



Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.
Philippians 4:6

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

4 October 2026

Twenty Seventh Sunday of the Year

Year A

*The Parish Secretary, Theresa Noble, is on annual leave and will return to the Parish Office
on Tuesday 13 October 9.00am-3.00pm*

Postal Address: St Mary's Presbytery, Malvern Gardens, Gateshead, Tyne and Wear NE11 9LL

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS 3 - 11 October 2026

Saturday 3 October	4.30pm	Sacred Heart	People of the Parish
	N.B.	St Philip Neri	Church currently closed
Sunday 4 October	9.00am	St Mary	Deceased of Doran Family [MD]
Twenty Seventh Sunday of the Year (Year A)	10.30am	Immaculate Heart	Maria Foy (dec.) [JH]
Monday 5 October	1.30pm	Sacred Heart	Priest's Intention
Tuesday 6 October	9.30am	Immaculate Heart	Harry Attrill (dec.) SA
Wednesday 7 October <i>Our Lady of the Rosary</i>	9.30am	Immaculate Heart	Priest's Intention
Thursday 8 October	9.30am	St Mary	Ann Tate (dec.) [MT]
Friday 9 October <i>St John Henry Newman</i>			
Saturday 10 October <i>St Paulinus of York</i>	4.30pm	Sacred Heart	People of the Parish
	N.B.	St Philip Neri	Church currently closed
Sunday 11 October	9.00am	St Mary	Denis Dunphy (dec.) [DD]
Twenty Eighth Sunday of the Year (Year A)	10.30am	Immaculate Heart	Deceased of McCusker Family (dec.) [AB]

Weekday Readings: Ordinary Time Week 27 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

Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament 4.30pm on Sunday 4 October at Sacred 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
and 9.00am - 9.25am on Thursday at St Mary

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, 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 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 Wednesday's meeting will be made available next weekend 10/11 October.

At the meeting on Wednesday, 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. The next Mass in St Philip Neri School will be at 9.30am on Wednesday 14 October.

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

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY was on Friday 2 October. Please donate to our Family Fast Day Parish Collection. Put your faith into action and share the Lord's love by supporting our global neighbours experiencing shortages of food and safe water. **CAFOD envelopes are available if you wish to make a financial contribution to their invaluable work throughout the world.** We pray for Justice and Peace in our world, especially on this Family Fast Day. For more information or to donate online, please visit www.cafod.org.uk

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 (Vice-Chair), Denise Hebron, Michael McHugh, Maveen Pereira, Tony Sacco (Chair), Malcolm Shield, Joe Wheatley, Sarah Williams. An inaugural meeting of the new PPC took place on Wednesday 30 September and minutes of that meeting will be made available next weekend 10/11 October. 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.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday 6 October 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.

GIFT FOR LIFE '100 CLUB'DRAW The October Gift for Life '100 Club' draw takes place after Mass this Sunday (4 October) at Immaculate Heart. Why not join us for the draw, refreshments and a catchup? It could be you! Many thanks for your brilliant support.

RED MISSION BOXES The Red Boxes are now due to be emptied. Please see Lilian Gray or leave at the back of St Mary's or Immaculate Heart Church to be collected. For those who usually attended St Philip Neri Church, please leave your box at either one of the other Parish churches as above or contact Denise Hebron on 07554 445679.

If you have any further queries please contact Lilian Gray on 07717 853685 or email liliangray@sky.com
Thank you for your continued support.

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

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. **Following the initial meeting held at St Patrick's Parish Centre, Felling on Wednesday 16 September, the subsequent RCIA meetings for 2026-27 will be held at St Peter's Church, Kells Lane, Low Fell NE9 5HY, beginning on Tuesday 6 October at 6.30pm.**

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

NEWSLETTER ITEMS Please send any items for next weekend's Newsletter to the Parish Office **by 9.00am on Thursday 8 October.**

SACRED HEART 150TH ANNIVERSARY We will celebrate Sacred Heart's 150th Anniversary of opening on 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. There will be a brief meeting after Mass this Saturday 26 September to discuss preparations for Bishop Stephen's visit - please stay behind if you are available.

If you have any old photographs, newspaper clippings or other memorabilia, could you please lend them to Fr Endre for scanning and reproduction.

BLESSING OF PETS ON ST FRANCIS' DAY As this Sunday marks the 800th anniversary of St Francis of Assisi's heavenly birthday, after Benediction, which is at 4.30pm, there will be an opportunity for your pets to be blessed. Please bring them to the church door for 5pm, on a lead, or with whatever keeps them and their fellow beasts safe and comfortable!

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.

REMEMBRANCE MASS - DIOCESAN LOURDES PILGRIMAGE

A Remembrance Mass has been organised by the Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage for Friday 20 November 7.00pm at Our Blessed Lady Immaculate, Washington. This is open to everyone, not just those who have been to Lourdes. There are special candles that can be purchased to be burned at the Mass in memory of loved ones. These are £3.00 each and available by contacting the Lourdes office – lourdes@diocesehn.org.uk

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

NEWSLETTER ITEMS Please send any items for next weekend's Newsletter to the Parish Office by **9.00am on Thursday 8 October**.

Jen's Weekly Prayer

Enfolded in a circle of loving hands,
the strength of your peace brings calmness.
Individual thoughts linked into a chain of love
surround and warm the coldness of fear.
Hope, which had been vanquished,
is allowed to flourish.
Positive love-filled strength enfolds and soothes.
Grant me the courage to retain this love
and be wrapped in the wisdom of gifted love.
To find peace when difficulties arise and recognise
your hand in the love and support of others.

Jen Jones © 2005 revised 2021

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 VACANCIES

Role: Cleaner

Contract: Permanent

Salary: £4196.4 per annum

Hours: Part-time 6 hours per week

Working Pattern: Able to be negotiated at interview.

Location: St Patrick, Goatbeck Terrace, Langley Moor, Durham, DH7 8JJ

How to apply: Please visit

<https://diocesehn.org.uk/vacancy/cleaner-10/>

Closing Date: 12:00 pm, 07/10/2026

Role: Parish Secretary

Contract: Permanent

Salary: £9498 per annum

Hours: Part-time 13 hours per week

Working Pattern: Able to be negotiated at interview.

Location: St John Vianney, Hillhead Parkway, West Denton, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE5 1DP

How to apply: Please visit

<https://diocesehn.org.uk/vacancy/parish-secretary-19/>

Closing Date: 12:00 pm, 07/10/2026

SAFEGUARDING IN THE DIOCESE OF HEXHAM AND NEWCASTLE

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

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>

First Reading

Isaiah 5:1-7

Let me sing for my beloved
my love song concerning his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill.
He dug it and cleared it of stones,
and planted it with choice vines;
he built a watchtower in the midst of it,
and hewed out a wine vat in it;
and he looked for it to yield grapes,
but it yielded wild grapes.
And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah,
judge between me and my vineyard.
What more was there to do for my vineyard,
that I have not done in it?
When I looked for it to yield grapes,
why did it yield wild grapes?
And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard.
I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured;
I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down.
I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed,
and briers and thorns shall grow up;
I will also command the clouds
that they rain no rain upon it.
For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts
is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah
are his pleasant planting;
and he looked for justice, but behold, bloodshed;
for righteousness, but behold, an outcry!

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.**Responsorial Psalm** *80(79):9,12.13-14.15-16.19-20.Isaiah 5:7a***R/ The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel.**

You brought a vine out of Egypt;
you drove out the nations and planted it.
It stretched out its branches to the sea;
to the River it stretched out its shoots. **R/**

Then why have you broken down its walls?
It is plucked by all who pass by the way.
It is ravaged by the boar of the forest,
devoured by the beasts of the field. **R/**

God of hosts, turn again, we implore;
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the stock your right hand has planted,
the son you have claimed for yourself. **R/**

And we shall never forsake you again;
give us life that we may call upon your name.
Bring us back, O Lord God of hosts;
let your face shine forth, and we shall be saved. **R/**

Second Reading

Philippians 4:6-9

Brothers and Sisters: Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise: think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me - practise these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

*Cf. John 15:16***Alleluia, alleluia.**

I chose you out of the world, says the Lord,
that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should abide.

Alleluia.

Gospel

Matthew 21:33-43

At that time: Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'Hear another parable. There was a master of a house who planted a vineyard and put a fence round it and dug a wine press in it and built a tower and leased it to tenants, and went into another country. When the season for fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit. And the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other servants, more than at first. And they did the same to them. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, "They will respect my son." But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, "This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and have his inheritance." And they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?'

They said to him, 'He will put those wretches to a miserable death and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons.'

Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the Scriptures: "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes"? Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits.'

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.