

The Parish of the Durham Martyrs
*Incorporating the Churches of Our Lady of Mercy
& St. Godric, St. Joseph and St. Bede*

Parish Priest: Fr. Colm Hayden



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Parish Secretary: Mrs M. D. Towers

Parish Newsletter
19th January 2025
Second Sunday of the Year

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(Please telephone Fr. Paul if you have someone in hospital)

The Wedding at Cana

The mother of God spoke to her son as the laughter and singing began to die
(Though the feast had hardly just begun) and the guests began to sigh.

“These people are waiting for something more” She whispered to him.

“These people pine to drink as they’ve never drunk before—
They have no wine.”

“Oh woman”, the Son of Man replied, “What is that to me? It is not my hour.”

But his mother still stood there by his side and spoke a little lower.

“The singing and dancing have almost ceased and the bride is shame-faced.

Oh, son of mine, the guests have come to the wedding feast

And have no wine.”

And, looking down on his princely face, she remembered what Simeon prophesied

As he held the child in the holy place: A sword shall pierce your side.

“Oh blood of my blood” the Virgin said, “The drink they thirst for is yours and mine.

They came to see a bridegroom wed

And they have no wine.”

Feast Days

Monday, 20 January	St. Fabian P, M/St. Sebastian M
Tuesday, 21 January	St. Agnes V, M
Wednesday, 23 January	St. Vincent
Friday, 24 January	St. Francis de Sales Bp, D
Saturday, 25 January	The Conversion of St. Paul, Apostle

Prayers – please keep in your prayers:



Kitty Trainor	Tony Twomey
Ann Hourican	Ian Hamilton
Mary Armstrong	Ann Close
Sheila Owens	Margaret Graham
Margaret Nancarrow	Veronica O'Reilly
Freda March	Judith McLean
Michael Farmer	

Anniversaries:

Mary Murphy	Patricia Finn
Teresa Harrison	Bede Murray
Arthur Binks	Joyce Pearson
Joe Lyons	Joyce Hadfield



Sympathy – we extend our sympathy to Norman, Nicola and Christopher on the sad loss of Kathleen Brown, whose Funeral Service will take place at St. Joseph's on Thursday, 30th January at 2.00pm. *Requiescant in pace*

Journey in Faith

The next meeting of the Journey in Faith will take place at St. Joseph's on Thursday, 23rd January, at 2.30pm.

Coffee Morning

There will be a parish coffee morning on **Monday 20th January**. It will take place immediately after the 9.15 Service of the Word and Holy Communion in St. Bede's Room in St. Godric's School. All proceeds are for Women in Need in India. Everyone is very welcome.



Peace Sunday

As Sunday 19th January is 'Peace Sunday' Pax Christi have asked all parishes to say extra prayers for Peace this weekend.

The usually silent Eucharistic Exposition at 3.00pm on Sunday afternoon in St. Godric's will therefore include some prayers for peace, as well as silences. Everyone is invited. Please do think about attending.



Cynthia, Steven Dunn and family would like to thank everyone in the parish for all the prayers, sympathy cards, flowers, e-mails, text messages following the death of our Mam Maureen.

We would like to thank Fr. Colm for the lovely service and the readers, minister, choir, stewards and all who helped on the day.

We have a very special Parish community, thank you all.



SVP Sudan Appeal

Once again, the Durham Martyrs' Parish has risen to the challenge and raised over £1300 for the Sudan Appeal.

Given the recent difficult economic situation the amount is magnificent and illustrates your selfless generosity. On behalf of the people of Sudan and the SVP can I offer my heartfelt thanks. Chris Brennan

TYNE CENTRAL COUNCIL – 200 CLUB

Results– January 2025

1 st (£50)	No. 145
SVP Conference	St. Aloysius & St. James, Hebburn
Terry Lee	Tynemouth Priory – St. Edwards W.B.
Marie Anderson	St. Mary & St. Wilfred, Bishop Auckland
2 nd (£25)	No. 96
Bridie Cummins	Ss. Mary and Joseph, Newton Aycliffe
Patricia Baldrige	Parish of the Durham Martyrs, St. Joseph
Hetty Routledge	Tynemouth Priory – St. Edwards W.B.

With many thanks for your continued support

Fourth Option of Giving by Debit or Credit Card Update

Thank you for supporting the introduction of this option of Giving.

The first month of December when the system has been in use has been successful with both Parishioners and Visitors using the facility in both St Joseph's and St Godric's to make Offertory donations and also to purchase items from the Piety Stalls.

£312.25 was received for the month of December from this Option of Giving – thank you. Frustratingly there have also been some network outages to date which are hopefully now resolved.

Save the Date (i)

THE UPPER ROOM-THE LAST SUPPER

St. Godric's Church 7.00pm Tuesday 11th March 2025

There will be a multi-media presentation based upon Chapters 13-17 of St John's Gospel by a young Swedish storyteller, violinist and photographer - Christian Stejskal. The performance will last 75 minutes and tickets are £5.

Further information to follow. Please make a note in your diary, paper or electronic. Contact Joe Hughes: joe.hughes2017@hotmail.com

Save the Date (ii)

The spring Parish Baptism Programme date is :

Monday 7th April, 6pm - 9 pm, St Joseph's Church / Jubilee Room

This programme is for parents and those wishing to attend will be very welcome to gain understanding of the signs, symbols and importance of the Sacrament of Baptism and the Catholic Rite of Baptism.

Please contact Mrs Marjorie Towers, Parish Secretary in the first instance for further information.

From the Diocese

Forthcoming Events at Ushaw

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity runs from 18th to 25th January. There will be a Service for Christian Unity at Ushaw on the afternoon of **Friday 24th January at 3pm**. There is no need to book tickets. Please do come along, and pass on the invitation to friends from other Christian churches.

Durham Churches Together

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Lunch

Tuesday 21st January at 12 noon to 1.30pm, the Durham Churches Together lunch for The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is at Waddington Street United Reformed Church. All welcome – no booking needed.

Date for the Diary - Sunday 9th February at 2.30pm in the parish room at St. Cuthbert's, Old Elvet, Durham.: There will be an illustrated talk by Richard Pears (university librarian) entitled 'Catholic Country House Building in Durham and Northumberland 1570-1829'.

From the excommunication of Queen Elizabeth I to the Catholic Emancipation Act, Catholic families were persecuted, fined and excluded from public office and universities. Despite this, many of the wealthier Catholic families retained their lands and rebuilt their mansions in fashionable architectural styles.

In this talk, Richard Pears will examine these country houses and argue that exclusion from English society increased their engagement with European culture, in particular the architecture of the Italian renaissance. By adopting the architecture of classical Rome the families signified their continuing devotion to the Roman Catholic Church. The talk is free but donations towards the church building repairs will be welcome

Durham City Methodists' Panto Team present...



("Oh, yes, they do!")

Elvet Methodist Church Hall
Friday 24th January 7 pm
Saturday 25th January 2.30 & 7 pm

Tickets £5 from cast members,
from durhamcitymethodists.org/panto
(+ 50p online booking fee)

or on the door (subject to availability)

Under 5s admitted free with ticket holders



Mass Intentions for the Week

19th January 2025

	St Godric's	St Joseph's
Saturday 18 January	NO MASS	5.00pm Vigil Mass Bede Murray Anniversary and John Doyle Anniversary
Sunday 19 January	9.00am Frank Wilson 3.00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	10.30am Arthur Binks Anniversary and Joyce Pearson Anniversary
Monday 20 January	NO MASS	9.15am Service of Word and Holy Communion
Tuesday 21 January	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am Deceased Priests of the Diocese	NO MASS
Wednesday 22 January	NO MASS	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am Vocations to the Priesthood
Thursday 23 January	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am Bob Collinson Birthday Remembrance	NO MASS OR SERVICE
Friday 24 January	NO MASS	9.30am - Exposition 10.00am Cassie Childs Birthday Remembrance
Saturday 25 January	NO MASS	5.00pm Vigil Mass Belle Blakey, and Mary Doyle Cusack Anniversary
Sunday 26 January	9.00am Anne and Malcolm McKenzie	10.30am David Elliot Birthday Remembrance

St. Cuthbert's

Sun 19	Mon 20	Tue 21	Wed 22	Thurs 23	Fri 24	Sat 25	Sun 26
10.00am And 6.30pm	NO MASS	9.15am	7.00pm	12.15pm	9.15am	9.15am	10.00am and 6.30pm