

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



TELEPHONE: 07483 369 561
EMAIL: durham.martyrs@diocesehn.org.uk
WEBSITE: www.durhammartyrs.co.uk
Mill Lane, Gilesgate, Durham DH1 2JG

Parish Secretary: Mrs M. D. Towers

Parish Newsletter – 2nd March 2025 8th Sunday of the Year

Parish Secretary: Mrs. M, D. Towers

Office hours: Tuesday-Friday, 8.30am-4.00pm

Parish mobile: 07483 369 561

Hospital Chaplain Fr. Paul Tully-01388 818 544/0191 3332183

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

The Season of Lent

Do you want to fast?

Fast from hurting words and say kind words.

Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.

Fast from anger and be filled with patience.

Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.

Fast from worries and have trust in God.

Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.

Fast from pressures and be prayerful.

Fast from bitterness and fill your heart with joy.

Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.

Fast from grudges and be reconciled.

Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

Feast Days

Saturday, 1 st March	St. David, Patron of Wales
Tuesday, 4 th March	St. Casimir
Wednesday, 5 th March	ASH WEDNESDAY

Prayers – please keep in your prayers:



Kitty Trainor	Tony Twomey
Ann Hourican	Jean Smith
Mary Armstrong	Ann Close
Sheila Owens	Margaret Graham
Margaret Nancarrow	Veronica O'Reilly
Freda March	Judith McLean
Michael Farmer	Christopher Godbolt
Ann Childs	

Anniversaries

Patricia Grainger	Isabella Eccles
Philip Grainger	Veronica Peacock
John Blake	Sharon Minns
Thomas Reid	Vera Ratton
Aidan Bryden	



Sympathy – we extend our sympathy to Bernadette Stothard and family on the sad loss of her granddaughter Rosie Francesca Braithwaite.

- and also to the family and friends of the late Teresa Madge Paine, whose Funeral Service will take place on Tuesday, 18th March at Durham Crematorium at 1.00pm. *Requiescant in pace.*

Children's Liturgy at St Joseph's will normally take a break during school holidays. This means there will be **no sessions this Sunday 2nd March**. We look forward to seeing the children when we resume on Sunday 9th March.

Journey in Faith

The next meeting of Journey in Faith will take place at St. Joseph's on Thursday, 6th March at 2.30pm.

Broken Rosaries – if you have a rosary which needs mending, please contact Br. Lucjan on 07459 936 907 and he will repair it.

Northern Cross

The March Edition of the Northern Cross is on sale. Price £1.50

Church cleaning at St. Godric's

The next Church cleaning session is on Tuesday 11th March after 10 o'clock Mass. All are welcome for even the smallest job. It has turned out to be a fun parish event!! Thank you to all.

Missio APF/Mill Hill collections for the month 2025 Ss. Godric and Bede Red mission boxes / donations for St Bede's will be collected and emptied by sponsors in the usual way during March. Please bring those for St. Godric's to Sunday Mass on 2nd, 9th, 16th or 23rd March.



A big **thank you** for your continued support and generosity.



Parish Ceilidh 15th March St. Joseph's School Hall, 7.00-10.00pm

Tickets available after Masses this weekend, 1st/2nd March - £5 Adults, £2.50 Children
Spot Prizes - Raffle - Quiz - Shared Table
Brilliant Ceilidh Band 'North by North East'

It will be a wonderful Parish celebration. All welcome!

The Season of Lent

Ash Wednesday, 5th March – a Day of Fasting and Abstinence

Parish Masses are: St. Joseph's at 10.00am and at St. Godric's at 7.00pm.

The parish **Charity Lenten Lunches** will commence on Friday, 7th March and continue on the following Fridays – 14th, 21st, 28th March and 4th and 11th April from 12.00-1.00pm. Please contact Marjorie if you or your group would like to host a lunch.

At the time of printing this bulletin, no group has offered to host a lunch this coming Friday, 7th March.

Readers and Ministers

We need to start planning for Holy Week and Easter, so Fr. Colm has asked that you let Marjorie know of your availability as soon as you can.



LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 2026

Some parishioners have expressed an interest in visiting Lourdes in 2026. If you are interested (no commitment) could you give your name to Marjorie and we can begin the planning process.

The dates we are thinking about are Half Term 23rd – 30th May.

International Lunch - The first International Lunch of 2025 will be taking place on **Sunday 9th March at St. Joseph's after the 10:30 Mass**. It's a great opportunity for our community to come together and enjoy a nice time while tasting delicious food from around the world. It would be great to see parishioners from both St Joseph's and St Godric's there. We'll also have a fun activity for the children.

There'll be a place at the back of St Joseph's Church to write your name down if you're planning to attend. Feel free to bring some food to share and be ready to enjoy it with our lovely parish community. For more information feel free to join the WhatsApp group <https://chat.whatsapp.com/CQvZ7yZUI8N2BaSggdft7W>
We're looking forward to seeing you there.

The Wednesday Lunch Club

Do you enjoy cheerful company, good conversation, a chance to catch-up with old friends and make new ones? The Wednesday Club is the group for you!

We meet in St. Joseph's each week from 12 noon till 1.00 p.m.
Thanks to our generous parishioners, we can usually provide transport if this would be a problem and then you will be generously fed - food and gossip in a lovely, warm atmosphere while our hidden workers slave over the washing up, serving up and clearing up! Not sure if this is for you? Come and try it- a warm welcome awaits!

We also need more volunteer helpers to serve lunches and interact with our guests. If you would like to help please contact:

Contact Pat(Conway) - 07943016225/ 0191 3868216 or Kathleen (Murray) 07759130837/ 0191 3867733

THE UPPER ROOM - THE LAST SUPPER

Christian Stejskal, who is presenting The Upper Room/The Last Supper performance on 11th March in St Godric's Church, has asked if we can help with accommodation on the 10th and 11th March. If any parishioner can help please contact Marjorie or Joe Hughes.

Ecumenical Pancake Party – Tuesday, 4th March

On Shrove Tuesday, at 6:30pm, we will be hosting an ecumenical pancake party for students and parishioners, and we would love to extend the invite to Durham Martyrs parish! The event will be entirely free of charge, we only ask that if you are coming, you bring your own toppings, and we will provide the pancakes. The party will be hosted in the Chaplaincy room at St Cuthbert's Church, Durham, with the theme 'The last Hurrah'...we will be encouraging students to wear something colourful, so feel free to partake in this too! All parishioners more than welcome.

Hannah Bartlett

Outreach Officer for the Durham Catholic Society

Legion of Mary Meetings

There is a proposal to start the Legion of Mary praesidia meetings and Legion work in the parish.

Initially, there will be a series of informal meetings after the Sunday Masses – possibly two or three meetings. If there is enough interest, weekly meetings can then be arranged at an agreed venue, date and time.

Examples of the nature of the work that members can participate in (list not exhaustive):

- Home to home visit to the sick and housebound
- Hospital visits
- Cleaning the church and surroundings
- Helping with Catechism
- Helping to ensure the elderly are brought to the Lunch Club
- Care of children at Mass
- And any other work deemed suitable by Fr. Colm

If anyone is interested, please contact Marjorie in the Parish Office.

From the Diocese

WEBINAR: SEEDS OF HOPE

You are cordially invited to join Bishop Stephen and members of the Diocesan Environmental Group (DEG) in a webinar to find out more about the DEG and what we can all do to reduce our impact on the environment.

Date: Saturday 8th March 2025

Time: 11.00am – 12.30pm

Details, instructions and Zoom link available on the Diocesan website:
<https://tinyurl.com/mr4cmj99>

Youth Helper for the Lourdes Pilgrimage 2025!

Are you interested in joining our Lourdes Pilgrimage in 2025 as a youth helper? Now is the time to register and secure your spot! By registering, you will receive all necessary forms that need to be completed as soon as possible. Don't miss this incredible opportunity to serve and experience a unique spiritual journey.

Registration Deadline: End of March 2025. Sign up today at www.ymt.org and be a part of this unforgettable experience. Hurry, spaces are filling fast!

Job Vacancy

The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle is looking to appoint to the following vacancy:

Parish Secretary, based at Immaculate Heart Church, 1 Church Close, West Monkseaton, Whitley Bay NE25 9PG – 21 hours a week. Closing date: 11 March at 12.00pm. Please visit www.diocesehn.org.uk/job-vacancies for full details or contact us on 0191 243 3301.

Mass Intentions for the Week

2nd March 2025

	St Godric's	St Joseph's
Saturday 1 March	NO MASS	5.00pm Vigil Mass Marie and Jack Bradley
Sunday 2 March	9.00am John Carré 3.00pm-4.00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	10.30am Rosena Conway, Maureen Coulthard and Hugh Clark
Monday 3 March	NO MASS	9.15am Service of Word and Holy Communion
Tuesday 4 March	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am Special Intention (MT) and Anne Anderson	NO MASS
Wednesday 5 March	7.00pm ASH WEDNESDAY MASS	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am - ASH WEDNESDAY MASS With St. Joseph's School
Thursday 6 March	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am Frank and Bernard McGoay	NO MASS
Friday 7 March	NO MASS	9.30am - Exposition 10.00am Brian Harland and Vera Ratton
Saturday 8 March	NO MASS	5.00pm Vigil Mass Belle Blakey and Hannah Mary Drane
Sunday 9 March	9.00am Sylvia Layfield 3.00-4.00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	10.30am Brian O'Connor and Chantal Rouchouse

St. Cuthbert's

Sun 2	Mon 3	Tue 4	Ash Wednesday	Thurs 6	Fri 7	Sat 8	Sun 9
10.00am And 6.30pm	NO MASS	12.15pm	12.15pm and 7.00pm	9.15am	12.15pm	12.15pm	10.00am and 6.30pm