



Then Jesus said to them, 'Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's.'
Matthew 22:21

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

Parish Priest Canon Peter Leighton
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Diocesan Website www.diocesehn.org.uk



The John Ingram Partnership
Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle

18 October 2026

Twenty Ninth Sunday of the Year
World Mission Sunday

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 17 - 25 October 2026

Saturday 17 October	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			
Monday 19 October	1.30pm	Sacred Heart	Priest's Intention
Tuesday 20 October	9.30am	Immaculate Heart	Rob Payne (dec) [FP]
Wednesday 21 October	9.30am	Immaculate Heart	Priests Intention
Thursday 22 October <i>St John Paul II</i>	9.30am	St Mary	Priest's Intention (<i>St Mary's School attending</i>)
Friday 23 October			
Saturday 24 October	4.30pm	Sacred Heart	People of the Parish
	N.B.	St Philip Neri	Church currently closed
Sunday 25 October	9.00am	St Mary	Helen Jackson (dec.) [CMcT]
Thirtieth Sunday of the Year (Year A)	10.30am	Immaculate Heart	Private Intention [CS]

Weekday Readings: Ordinary Time Week 29 Year 2

Sacrament of Reconciliation

1.00pm - 1.20pm on Monday at Sacred Heart, 9.00am - 9.20am on Tuesday & Wednesday at Immaculate Heart

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

1.00pm - 1.25pm on Monday at Sacred Heart, 9.00am - 9.25am on Tuesday & Wednesday at Immaculate Heart

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).

THIS SUNDAY IS WORLD MISSION SUNDAY Today, parishes worldwide celebrate World Mission Sunday. By supporting *Missio*, the Pope's charity for world mission, we stand united as God's global family, in prayer, solidarity and action. The Holy Father has chosen the theme 'One in Christ, united in mission' to celebrate 100 years of World Mission Sunday and encourages us to unite with missionaries as they strive to reach out with God's love to communities in need. **Please pray for the work of *Missio* and give what you can to this weekend's retiring collection.** To donate, use the *Missio* envelopes available at the back of church, call 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.

CLERGY TRAINING FUND COLLECTION Next weekend 24/25 October there will be a retiring collection for the Diocesan Clergy Training Fund. There will be envelopes at the back of church for any donations you may wish to Gift Aid.

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 at the back of church and on the parish website.**

GIFT FOR LIFE UPDATE Many thanks to Malcolm Shield for providing an update about *Gift for Life* after our Masses on 11 October. It is always good to hear about the positive impact your generosity has on some of the most vulnerable people in Kenya, India and more locally through the Justice and Peace Refugee Project in Newcastle. Your continued support enables us to provide these causes with the amazing total of almost £8,000 each year. Forms for Standing Orders and Gift Aid are still available at the back of each church, as are envelopes for one-off donations. You can also contribute through the *Gift for Life* '100 Club' - new numbers will be available in November. Thank you so much for your support - in the words of Sister Vicky in Kenya 'My greeting and prayers to all the members of Gift for Life and those who contribute, I am so grateful for their regular and generous support. Together we have brought quality to the lives of the poor and desperate.' For more information please e-mail giftforlife20@gmail.com

REFRESHMENTS will be served after 9.30am Mass at Immaculate Heart Church on Tuesday 20 October - all welcome!

SACRED HEART 150TH ANNIVERSARY We will celebrate Sacred Heart's 150th Anniversary of opening next 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. The minutes of the PPC meeting held on 30 September are available to read at the back of Immaculate of Mary and St Mary's churches and on the parish website.

At the meeting on 30 September, 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.

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

NEWMAN TYNESIDE CIRCLE invites you to come and hear Fr Colin Patey speak on **The Dream of Gerontius: how might Newman's poem inform our November prayers for the Holy Souls?** In the hall of the **Holy Name Church, Jesmond, Newcastle NE2 3JX** on **Tuesday 10 November 2026, at 7.30pm**. "We shall be like him, because we shall see him as he really is" (I John 3:2). A timely reflection from Scripture and Newman's great poem. Father Colin Patey was ordained at Durham Cathedral and served for 20 years as an Anglican. He was ordained as a Catholic priest in 1998, He is now retired but very active as a supply priest and leading occasional retreats. As a High Church Anglican, Fr Colin was inspired by Newman, Pusey and Keble, and as he approached the Catholic Church, Newman's journey became an even greater inspiration for him.

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

DIOCESAN VACANCY:

Role: Finance Assistant

Contract: Permanent

Salary: £3,653 pro rata per annum

Hours: Part-time 5 hours per week

Working Pattern: Able to be negotiated at interview.

Location: St Paul, Dewley, Cramlington, NE23 6EF and St John the Baptist, Annitsford, Cramlington, NE23 7QR

How to Apply: <https://diocesehn.org.uk/vacancy/finance-assistant-2/>

Closing Date: 12:00 pm, 22/10/2026

NEWSLETTER ITEMS Please send any items for the Parish Newsletter to the Parish Office **by 10.00am on Thursday 22 October**.

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

Jen's Weekly Prayer

Each individual has something unique to offer,
for each one of us looks at life and the landscape
before us in a different way.

Some will find joy in the depths of a forest
where the call of birds, the scurrying of squirrels
and other small animals, wild flowers and
the size and majesty of old and heavy leafed trees
brings them peace and calm.

For some the sense of space and the tended openness
of open parkland brings them sanctuary and safety.

We are all different and we all have been gifted with
our unique way of seeing the breadth and depth
of our landscapes, just as we have been gifted
the extraordinary variety, depth and breadth
of the skills and talents we each have to offer.

Guide us that we may value the beauty of both
our human gifts and the variety of the natural world
in all of its forms and cherish each other to strive
to live in peace, harmony, love and hope.

Jen Jones © October 2026

First Reading

Isaiah 45:1, 4-6

Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus,
 whose right hand I have grasped,
 to subdue nations before him
 and to loose the belts of kings,
 to open doors before him
 that gates may not be closed:
 'For the sake of my servant Jacob,
 and Israel my chosen,
 I call you by your name,
 I name you, though you do not know me.
 I am the Lord, and there is no other,
 besides me there is no God;
 I equip you, though you do not know me,
 that people may know, from the rising of the sun
 and from the west, that there is none besides me;
 I am the Lord, and there is no other.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 96(95):1, 3. 4-5. 7-8. 9-10a, c. R/7b

R/ Ascribe to the Lord glory and power.

O sing a new song to the Lord;
 sing to the Lord, all the earth.
 Tell among the nations his glory,
 and his wonders among all the peoples. **R/**

For the Lord is great and highly to be praised,
 to be feared above all gods.
 For the gods of the nations are naught.
 It was the Lord who made the heavens. **R/**

Ascribe to the Lord, you families of peoples,
 ascribe to the Lord glory and power;
 ascribe to the Lord the glory of his name.
 Bring an offering and enter his courts. **R/**

Worship the Lord in holy splendour.
 O tremble before him, all the earth.
 Say to the nations, 'The Lord is king.'
 He will judge the peoples in fairness. **R/**

Second reading

1 Thessalonians 1:1-5b

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, to the church of the
 Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:
 grace to you and peace.

We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly
 mentioning you in our prayers, remembering before our God
 and Father your work of faith and labour of love and
 steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know,
 brothers and sisters loved by God, that he has chosen you,
 because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in
 power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Philippians 2:15d, 16a

Alleluia, alleluia.

Shine as lights in the world,
 holding fast to the word of life.

Alleluia.

Gospel

Matthew 22:15-21

At that time: The Pharisees went and plotted how to entangle Jesus
 in his words. And they sent their disciples to him, along with the
 Herodians, saying, 'Teacher, we know that you are true and teach
 the way of God truthfully, and you do not care about anyone's
 opinion, for you are not swayed by appearances. Tell us, then, what
 you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?' But Jesus,
 aware of their malice, said, 'Why put me to the test, you
 hypocrites? Show me the coin for the tax.' And they brought him a
 denarius. And Jesus said to them, 'Whose likeness and inscription
 is this?' They said, 'Caesar's.' Then he said to them, 'Therefore
 render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things
 that are God's.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Scripture Readings from the *English Standard Version of the Bible, Catholic Edition (ESV-CE)* © 2017 Crossway. Responsorial Psalm from *Abbey Psalms and Canticles* © 2018 USCCB.



**Pope Leo XIV has written this prayer to mark
 the 100th anniversary of World Mission Sunday**

Holy Father, make us one in Christ,
 rooted in his love that unites and renews.
 May all members of the Church be united in mission,
 docile to the Holy Spirit, courageous in
 bearing witness to the Gospel, proclaiming and embodying daily
 your faithful love for all creatures.
 Bless all missionary men and women,
 support them in their efforts, and watch over them in hope!
 Mary, Queen of Missions, accompany our work of evangelisation
 in every corner of the earth: make us instruments of peace,
 and grant that the whole world
 may recognise in Christ the light that saves.
 Amen.