

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 Newsletter
24th November 2024
Our Lord Jesus Christ the King

Parish Priest Fr. Colm Hayden
Parish Secretary: Mrs. M, D. Towers
Office hours: Tuesday-Friday, 8.30am-4.00pm
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(Please telephone Fr. Paul if you have someone in hospital)

A wonderful Christmas Fayre was enjoyed by many last Saturday. It was an expression of Parish Life at its best. My thanks to those who put so much effort into making it a success. Here's to the next event.

Though she will be furious with me, I cannot allow the departure of Emma Turnbull from St. Joseph's School to pass without a word of gratitude for the great work she did over the years. She was also such an important link between the school and the Parish. Thank you Emma. I am delighted she is remaining in our school system, as she takes up her new position at St. Leonard's.

You will read the request in the bulletin for counters of the weekend collection. Please give serious consideration to this, as we have very few counters now, and many hands

Thank you to all our readers who participated in an evening to explore the new Lectionary. It was a very productive meeting on many levels. A special thanks to Leanne for leading the evening so well, and especially for her very helpful handouts following Leanne's participation in the Diocesan course on the new translation. Leanne's handouts are available for readers unable to attend.

Feast Days

Monday, 25 November	St. Catherine of Alexandria V, M
Tuesday, 26 November	St. Leonard of Porto Maurizio Rel
Saturday, 30 November	St. Andrew, Apostle, Patron of Scotland

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

Anniversaries:

Audrey Loughlin	Maureen Bryden
Tess Moon	Richard Barker
Bryan Moran	Michael Wilkinson
Sheila Bell	



Sympathy – we extend our sympathy to the family and friends of the late Craig Mackerness, whose Funeral Service will take place on Friday, 13th December in St. Joseph's at 1.00pm.

Requiescat in pace

New parish email address

Please note that we have a new diocesan email address with immediate effect:

durham.martyrs@diocesehn.org.uk

COUNTERS NEEDED – WEEKLY COUNT

Dear Parishioners – Before the onset of COVID there were 24 parishioners willing to count the weekly collections, sadly this number has now reduced to 10 and we are trying to recruit more parishioners who would be willing to help with this important task making it less onerous for all concerned.

The count is done at St Joseph's on either Sunday morning after the 10.30 mass or on Monday morning – the day and time is decided upon by each individual who would be placed in a group counting at the requested time. At present there are only 2 members in each team and it takes less than 2 hours. Obviously more hands make lighter and shorter work.

The rota is very flexible and if any date does not suit it is possible to swap your turn with another counter on the rota. All newcomers will join existing groups to learn the counting procedures.

We really need more volunteers so if you are able to help your Parish please let Marjorie know. Many thanks and God Bless.

Youth Sunday – A message from YMT

Today, we celebrate Youth Sunday, The Feast of Christ the King and the vital role young people play in our Church. Bishop Stephen has written a letter which highlights the inspiring contributions of our youth and the dedication of the Youth Ministry Trust (YMT).

Please see the poster at the back of the church, showcasing the ways youth ministry has flourished this year, from the return of *The Source* gathering to successful summer festivals and the JPII and Faith in Action Awards.

Your support is essential; a special collection will be taken today. Gift Aid envelopes are available for those who wish to contribute, they can be returned at a later date. Thank you.

Advent Soup Lunches

We are hoping to hold our annual Advent Lunches this year and would be grateful if you or your group would like to host one.

The dates are: Friday 6th December, Friday 13th December and Friday 20th December. Please contact Marjorie to book your slot.

Global Healing Film Nights at St. Francis' Friary November 25th, 7 - 8.15 pm.

All are welcome to join us at the Friary to watch the 3rd and final film of the series. These are inspired by Pope Francis' encyclical "Laudato Si" (2015) on the dangers of Climate Change and our response.



Parish Community Christmas Fayre

Thank you to everyone for making our Christmas Fayre such a huge success. You were all so generous with your very kind donations, your time, energy, hard work and enthusiasm. Many visitors came into St. Joseph's for the very first time, some of them commenting on the warmth and welcome they received from our parishioners from throughout the Durham Martyrs Parish. Many of the local charities who came along are struggling at the moment and were extremely grateful for the opportunity to raise their profiles and they were greatly encouraged by parishioners interest in their work and support.

Santa Claus was a great hit and commented on our wonderful polite children. He also loved hearing their festive singing !

Journey in Faith

If anyone is interested in finding out more about our faith, please contact Fr. Colm.

Confirmation Programme

The next session will be held in the Jubilee Room at St. Joseph's Gilesgate on 11th December at 6pm. In this session we will consider our Journey of Faith and the Importance of Baptism.

Youth Mass

A group of volunteers from St. Leonard's will be leading Mass at St. Godric's next Sunday, 1st December at 9am. We hope this will be the first of many where our young parishioners become involved in our parish. We would especially welcome any newcomers and family members of our Mass leaders to join us to celebrate this Mass at St. Godric's.

Satsuma Donations

We are trying to source between 300-400 satsumas for our Parish Christingle to be held on **Sunday 15th December** in St Joseph's Church **3pm**. We are graciously asking anyone who feels able to donate a bag of Satsumas on the Weekend of **7th/8th December** which can be left in the boxes provided at **the back of both our churches**. This would be much appreciated! Thank you in advance for your kindness.

Any questions please contact

Leanne Heseltine 07871079046



New Lectionary from Sunday 1st December 2024

The new lectionary/translation will begin to be used next **Sunday, the First Sunday of Advent** using the **ESV-CE** translation. We will change from the Jerusalem Bible used since the 1960's. The complaint against the Jerusalem version is it has all interpretation built into the text and limits the interpretation by the reader as it has already been interpreted for us. The ESV strips back these layers and leaves just the text. Instead of all the work being done for us it challenges us to wrestle with the Word, to think about it.

Nothing of the choice of readings will change in the new Lectionary just the translation.

The Psalms translation used at Mass is also changing. The new lectionary Psalms will be taken from **Abbey Psalms and Canticles** instead of Grails Psalms. The Abbey Psalms are being used to keep a degree of musicality to the Psalms.

The Fourth Option of Giving by Debit/Credit Card

This method is now live and Electronic Giving Devices are at the back of each church at both St. Joseph's and St. Godric's.

Making a Donation is relatively easy - similar to paying in a shop or withdrawing cash from a Cashpoint:

1. Select one of the Funds eg Offertory Collection, Piety Stall (Papers/Cards), Ukraine or Special Collection (when there is one)
2. Then press one of the Donation Values - £1, £2, £3, £5, £10 or £20
Or choose your own value
3. Then tap your Card or Phone on the Card Reader (insert if over £100) - Debit cards or Visa and Amex credit cards are accepted
4. After tapping/inserting your card the Card Reader will beep and the screen will display payment approved

Cancelling a Transaction

If for any reason you need to cancel a transaction before completion - simply press and release the power button on the right-hand side of the SumUp card reader. This cancels the transaction and declines the payment.

Completing a Gift Aid declaration is optional:

1. You will be prompted after using your card to say YES/NO if you wish your donation to be Gift Aided
2. If YES then there will be prompts to complete your name and address to register for Gift Aid using this system
3. Future donations will be automatically recorded via the first registration

OTHER Methods of Giving are STILL AVAILABLE

Please note that the other three ways of Giving are still very much AVAILABLE - by Standing Order (the preferred way), Envelopes or Cash on the Offertory/Collection Plate

Queries

There is always a chance for glitches with any IT system and no doubt there will be some in due course and they will be resolved

Any queries or issues please email the Parish Secretary

(durham.martyrs@diocesehn.org.uk) and they will be forwarded to be answered.

Save the Dates

Christmas Concert - Durham University Chamber Choir

7.30pm Saturday 7th December - St. Godric's Church (Update)

Tickets will be available on the door.

Standard tickets are £10, and concessions tickets are £7.

Here is the link to the tickets if people wish to purchase

beforehand: <https://durhamstudentmusic.org/whats-on/the-waiting-sky>

Please contact Joe Hughes if you can help to steward on the night.

Email joe.hughes2017@hotmail.com

Mobile 078 1446 1446.

Sunday 15th December – Parish Christingle 3:00pm

Children and families are invited to join us at 3pm on Sunday 15th December in St Joseph's for our **Parish Christingle Service**. From 3pm Children will make their own **Christingles** in the Jubilee Room (Church will provide everything needed) where we will talk about what each part symbolises before going into Church at **3:30pm** for the blessing and lighting of the Christingles. We will have prayers and finish with a carol. All are welcome!

Please **RSVP BY MONDAY 9th DECEMBER** if you plan to attend with **your child(ren)'s name(s)** and **how many Christingles you will need to make** so we have a rough idea of how many oranges to purchase by emailing durhammartyrswebsite@hotmail.com

Advent Concert - Thursday 19th December 7.00pm

St. Joseph's Church, Gilesgate
FREE ENTRY

St. Thomas More School - Nursery and Reception Admissions

Open Days :

Friday 22nd November 9.30am

Tuesday 26th November 9.30am

Tuesday 3rd December 9.30am

Friday 13th December 1.30pm

Or you can get in touch to make an alternative appointment. Contact us 0191 3864761, or email stmb@stmb.bwcet.com All families welcome.

The Friends of St. Thomas More School are holding their **Christmas Fayre** in **St. Joseph's Church parish rooms** on **Saturday 30th November** between **10am-1pm**. There will be mulled wine and mince pies, a raffle, tombola, craft stalls, games and more. Please come along and support the school community. Any donations can be left at the back of church before next weekend or dropped into St Thomas More School during the week.

Parish of the Durham Martyrs Memory Café

Durham Martyrs Parish host a Memory Café, for those living with dementia and their carers on the second Tuesday of every month (1-3pm) at **St Joseph's RC Church, Mill Lane, Gilesgate, Durham DH1 2JG**.

During the Café as well as enjoying cake and refreshments, we do craft activities, games and have sing -a-longs and even dancing in a friendly and relaxed environment. If you have any queries or would first just like to come along and see what happens, please contact **Durham Martyrs' Parish Secretary - (0191) 3843810** or **07483 369 561**, or email durham.martyrs@diocesehn.org.uk

Forthcoming Events at Ushaw

A Workshop on Synodality

On Saturday 30th November Ushaw will be hosting a Workshop on Synodality, with Guest Speaker, Professor Anna Rowlands. This is a chance to find out more about the worldwide Synod, and also to bring together people from across our Diocese to explore how we can use the synodal approach locally, to help everyone to participate in the life of our local churches. The day runs from 11am to 3.30pm, and tickets cost £10. Further details on Ushaw's website at <https://ushaw.org/whats-on-at-ushaw/>, where you can also book your tickets.

Advent Day of Reflection

Ushaw's Advent Day of Reflection will be on Wednesday 11th December, with a focus on angels and angelic encounters. Advent is a time of waiting and preparation. The Day of Reflection is a day for quiet and prayer, a welcome escape from the busy period leading up to Christmas, and a chance to focus on the real message of Christmas.

The day starts at 10.45am and finishes by 3.30pm. Tickets cost £10, and can be booked on <https://ushaw.org/whats-on-at-ushaw/>

Diocesan Vision

Earlier this year, Bishop Stephen invited us to pray and discern how the Holy Spirit is inviting us to grow in mission in our parishes and communities. He asked that we have discussions locally about a draft Diocesan vision. The Diocesan Vision includes 4 commitments, and there will be a **meeting at St. Cuthbert's Old Elvet, Durham**, about the first of those commitments '*To Walk with Jesus and Enable Others to Encounter Him*' on **Sunday 8th December at 2.30pm**. We would love to hear from people across the Partnership, so please do come along.

Gilesgate Primary School PTFA Winter Fair and 60th Anniversary Celebrations – Saturday, 30th November, 2 to 4pm

All are welcome to join the school community for this Winter Celebration of the 60th Anniversary of the school.

There will be lots to see and do for all, including crafts, cakes and refreshments, mulled wine and hot chocolate, face painting, Santa's Workshop, and much much more. Winter lights switch on at 4pm - with a special guest!

There will be a display of memorabilia of the school over the years, with a free hot drink for past pupils and staff.

See the poster on the noticeboard at the back of church for more information

Mass Intentions for the Week

24th November 2024

	St Godric's	St Joseph's
Saturday 23 November		5.00pm Vigil Mass Audrey and Thomas Loughlin and Bede Murray Birthday Remembrance
Sunday 24 November	9.00am Special Intention (MT) 3.00-4.00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	10.30am Brian O'Connor Anniversary 3.00pm Memorial Sunday Mass of Remembrance
Monday 25 November	NO MASS	9.15am Service of Word and Holy Communion
Tuesday 26 November	9.30am - Exposition 10.00am Peter and Catherine McLoughlin	NO MASS
Wednesday 27 November	NO MASS	9.30am 10.00am Jim Pickering Birthday Remembrance
Thursday 28 November	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am Deceased Priests of the Diocese	NO MASS OR SERVICE
Friday 29 November	NO MASS	10.00am Service of Word and Holy Communion
Saturday 30 November	NO MASS	5.00pm – Vigil Mass Deceased members of the Hennessy Family, and Jim and Mary Bygroves
Sunday 1 December First	9.00am 3.00-4.00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	10.30am Marjorie and Brian Carey, and Hannah Mary and Ken Drane

St. Cuthbert's

Sun 24	Mon 25	Tue 26	Wed 27	Thurs 28	Fri 29	Sat 30	Sun 01 Dec
10.00am and 6.30pm	NO MASS	12.15pm	7.00pm	7.00pm (Mass for Deceased Catenians)	9.15am	9.15am	10.00am and 6.30pm