: I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me, but also to all who have loved his appearing.

The Lord stood by me and strengthened me, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation***Matthew 16:18*

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church,  
and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

**Gospel***Matthew 16:13-19*

At that time: When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter replied, 'You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.' And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

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