

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

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Parish Newsletter – 5th February 2023 5th Sunday of the Year

Parish Secretary: Mrs. M, D. Towers
Office hours: Tuesday-Friday, 8.30am-4.00pm
Hospital Chaplain Fr. Paul Tully-01388 818 544/0191 3332183
(Please telephone Fr. Paul if you have someone in hospital)

The Diocese faces testing times into the future. Last Sunday's Pastoral Letter was painful to read, and perhaps, more painful for you to listen to. At this stage, all we can do is pray and not lose sight of the fact that it is a marvellous Diocese of lay people and clergy.

Tom Harrison is taking over some of the role of Fred Haywood and will be co-ordinating Financial matters with some of Fred's previous roles now split with Janet Nichols and Parish Secretary, Marjorie. Esther Robson will continue as the responsible person for Gift Aid. Thanks to Tom and team. And thanks to Fred once again for his great input to our parish over the years and who will, we hope, keep in touch with the parish,

We prepare for our parish retreat at the end of February, and an appropriate time for us to be getting away to reflect and pray.

Teas and coffees have been underway at St. Godric's. St. Joseph's is in need of willing volunteers to get the same going.

The Parish Council meet in an emergency session next Wednesday to reflect on the Christmas celebrations in St. Leonard's. Though numbers were fairly average for Christmas Day, extra chairs were required for Christmas Eve with approximately 600-700m in attendance. A great effort is put into organising by school staff and parishioners for which I am hugely grateful. And so, serious discussion will be essential on Wednesday as to how we go in the future.

Thanks to our Warm Spaces volunteers. I know the take-up hasn't been as expected, but your presence is much appreciated.

Continued over/.....

A special thanks to our marvellous SVP for organising the annual Christmas meal and party. It was a great event enjoyed by all. Sadly, John Merchant, a member of the SVP, leaves us this weekend to take up residence north of the Tyne. Our prayers and best wishes John, and thanks for your contribution to the Durham Martyrs over the years.

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Prayer (a poem by Imtiaz Dharker)

The place is full of worshippers.
You can tell by the sandals
piled outside, the owners' prints
worn into leather, rubber, plastic,
a picture clearer than their faces
put together, with some originality,
brows and eyes, the slant
of cheek to chin.

What prayer are they whispering?
Each one has left a mark,
the perfect pattern of a need,
sole and heel and toe
in dark, curved patches,
heels worn down,
thongs ragged, mended many times.

So many shuffling hopes,
pounded into print,
as clear as the pages of holy books,
illuminated with the glint
of gold around the lettering.
What are they whispering?

Outside, in the sun,
such a quiet crowd
of shoes, thrown together
like a thousand prayers
washing against the walls of God.

Feast Days

Monday, 6 th February	St. Paul Miki and Companions MM
Wednesday, 8 th February	St. Jerome Emiliani P/St. Josephine Bakhita V
Friday, 10 th February	St. Scholastica V
Saturday, 11 th February	Our Lady of Lourdes

Prayers – please keep in your prayers:



Meg Dixon	George Parry
Ken Riddle	Jared Howarth
Liz Murray	Francesca Camilerni
Ken Herbert	Mary Crilly
John McMahon	Bernard and Yvonne Reid

Anniversaries:

George Hill	Laura Mulvaney
Matt Hirst	Stephen Coyne
John Hirst	John Power



Sympathy – we extend our sympathy to the families and friends of the following parishioners:

Kieron Shaw, whose Funeral Service will take place at **St. Godric's** on **Tuesday, 14th February at 12.00 noon.**

Fiona Hunter, whose Funeral Service will take place at **St. Godric's** on **Thursday, 16th February at 11.30am**, followed by burial in South Road Cemetery, Durham.

Anne Richardson, whose Requiem Mass will take place at **St. Godric's** on **Thursday, 23rd February at 10.00am** followed by burial in South Road Cemetery at 11.30am.

Emily Gibbons, whose Funeral Service will take place on **Friday, 24th February at 12.00 noon** in **St. Joseph's** followed by cremation in Durham.

Requiescant in pace.

Baptism Programme

The Spring Baptism Programme will take place on Monday, 20th March from 6.00pm-9.00pm in the Jubilee Room at St. Joseph's Church. Please contact Marjorie in the first instance, and she will send you a Registration Form.



Coffee Morning

There will be a **coffee morning** on **Monday 13th February** in St. Bede's Room in St. Godric's School. It will take place after the 9.15am **Service of the Word and Holy Communion**. All proceeds will go to **Women in Need in India**. Everyone is very welcome.

Drop-in Centre at St. Joseph's - All are welcome to pop in on **Wednesdays** from **2.00pm to 4.00pm** in and share some warmth and company, with refreshments provided. Access is through the small gate near the presbytery not the main church door. (Pat Conway 07943016225).

Gala Theatre Musical Performance

A couple of members of our parish are performing with Durham Musical Theatre Company in their production of *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, a new musical based on the Victor Hugo novel and songs from the Disney film. It is being staged at the Gala Theatre in Durham from the 21st to 25th March. Evening performances are at 7pm and there are matinées on the Wednesday and Saturday at 2pm. To book tickets for this fabulous show visit <https://galadurham.co.uk/galapost/the-hunchback-of-notre-dame/> or call the box office on 03000 266 600.

The Centre for Catholic Studies

(i) The next **Ushaw Lecture** will be the Judeo-Christian Lecture to be given by Professor Daniel Langton (University of Manchester) on Tuesday 21st February 2023: **'Darwin's Jews: Evolutionary Theory, Jewish Thought, and Interfaith Relations'**

The lecture will take place in person at Ushaw (Historic House, Chapel, and Gardens), 4 miles west of Durham City, DH7 7DW at 6.00pm in the Exhibition Hall, and be preceded by a drinks reception in the Refectory from 5.30pm. All are welcome! If you wish to attend, please register at <https://centreforcatholicstudies.eventbrite.com>

(ii) Job Vacancy

The Centre for Catholic Studies (CCS) are seeking to appoint a part-time Administrator, 21 hours per week, whose work will focus on CCS events and communications.

Full details can be obtained from Theresa Phillips, CCS Senior Administrator – theresa.phillips@durham.ac.uk

The closing date for applications is midnight on Monday 20th February 2023.

Change of Mass Time

Please note that the Friday morning Mass at St. Joseph's on Friday, 10th February, has been moved to the earlier time of 9.00am

Mass Intentions for the Week

5th February 2023

	St Godric's	St Joseph's
Saturday 4 February	NO MASS	5.00pm Vigil Mass Lily Parry
Sunday 5 February	9.00am Brian O'Connor	11.00am Hugh and Sabina Conway
Monday 6 February	NO MASS	NO MASS
Tuesday 7 February	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am Special Intention (BTBa)	NO MASS
Wednesday 8 February	NO MASS	9.30am - Exposition 10.00am Jim Goodwin
Thursday 9 February	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am Mary & Joseph Ward and Pat Frobisher	NO MASS
Friday 10 February	NO MASS	9.00am Noel McEvoy
Saturday 11 February	NO MASS	5.00pm Vigil Mass Lily Parry
Sunday 12 February	9.00am The Young Family	11.00am Hannah Mary Drane

St. Cuthbert's

Sun 5	Mon 6	Tue 7	Wed 8	Thurs 9	Fri 10	Sat 11	Sun 12
10.00am and 6.30pm	NO MASS	12.15pm	6.30pm Chaplaincy Mass in Durham Cathedral (St. Josephine Bakhita)	9.15am	12.15pm	9.15am	10.00am and 6.30pm