



Taking the five loaves and the two fish, Jesus looked up to heaven and said a blessing. *The feeding of the five thousand* cf. Matthew 14:13-21

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

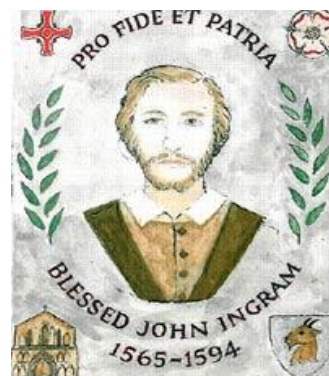
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Diocesan Website www.diocesehn.org.uk



The John Ingram Partnership
Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle

2 August 2026

Eighteenth 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 1 August - 9 August 2026

Saturday 1 August	4.30pm Sacred Heart	Kevin Joyce (dec.) [AH]
	5.30pm St Philip Neri	Ann Crompton (dec.) [JW]
Sunday 2 August	9.00am St Mary	Margaret Ord (dec.) [AMcP]
<i>Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)</i>	10.30am Immaculate Heart	People of the Parish
	4.30pm Sacred Heart	<i>Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament</i>
Monday 3 August	9.30am Sacred Heart	Priest's Intention
Tuesday 4 August <i>St John Vianney</i>	9.30am Immaculate Heart	Priest's Intention
Wednesday 5 August	9.30am St Philip Neri	Priest's Intention
Thursday 6 August <i>Transfiguration of the Lord</i>	9.30am St Mary	Priest's Intention
Friday 7 August <i>St Cajetan</i>		
Saturday 8 August <i>St Dominic</i>	4.30pm Sacred Heart	Anne Widdecombe (dec.)
	5.30pm St Philip Neri	People of the Parish
Sunday 9 August	9.00am St Mary	Fred Mariddas (dec.) [DA]
<i>Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)</i>	10.30am Immaculate Heart	Ann Tate (dec.) [MT]

Weekday Readings: Ordinary Time Week 18 Year 2

Sacrament of Reconciliation

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

Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at 4.30pm on Sunday 2 August at Sacred Heart

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

9.00am - 9.25am on Monday at Sacred Heart, Tuesday at Immaculate Heart, Wednesday at St Philip Neri & Thursday at St Mary's

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS Mary Carrick and Peter Power who have died recently. The Requiem Mass for Mary Carrick will be at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church on Wednesday 12 August at 11.45am. 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).

RE-ENERGISING OUR PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL – NOMINATIONS FOR PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL NOW OPEN

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 the nomination process will remain open for 4 weeks, closing at midnight on Sunday 30 August. 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, can be found via the parish website. 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.

OUR LADY AND ST PHILIP NERI PARISH - ST PHILIP NERI CHURCH As some of you may know, St Philip Neri Church requires some urgent and expensive repairs. This includes a complete electrical re-wiring of the church and replacement of the church roof. I have invited Andrew Gillingham, Diocesan Property Manager, to attend an **Open Parish Meeting at 6.30pm on Wednesday 26 August at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church** so that the necessary works and costs can be presented to the Parish and to allow for consideration and discussion of the way forward. All parishioners are welcome to this meeting.

FAREWELL AND THANK YOU FROM THE FOOD BANK TEAM

Thank you for your constant encouragement and support over the past six years. Together, you have made a profound difference to the lives of so many local families, and your generosity has been nothing short of amazing.

While our Food Bank operations are drawing to a close, our parish is fortunate to have a very active **St. Vincent de Paul (SVP)** group. They meet weekly to support the most vulnerable in our local community. Their vital work relies on ongoing funding, so if you are able, please consider shifting your monetary contributions to support their ongoing mission.

What happens next with our remaining resources:

Residual Stock: Will be donated directly to the **Refugees' Project**.

Residual Funds: It is intended to donate the remaining **£3,066.60** between:

Corpus Christi Food Coop and **St. Joseph's Food Bank in Blaydon** (and see *below).

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.

Thank you once again for your incredible kindness, generosity, and dedication over the years.

GIFT FOR LIFE 'AUGUST '100 CLUB' DRAW The August Gift for Life '100 Club' draw takes place after Mass this Sunday (2 August) at Immaculate Heart. Why not join us for the draw, refreshments and a catchup? Many thanks for your brilliant support.

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.

DIOCESAN PASTORAL DISCERNMENT - JOHN INGRAM PARTNERSHIP On Wednesday 24 June laity and clergy met for a second time to explore a Partnership response for Bishop Stephen and the Diocese. The following common strands emerged:-

- a clear understanding that we cannot continue as we are
- a willingness to face difficult realities honestly
- the beginnings of a shared direction across the Partnership

This is an important place to have reached.

At a further meeting on 16 July, another step was taken i.e. attempting to identify a small number of clear Partnership priorities, which can then be developed into a plan. This happened through smaller groups, based on geographical areas within the Partnership, working to look at the current structures and resources and the issues we face. More details will be provided soon.

Thank you again for the time, honesty and care so many have given to this process so far.

OPPOSE ASSISTED SUICIDE - A MESSAGE FROM THE BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF ENGLAND AND WALES

A Private Members' Bill on assisted suicide - so-called assisted dying - has been reintroduced to the House of Commons. The *Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill* will have its Second Reading and vote on **Friday, 11 September 2026**. Our clear principled objection to this Bill remains and we renew our call for Catholics and people of goodwill to **unite in prayer and compassionate action**. Archbishop Richard Dooley, President of the Bishops' Conference, explains our strong opposition to this legislation: "The *Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill* which aims to legalise assisted suicide has returned to the House of Commons, and Members of Parliament will vote on its Second Reading on 11 September. This bill is wrong in principle. It is also deeply flawed and, if passed, could lead to vulnerable people feeling pressured into ending their lives. The Bill has a serious lack of protection for health and social care staff and risks putting many wonderful hospices and care homes in the position of no longer being able to operate. I urge you to write to your Members of Parliament [see below] to petition them to vote against the Bill at Second Reading."

ACT NOW! You can support the Archbishop's call and [contact your MP now](#) as a matter of urgency. Even if you have already done so in the past, please speak up and voice your opposition. The charity [Right to Life UK](#) has a simple online mechanism to do this. It takes little more than a few minutes to enter your postcode, make sure the suggested text suits your viewpoint and submit your message to ask your MP to stop this flawed Bill progressing through parliament.

LOURDES AT HOME – LIVE STREAMING When in Lourdes (31 July - 7 August), the Diocesan Pilgrimage Masses and Services will be live streamed via the Diocesan Hospitalité YouTube channel and the Lourdes Sanctuary YouTube channel. More details will be available on the Diocesan Hospitalité Facebook page. Please keep the success of this Centenary Pilgrimage in your prayers.

THE NORTHERN CROSS August edition is now available, price **£2.00.**

Jen's Weekly Prayer

The late evening sun gilded the tall copper beech,
turning the copper to gleaming gold
from its luminous light.

It was transitory and exquisite.

A beautiful gift.

Later the golden orb of the moon shone
through thin pearlized clouds, swathing it in
transparent silken folds across a deep blue sky.

Calmness and peace filled the air.

We need to be calm when facing
challenges and changes in our lives
and the beauty and calmness of the natural world
as the day becomes night or the night begins to fade
and the crimson and the gold of daybreak
give us the courage we require to take
the tentative steps we need to look forward,
to begin again and accept the hands of love
offered to us.

Jen Jones © July 2026

NEWSLETTER ITEMS Please send any items for next weekend's Newsletter to the Parish Office **by 9.00am on Thursday 6 August.**

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*Isaiah 55:1-3*

Thus says the Lord:
'Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters;
and he who has no money, come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.
Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,
and your labour for that which does not satisfy?
Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.
Incline your ear, and come to me;
hear, that your soul may live;
and I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm *Ps. 145(144):8-9. 15-16. 17-18. R/cf. 16*

R/ You open your hand and fulfil us, O Lord.

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in mercy.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures. ***R/***

The eyes of all look to you,
and you give them their food in due season.
You open your hand and satisfy
the desire of every living thing. ***R/***

The Lord is just in all his ways,
and holy in all his deeds.
The Lord is close to all who call him,
who call on him in truth. ***R/***

Second reading*Romans 8:35, 37-39*

Brothers and Sisters: Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation*Matthew 4:4b*

Alleluia, alleluia.

One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

Alleluia.

Gospel*Matthew 14:13-21*

At that time: When Jesus heard of the death of John the Baptist, he withdrew in a boat to a desolate place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them and healed their sick. Now when it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, 'This is a desolate place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves.' But Jesus said, 'They need not go away; you give them something to eat.' They said to him, 'We have only five loaves here and two fish.' And he said, 'Bring them here to me.' Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass, and taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and said a blessing. Then he broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

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.