

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: secretary.stjandstg@btconnect.com
WEBSITE: www.durhammartyrs.co.uk
Mill Lane, Gilesgate, Durham DH1 2JG

Parish Secretary: Mrs M. D. Towers

Parish Newsletter – 19th February 2023 7th 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)

Ash Wednesday is upon us, and the challenge of Lent awaits. It is the beginning of the solemn season. A time to reflect. A time to make the extra effort.

Some of the parish activities such as Friday soup lunches, which were always such a success, have returned, but naturally, there are still fears of public gatherings and this is understandable. But perhaps we need to make a determined effort to overcome these reservations.

There hasn't been any real demand for the Warm Space on Wednesday afternoons. This may be a good sign that the need isn't what we anticipated. However, it has become a worthwhile effort, if only for the opportunity it affords the parish volunteers to gather and chat.

The success of Sunday's teas and coffees at both churches are clearly marvellous signs that we are slowly overcoming some fears.

Marked by Ashes **A Poem by Walter Brueggemann**

Ruler of the Night, Guarantor of the day ...

This day — a gift from you.

This day — like none other you have ever given, or we have ever received.

This Wednesday dazzles us with gift and newness and possibility.

Continued over/....

This Wednesday burdens us with the tasks of the day, for we are already halfway home, halfway back to committees and memos, halfway back to calls and appointments, halfway on to next Sunday, halfway back, half frazzled, half expectant, half turned toward you, half rather not.

This Wednesday is a long way from Ash Wednesday, but all our Wednesdays are marked by ashes — we begin this day with that taste of ash in our mouth: of failed hope and broken promises, of forgotten children and frightened women, we ourselves are ashes to ashes, dust to dust; we can taste our mortality as we roll the ash around on our tongues. We are able to ponder our ashness with some confidence, only because our every Wednesday of ashes anticipates your Easter victory over that dry, flaky taste of death.

On this Wednesday, we submit our ashen way to you — you Easter parade of newness. Before the sun sets, take our Wednesday and Easter us, Easter us to joy and energy and courage and freedom; Easter us that we may be fearless for your truth. Come here and Easter our Wednesday with mercy and justice and peace and generosity. We pray as we wait for the Risen One who comes soon.

Feast Days

Tuesday, 21st February	St. Peter Damian Bp, D
Thursday, 23rd February	St. Polycarp

Prayers – please keep in your prayers:



Meg Dixon	Bernard and Yvonne Reid
Ken Riddle	Jared Howarth
Liz Murray	Francesca Camilerni
Ken Herbert	John McMahon
Lorraine Scullion	

Anniversaries:

Catherine & Edward Shaw	Catherine Hannigan
Billy March	



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

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 Requiem Mass (please note change from a Funeral Service) will take place on **Friday, 24th February at 11.00am** in **St. Joseph's** followed by cremation in Durham.

David Scott, whose Funeral Service will take place at **St. Godric's** on **Friday, 3rd March** at 2.15pm followed by cremation at 3.00pm. *Requiescant in pace.*

Patrick Killian, whose Funeral Service will take place at **St. Joseph's** on **Friday, 10th March** at 11.30am followed by burial in South Road Cemetery.

*The
Season
of
Lent*



Ash Wednesday Masses will take place on Wednesday 22nd February in St. Godric's at 10.00am and in St. Joseph's at 7.00pm.

Lenten Meetings at St. Francis Friary. DH1 4RD

The brothers invite you to a series of 4 Lenten Meetings, commencing on Monday 27th February at 7.00pm.

The theme for the series is: 'Prayer in our daily lives'. The sessions will comprise reflections and sharings on various aspects of Christian Prayer along with a friendly cup of tea. All are welcome.

Lenten Soup Lunches, St. Joseph's

Thank you to Peter Thompson and team who have agreed to host one of our Lenten Soup Lunches. There **will not be** a Soup Lunch on **Friday 24th February**, as there will be a Funeral Tea in the Jubilee Room.

31st March – Homelessness/Sanctuary 21

Lenten Reflections

The Vicariate for Faith & Mission has now produced the first booklet of Lenten reflections, ahead of the beginning of Lent on Wednesday 22nd February. The reflections have been contributed by a mix of clergy, religious and lay people to express the richness and variety of our diocesan community. The dedicated Lenten reflection page on the diocesan website can be found here: <https://bit.ly/DHNLent2023>

Easter Competition - All children at our three Primary Schools are invited to enter our Easter Competition by designing a poster all about Easter and what it means to them. The posters have to be delivered to either St. Godric's or St. Joseph's churches by 12th March to be passed on to the panel of judges and prizes will be awarded!

Drop-in Centre at St. Joseph's - All are welcome to drop 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).

Wednesday Lunch Club - Please Note: There **will not be a** Wednesday Lunch Club on February 22nd, Ash Wednesday. We will be back again the following week, 1st March as usual. If you would like to join the club for hot meal and good company, or to join the rota of helpers to serve or give lifts, then please contact Pat Conway 0794 3016225.

Syria-Turkey Earthquake Appeal

Cash Donations

If you would like to make a cash donation rather than one online, please note that there will be a basket at the back of each church this weekend.

Supporting Turkish and Syrian Communities – St. Joseph's Primary School

We are collecting for those affected by the recent earthquakes. Turkish and Syrian Communities are in desperate need of nappies, wipes, baby formula and toiletries (sealed new products only please). If anyone in the parish would like to donate, please drop any items at the school office located in *St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Mill Lane, Gilesgate, Durham, DH1.2JQ*.

Many thanks, the pupils and staff of St Joseph's.

CAFOD is responding with support of provision of food, water, shelter, medical assistance and winter kits for survivors. Your donations in recent months have made that quick response possible. Let us join CAFOD in praying for our sisters and brothers affected by the earthquakes and the winter weather.

Your support for CAFOD throughout the year allows our Catholic agency to act quickly when disasters strike. For more details visit CAFOD's Turkey Syria Emergency Appeal online at <https://cafod.org.uk/give>.

Ecumenical World Day of Prayer - The ecumenical World Day of Prayer Service will take place this year at Carrville Methodist Church on **Friday 3rd March at 2pm**. Please come as the world needs so much prayer.



St Vincent
de Paul Society
England and Wales
Turning Concern into Action

TYNE CENTRAL COUNCIL – 200 CLUB

RESULTS – February 2023 Draw

1st (£50)	No. 123
A. Allen	All Saints, Lanchester
Margaret Taylor	St. Joseph's, Birtley
2nd (£25)	No. 102
Margaret Wallace	Parish of the Durham Martyrs
SVP Conference	St. James, Hebburn

Grateful thanks for your continued support

From the Diocese

Centre for Catholic Studies

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 and be accessed at [Job Description - CCS Administrator \(22001983\) \(taleo.net\)](#) The closing date for applications is midnight on Monday 20th February.

Ushaw Lecture Series: Inaugural Judeo-Christian Lecture - **POSTPONED**

Tuesday 21st February, at Ushaw DH7 9RH. 6.00pm. This lecture has been postponed owing to Prof. Daniel Langton having tested positive for Covid. A new date will be announced but has not yet been set.

Change of Mass Time

Please note that the Friday morning Mass at St. Joseph's on Friday 24th February has been replaced with a Requiem Mass at 11.00am

Mass Intentions for the Week

19th February 2023

	St Godric's	St Joseph's
Saturday 18 February	NO MASS	5.00pm Vigil Mass David Adams
Sunday 19 February	9.00am The Richardson Family	11.00am Alf Carr Anniversary and Clare Louise McCann Anniversary
Monday 20 February	NO MASS	NO MASS
Tuesday 21 February	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am Peter & Catherine McLoughlin	NO MASS
Wednesday 22 February	10.00am ASH WEDNESDAY MASS	7.00pm ASH WEDNESDAY MASS
Thursday 23 February	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am Requiem Mass of Ann Richardson	NO MASS
Friday 24 February	NO MASS	11.00am – Requiem Mass of Emily Gibbons
Saturday 25 February	NO MASS	5.00pm Vigil Mass Emily Gibbons
Sunday 26 February	9.00am Special Intention (DF)	11.00am Austin Flynn Birthday Remembrance and Anne-Marie Melvin Anniversary

St. Cuthbert's

Sun 19	Mon 20	Tue 21	Wed 22 ASH WEDNESDAY	Thurs 23	Fri 24	Sat 25	Sun 26
10.00am and 6.30pm	12.15	12.15pm	12.15pm and 7.00pm	12.15pm	12.15pm	9.15am	10.00am and 6.30pm