



The Lord is compassionate and gracious,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.

Psalms 102:8

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

13 September 2026

Twenty Fourth 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 12- 20 September 2026

Saturday 12 September	4.30pm	Sacred Heart	Kevin Keegan (dec.)
	N.B.	St Philip Neri	Church currently closed
Sunday 13 September	9.00am	St Mary	Helen Jackson (dec.) [CMcT]
Twenty Fourth Sunday of the Year (Year A)	10.30am	Immaculate Heart	People of the Parish
<i>Day of Special Prayer for those involved in Catholic Education</i>			
Monday 14 September <i>Exaltation of the Holy Cross</i>	1.30pm	Sacred Heart	Priest's Intention
Tuesday 15 September <i>Our Lady of Sorrows</i>	9.30am	Immaculate Heart	George Pearson (dec.) [JMCC]
Wednesday 16 September <i>Ss Cornelius & Cyprian</i>	9.30am	Immaculate Heart	Priest's Intention
Thursday 17 September	9.30am	St Mary	Eli Sadrowska (dec.) [JH] <i>St Mary's School attending</i>
Friday 18 September			
Saturday 19 September	4.30pm	Sacred Heart	People of the Parish
	N.B.	St Philip Neri	Church currently closed
Sunday 20 September	9.00am	St Mary	Diane Johnson (dec.) [GM]
Twenty Fifth Sunday of the Year (Year A)	10.30am	Immaculate Heart	Frank McCoy (dec.) [JMCC]
<i>Evangelii Gaudium Sunday (Joy of the Gospel Sunday)</i>			

Weekday Readings: Ordinary Time Week 24 Year 2

Sacrament of Reconciliation

1.00pm - 1.20pm on Monday at Sacred Heart, 9.00am - 9.20am on Tuesday & Wednesday 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 & Wednesday at Immaculate Heart and 9.00am - 9.25am on Thursday at St Mary

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS Harry McMahon who has died recently. The Funeral Service for Harry McMahon will be at Sacred Heart Church on Monday 21 September at 10.15am followed by cremation at Mountsett Crematorium. May he 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).

EDUCATION SUNDAY This Sunday 13 September is a Day of Special Prayer for those involved in Catholic Education. **There will be a Retiring Collection at all Masses this weekend for those who wish to contribute towards the work of the Catholic Education Service in England and Wales.** For more information, please visit <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/?s=Education+Sunday>

EVANGELII GAUDIUM SUNDAY Evangelii Gaudium/Joy of the Gospel Sunday (formerly Home Mission Sunday) will be celebrated next weekend 19/20 September. **A Retiring Collection will be taken at all Masses next weekend to support the work of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales Directorate.** For more information please visit <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home-mission-sunday>

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.

During this closure, it may be prudent to consider adjusting the Mass times at our other two churches, St Mary and Immaculate Heart of Mary. However, this will need some consultation and careful consideration and I propose to facilitate this soon, initially by consulting the new PPC now that it is has been established (see next notice). 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

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. An inaugural meeting of the new PPC will be arranged as soon as possible. Grateful thanks to all those who have offered to serve our parish in this new forum and please pray for them as they assume this valuable ministry.

SEPTEMBER '100 CLUB' WINNERS The September Gift for Life '100 Club' draw took place at St Mary's last Sunday. The winning numbers were First prize (£50) Number: 40, Second prize (£30) Number: 50, Third prize: (£20) Number: 28. Congratulations to the lucky winners. The next draw takes place at Immaculate Heart on Sunday 4th October. Many thanks for your continued support.

TEA AND COFFEE will be available after 9.30am Mass at Immaculate Heart on Tuesday 15 September - all are welcome!

SVP Anyone wishing to become a member of the SVP, please contact Paul Cummings on 07952 824431.

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

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*

RCIA 2026 - 2027 IN OUR PARTNERSHIP Are you interested in finding out more about what being a Catholic means? Are you interested in becoming a Catholic? Then this is the course for you. An initial meeting will be held at St Patrick's Parish Centre (under St Patrick's Church), 9 High Street, Felling, Gateshead NE10 9LT on Wednesday 16 September at 6.30pm and then at a mutually agreed place for the rest of the course (i.e. October 2026 - March 2027). Alternatively, there will also be another initial meeting at St Joseph's, Shibdon Road, Blaydon NE21 5AE on Wednesday 16 September at 6.00pm. If you are interested, in either of these programmes, please speak with Fr Peter or Fr Endre or tel. Alan Egdeell on 07976 402023.

NEW LIFE IN CHRIST - LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINARS Join us for this opportunity to experience the new life we are promised through Baptism in the Holy Spirit. All sessions will be held at St Anne's, Rokeby View, Harlow Green NE9 7UD from 7.00 pm to 8.30pm. All are welcome to join us on Thursday 24 September 2026 for an Introductory Session to hear how the seminars prepare us to open us to new life in Christ through the Holy Spirit.

HERITAGE OPEN DAY The Sacred Heart Church, Great North Road, North Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE3 5EB is taking part in this year's Heritage Open Day Programme. The Programme provides the opportunity for visitors to experience one of northern England's finest collections of William Morris & Co. stained glass, featuring outstanding Pre-Raphaelite designs by Edward Burne-Jones, William Morris and Ford Madox Brown. Whether you love stained glass, Victorian art, local history, architecture or simply enjoy discovering places you may never have visited before, the parishioners of the Sacred Heart would love to welcome you. The Church will be open on the following occasions (Entry is free): Tuesday, 15 September: 11am–3pm, Thursday, 17 September: 11am–3pm, Friday, 18 September: 11am–3pm. If you would like to find out more, please visit: <https://www.heritageopendays.org.uk/submission-event/sacred-heart-church-north-gosforth-open-days.html>

PIE AND PEA SUPPER The Little Sisters of the Poor are holding a Pie and Pea Supper on Wednesday 7 October at 7pm at St Joseph's Home, Newcastle. Tickets cost £8 and are available from St Joseph's on 0191 273 1279.

Jen's Weekly Prayer

Your comforting calm enables us to face the huge challenges of these turbulent times.

Anxiety and fear can rob us our courage but your strength brings light and hope in our darkness. We feel that strength through the holding and sharing of those who love us and together we can reach out and offer support and help.

Enable us to keep reaching out in our own unique way, however large or small those gestures may be, a smile, a call, a kind word, shows love which is the catalyst to bring hope and light when all appears bleak. We remember the many victims across the globe who are caught up in conflicts, aggression, terrorism and persecution or major disasters.

At this time we also reflect with love on all of our loved ones who are no longer with us, remembering their love which remains within us. Love - a small word, but mighty, can fill us with peace, courage, and hope, a light to quell the darkness.

Jen Jones © November 2022

NEWSLETTER ITEMS Please send any items for next weekend's Newsletter to the Parish Office **by 9.00am on Thursday 17 September.**

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

Sirach 27:30-28:7

Anger and wrath, these are abominations, and the sinful man will hold them fast. The one who seeks vengeance will be paid vengeance from the Lord, and he who keeps a record will have his own sins recorded. Forgive your neighbour the wrong he has done, and then your sins will be pardoned when you pray. Does one person harbour anger against another and yet seek for healing from the Lord? Does he have no mercy towards someone like himself and yet pray concerning his own sins? If he himself, being flesh, maintains wrath, who will make atonement for his sins? Remember the end of your life and cease from enmity, remember destruction and death and be true to the commandments. Remember the commandments and do not be angry with your neighbour; remember the covenant of the Most High and overlook error.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 103(102):1-2. 3-4. 9-10. 11-12. R/8

**R/ The Lord is compassionate and gracious,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.**

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all within me, his holy name.
Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and never forget all his benefits. **R/**

It is the Lord who forgives all your sins,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with mercy and compassion. **R/**

He will not always find fault;
nor persist in his anger for ever.
He does not treat us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our faults. **R/**

For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so strong is his mercy for those who fear him.
As far as the east is from the west,
so far from us does he remove our transgressions. **R/**

Second Reading

Romans 14:7-9

Brothers and Sisters: None of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

John 13:34

Alleluia, alleluia.

A new commandment I give to you, says the Lord,
that you love one another, just as I have loved you.

Alleluia.

Gospel

Matthew 18:21-35

At that time: Peter came up and said to Jesus, 'Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?' Jesus said to him, 'I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.

'Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, "Pay what you owe." So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you." He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. When his fellow servants saw what had taken place they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. Then his master summoned him and said to him, "You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?" And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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