

'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' *Matthew 25:21*

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

15 November 2026 — Thirty Third 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 14 November - 22 November 2026

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 Prayer for the Poor	**3.00pm**	**St Mary**	***Annual Service of Light*** *(*see notice on next page)*
Monday 16 November	*N.B.*	Sacred Heart	*No Mass today*
Tuesday 17 November *St Hilda of Whitby*	9.30am	Immaculate Heart	Deceased Members of McHugh Family [MMcH]
Wednesday 18 November	9.30am	St Philip Neri School	Priest's Intention
Thursday 19 November	9.30am	St Mary	Peter Doran (dec.) [MD]
Friday 20 November			
Saturday 21 November	**4.30pm**	**Sacred Heart**	People of the Parish
Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	***N.B.***	**St Philip Neri**	***Church currently closed***
Sunday 22 November	**9.00am**	**St Mary**	Brenda Robson (dec.) [MR]
Our Lord Jesus Christ the King (Year A)	**10.30am**	**Immaculate Heart**	Frank McCoy (dec.) [JMcC]
Day of Special Prayer for Young People			

Weekday Readings*: Ordinary Time Week 33 Year 2*

Sacrament of Reconciliation
9.00am - 9.20am on Tuesday at Immaculate Heart and Thursday at St Mary's

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
9.00am - 9.25am on Tuesday at Immaculate Heart and Thursday at St Mary's

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS Anne Veronica Dee and Maria Astrid Muse (Gower) who have died recently. The Funeral Service for Anne will be at Immaculate Heart on Thursday 26 November at 11.00am, followed by cremation at Saltwell Crematorium. The Requiem Mass for Maria will be at Immaculate Heart on Wednesday 2 December at 10.00am, followed by burial at Garden House Cemetery. May they rest in peace. Amen.

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, 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).

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.

GIFT FOR LIFE 100 CLUB' NEW NUMBERS ON SALE Numbers for the next year of the '100 Club' are on sale – from now until Sunday 29 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 the £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.

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.

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.

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 19 November.**

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

CLIMATE AND NATURE CRISIS Everyone is invited to attend a Coffee Morning with a showing of the People's Emergency Briefing on the climate and nature crisis at Minsteracres Retreat Centre, Consett DH8 9RT on. Saturday 28 November from 10.00am to 11.45am. The film is suitable for ages 16 and over and everyone is welcome. It is free although donations will be welcome on the day to help cover the cost of room hire and refreshments. Please book your place here: https://buytickets.at/minnie/2500540

YOUNG COUPLES RETREAT Anointing Fire Catholic Ministries are organising a one day Retreat *Reinvigorating I Do's for Married Couples* between 1- 10 years on 21 November from 10 am - 4pm at St Mary's Church, Great Lime Road, Forest Hall, NE12 7AB. If you know anyone who comes under this bracket please encourage them to attend. Spread the word around d and invite all your African, English, Filipino, Indian and Polish friends to attend. If you have children who are in the age range of 5- 12, we will arrange a separate session for them while their parents attend the retreat. There will be Holy Mass and confessions available on the day. Booking is essential as we need numbers for catering purposes. A collection will be taken to meet the expenses. Please email the number of children and couples attending the retreat to afcmnewcastle@gmail.com. For any further enquiries please ring Deacon Alison Rebello on 07931 136243 or Santhosh Joseph on 07545 861400.

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, Newcastle on Saturday 5 December . Tickets available from St Joseph's Home 0191 273 1279.

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

First reading *Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31*

An excellent wife who can find? She is far more precious than jewels. The heart of her husband trusts in her, and he will have no lack of gain. She does him good, and not harm, all the days of her life. She seeks wool and flax, and works with willing hands. She puts her hands to the distaff, and her hands hold the spindle. She opens her hand to the poor and reaches out her hands to the needy.
Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised. Give her of the fruit of her hands, and let her works praise her in the gates.

The word the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm *Ps 128(127):1-2. 3. 4-5. R/1a*

R/ Blessed are all who fear the Lord.

Blessed are all who fear the Lord,
and walk in his ways!
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.
You will be blessed and prosper. **R/**

Your wife like a fruitful vine
in the heart of your house;
your children like shoots of the olive
around your table. **R/**

Indeed thus shall be blessed
the husband who fears the Lord.
May the Lord bless you from Sion.
May you see Jerusalem prosper
all the days of your life! ***R/***

Second Reading *I Thessalonians 5:1-6*

Concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you have no need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. While people are saying, 'There is peace and security', then sudden destruction will come upon them as labour pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. But you are not in darkness, brothers and sisters, for that day to surprise you like a thief. For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation *John 15:4a, 5b*

Alleluia, alleluia.
Abide in me, and I in you, says the Lord.
Whoever abides in me bears much fruit.
Alleluia.

Gospel *Matthew 25:14-30*

At that time: Jesus told his disciples this parable, 'The kingdom of heaven will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money.
'Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, "Master, you delivered to me five talents; here, I have made five talents more." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master." And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, "Master, you delivered to me two talents; here, I have made two talents more." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master." He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, "Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here, you have what is yours." But his master answered him, "You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I scattered no seed? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." '

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

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