



'Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.'
Matthew 16:21-27

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

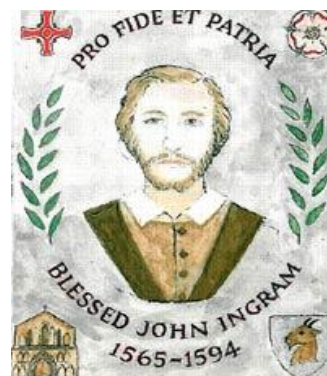
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The John Ingram Partnership
Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle

30 August 2026

Twenty 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 30 August - 6 September 2026

Saturday 29 August	4.30pm	Sacred Heart	Margaret Heslin (dec.)
	5.30pm	St Philip Neri	Molly & Bernard Hearne (dec.) [CH]
Sunday 30 August	9.00am	St Mary	Living & Deceased of Turbitt Family [CH]
Twenty Second Sunday of the Year (Year A)	10.30am	Immaculate Heart	People of the Parish
Monday 31 August <i>St Aidan & the Saints of Lindisfarne</i>	N.B.	No Mass today	
Tuesday 1 September	9.30am	Immaculate Heart	Priest's Intention
Wednesday 2 September	N.B.	No Mass today	
Thursday 3 September <i>St Gregory the Great</i>	9.30am	St Mary	Prayer Shawl Recipients
Friday 4 September <i>Translation of St Cuthbert</i>			
Saturday 5 September	4.30pm	Sacred Heart	John Rafferty (dec.) [AH]
	N.B.	St Philip Neri	Church currently closed
Sunday 6 September	9.00am	St Mary	People of the Parish
Twenty Third Sunday of the Year (Year A)	10.30am	Immaculate Heart	Joseph Quinn (dec.) [RQ]

Weekday Readings: Ordinary Time Week 22 Year 2

Sacrament of Reconciliation

5.00pm - 5.20pm on Saturday 29 August at St Philip Neri,
9.00am - 9.20am on Tuesday at Immaculate Heart & Thursday at St Mary's

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

9.00am - 9.25am on Tuesday at Immaculate Heart & Thursday at St Mary's

Baptism

On Saturday 5 September, in the Sacrament of Baptism, we welcome Rosie Cook into the Family of the Church

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS Bernard Patrick Gorman, Peter Power and Harry McMahon who have died recently. The Funeral Service for Bernard Gorman will be at Mountsett Crematorium on Tuesday 1 September at 11.45am. The Requiem Mass for Peter Power will be at St Gregory's Church, South Shields NE34 6NR on Friday 11 September at 10.15am. 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 they 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 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).

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 link on 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 after the Vigil Mass on Saturday 29 August. 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 once it is established. 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

RE-ENERGISING OUR PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL (PPC) - NOMINATIONS FOR THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL CLOSE THIS SUNDAY 30 AUGUST You may recall that one of the outcomes from the Pastoral Planning Discernment Process in our parish was to 're-energise the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC)'. The previous PPC has been disbanded and we are now seeking nominations for the new PPC. Nomination forms are available at the back of each church and on the parish website. As well as parish clergy and the head teachers of our two primary schools, membership of the PPC will include 3 representatives from each of our 3 churches. Parishioners can nominate themselves or, with their consent, can be nominated by another parishioner. Full details of the nomination and election process, along with our Parish Pastoral Council Guidelines and an electronic version of the nomination form, can be found via this link [PPC 2026](#) at the top of the parish website homepage. 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.

FAREWELL AND THANK YOU FROM THE FOOD BANK TEAM

Thank you for your constant encouragement and support over the past six years and for the profound difference you have made to the lives of so many local families by your generosity.

What happens next with our remaining resources:

Residual Stock: has been donated directly to the Refugees' Project.

Residual Funds: It is intended to donate the remaining monetary funds of **£2476.11** between:

Corpus Christi Food Coop and St. Joseph's Food Bank in Blaydon and the Parish's St Vincent de Paul (SVP) group

Note on Final Distribution: While a portion was originally intended for Joe's Place in Gateshead, their outreach work is currently under review. The Food Bank volunteers therefore intend that this final amount could go directly to our Parish's St Vincent de Paul (SVP) group to help them continue the vital work our parishioners wish to support.

N.B. If anyone who has made monetary donations to the Food Bank and does not agree with this proposed re-distribution of funds, please contact the Parish Office.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday 1 September in Immaculate Heart Church at 1.30pm. If you enjoy knitting or crocheting (the patterns are easy and wool can be provided) or if you are interested in what we hope to do with this ministry please come along. All are welcome! For further information please contact Joan McCoy tel 0191 4884395.

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

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 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). If you are interested, please speak with Fr Peter or Fr Endre or tel. Alan Egdell on 07976 402023.

DIOCESAN PASTORAL STRATEGY DISCERNMENT - JOHN INGRAM PARTNERSHIP

A message from Fr Adrian Tuckwell, Lead Priest of the John Ingram Partnership:

Laity and clergy from across our Partnership have been meeting to respond to the Diocesan Pastoral Strategy Discernment Partnership phase of the process. We were also joined by lay reps. from St Joseph's, Birtley.

In total four meetings were held and Form I has been submitted. The first two meetings were very useful in getting together as this large collection of churches (20) and beginning to appreciate the picture across the area. At the third meeting the focus was on smaller groups of parishes working together in 4 zones. At this meeting there arose a common consensus on the following points:

- *Merging of parishes and reduction of churches necessary now.*
- *Develop stronger relationships with our school communities.*
- *Promote and deepen catechesis, education for all, formation and lay leadership.*
- *A real taking account of the facts presented to us and action to address them.*
- *The importance of the John Ingram Partnership. We hope that the regular Partnership Meetings will allow the four zones to share good practice, enrich each other and discern actions and projects that can be supported more widely.*

A fourth meeting took place with the intention of completing relevant parts of Form I for each of the zones which would then be collated into one Form I submission to the Bishop.

Bishop Stephen will reflect on all the submissions from across the Diocese before the process moves on to stage 3 - The Deanery discussion (for us that is the Bede and John Ingram Partnerships). I'd like to thank everyone who took part in these discussion and reflections. There was an openness to one another, to differing viewpoints and to the working of the Holy Spirit guiding us to what is best for the future of the Church in our Diocese.

Please do keep the process and all the individuals involved in your prayers. We all want what is best to enable the Diocese to serve God, the Church and the wider community.

LOURDES CENTENARY BALL - SATURDAY 5 SEPTEMBER 2026 AT NEWCASTLE CIVIC CENTRE The Hexham & Newcastle Lourdes Pilgrimage Hospitalité invites all to the Lourdes Centenary Ball taking place at the Newcastle Civic Centre on Saturday 5 September between 7pm to 11.30pm. Please order your tickets using the link found below. Direct any questions to the President of Hospitalité, Claire James at lourdes.hospitalite@diocesehn.org.uk

OPPOSE ASSISTED SUICIDE Urgent: Stop assisted suicide - postcards available now! The vote in the House of Commons on assisted suicide is on 11 September. *Not Dead Yet UK* has provided postcards you can send to your MP to ask them to vote NO to assisted suicide in the vote in the House of Commons on 11 September. Please take action now - collect a red and white postcard from the back of church, fill out your details, add a stamp and post it to your MP today! Alternatively, for more information and/or to contact your MP online, please visit the *Right to Life UK* website - www.righttolife.org.uk

NEWSLETTER ITEMS Please send any items for next weekend's Newsletter to the Parish Office by **9.00am on Thursday 3 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

Jen's Weekly Prayer

The brightness of the moon is often hidden by cloud
yet we know its light is shining.
Is this a reflection of ourselves?

Do we sometimes hide ourselves even from ourselves
yet, when we let the light of joy break forth,
our world appears larger, the stars brighter,
the lush and vibrant beauty of late summer's
glorious array of colours gleam and the burgeoning
richness of ripe berries on our trees and early conkers
remind us there is more beauty yet for us to share.

Help us to greet those we meet on our paths
through this tapestry of time and share with joy
the simple yet extraordinary beauty of life around us
and the wondrous light and peace
from the words and silence we can embrace.

Jen Jones © August 2026

First Reading

Jeremiah 20:7-9

O Lord, you have deceived me,
and I was deceived;
you are stronger than I,
and you have prevailed.
I have become a laughing-stock all the day;
everyone mocks me.
For whenever I speak, I cry out,
I shout, 'Violence and destruction!'
For the word of the Lord has become for me
a reproach and derision all day long.
If I say, 'I will not mention him,
or speak any more in his name',
there is in my heart as it were a burning fire
shut up in my bones,
and I am weary with holding it in,
and I cannot.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 63(62):2. 3-4. 5-6. 8-9. 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/***

For you have been my strength;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.
My soul clings fast to you;
your right hand upholds me. ***R/***

Second Reading

Romans 12:1-2

I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God,
to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and
acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be
conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal
of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will
of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Cf. Ephesians 1:17-18

Alleluia, alleluia.

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
enlighten the eyes of our hearts,
so that we may know the hope to which he has called us.

Alleluia.

Gospel

Matthew 16:21-27

At that time: Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to
Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests
and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter
took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, 'Far be it from
you, Lord! This shall never happen to you.' But he turned and said
to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me. For
you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the
things of man.'

Then Jesus told his disciples, 'If anyone would come after me, let
him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever
would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake
will find it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world
and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul?
For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of
his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what
he has done.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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