

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 Sunday 11th May – 4th Sunday of Easter

Priest: Fr. Colm Hayden

Parish Secretary: Marjorie Towers 07483 369 561

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

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

(Please telephone the Chaplain if you have someone in hospital who would like a visit)

For bereavement support, please contact the Parish Secretary

A momentous time for the Church. The first American Pontiff. A quicker than usual decision by the College of Cardinals. Our prayers are with Pope Leo XIV.

It's an understatement to say there are challenging times ahead. These are positive times for the Church, especially in this country, where we've seen a noticeable increase in church attendance, particularly of the younger age groups. This positive upsurge has been noticed at our own services over Easter.

Thank you all who contributed to making our Easter Services so special. We have much to look forward to also. Our concert to celebrate the life of St. Godric is on Monday the 19th May. Traditional music and reflections on the saints' life, and dating back to the Middle Ages, will be a part of the evening's programme.

“The foremost duty, therefore, of the rulers of the State should be to make sure that the laws and institutions, the general character and administration of the commonwealth, shall be such as of themselves to realize public well-being and private prosperity. This is the proper scope of wise statesmanship and is the work of the rulers. Now.”

Pope Leo XIII

Food for Thought

Who are those people ?

Who are these clambering to enter our land, our homes, our hearts ? Why are they here disturbing our peace ?

What do they want from us who have more than enough for ourselves ?

Where do they come from, speaking such foreign words we do not understand ?

We suspect they come to steal, harm or kill, to spoil our culture taking advantage of our good will.

We fear most what they themselves flee : hunger, poverty, disease, violence, war, oppression.

Most of all we dislike the truth they reveal about ourselves, who put conditions on God's unconditional love for all.

God, it's your face we try not to see, your voice we strive not to hear, your word we'd rather not obey.

Help us to recognise they are you and they are us.

Joseph Veneroso MM

Feast Days

Monday, 12 th May	Ss. Nereus & Achilles/St. Pancras
Tuesday, 13 th May	Our Lady of Fatima
Wednesday, 14 th May	St. Matthias, Apostle

Prayers – please keep in your prayers:



Kitty Trainor	Ann Close
Veronica O'Reilly	Mary Armstrong
Sheila Owens	Margaret Nancarrow
Freda March	Ann Childs
Rita Harrison	Aella May Berry
Danny McCann	Liz Murray
Michael Stoker	

Anniversaries

John Pickles	Mary Hollingsworth



Sympathy – we extend our sympathy to the families and friends of the late Frances Openshaw. Frances' Requiem Mass will take place at St. Godric's on Friday, 30th May at 12.00 noon.

Our sympathy also to the family and friends of the late Christopher Godbolt. Christopher's Requiem Mass will take place at St. Joseph's on Wednesday, 28th May at 11.30am followed by cremation.

Betty Eccles – Betty will be received into the church at 5.00pm on Tuesday, 13th May.



JOIN THE
**CLEANING
TEAM**

St. Godric's Church Cleaning **CHANGE OF DATE**

Please note that the next Church cleaning session will be on Tuesday 20th May after 10 o'clock Mass, and **NOT** on 13th May. All are welcome for even the smallest job. Come and join the team. Thank you to all.

A parish coffee morning will be held on **Monday 19th May** in St. Bede's Room in St Godric's School. It will take place straight after the 9.15 Service of the Word and Holy Communion.

All proceeds are for Women In Need in India. Everyone is very welcome.



JOIN US TO PRAY THE ROSARY IN MAY **CHANGE OF TIME**

Together in faith, hope, and love Let us gather and pray for peace and strength during this blessed month of Mary.

St. Joseph's Church, Gilesgate,

All Saturdays in May at **4:30, before the 5pm Mass.**

On Saturday 31st May after Mass join us in the Jubilee room for a celebration of us coming together to pray the Holy Rosary.

School News

The Friends of St Godric's School are holding a ceilidh on Friday 16th May, 6pm at Bede Lodge on Finchale Road, Durham.

Tickets are £10 per adult, £5 per child and can be purchased here: [Buy tickets – 2nd Annual FOSG Ceilidh – Bede Lodge](#)



Tickets are limited so early booking is encouraged!

There will be a raffle on the night - donations of prizes are welcome!

We look forward to seeing you there. Any questions, please get in touch - friendsofstgodrics@gmail.com.

Movie Night - Thursday 15th May 6:30pm - BILLY ELLIOT 15

All are welcome to our next Film Night on our perfectly refurbished large screen in the Jubilee Room. Billy Elliot (2001) is the heartwarming tale of an 11 year old coal miner's son (Jamie Bell) who's life is forever changed when he stumbles upon Mrs Wilkinson's (Julie Walters) ballet class during his weekly boxing lesson. Ice Cream, Wine and Juice will be served. Looking forward to seeing you there !

Concert – St. Godric's

On **Monday 19th May at 7.00pm** there will be an evening of pipe music given by Paul Martin (The Dunholm Piper) and Charlie Willis, featuring traditional and medieval music with short stories from the life of St. Godric.

Paul will be playing Northumbrian and Uilleann pipes as well as a medieval bagpipe for the St. Godric hymns. Local guest musicians on fiddle, flute, guitar, medieval drum and banjo will play along with him. The short stories are being presented by Charlie Willis.

Tickets are £5 on the door (under 16yrs free) with all proceeds going to Durham Foodbank.

Paul has created a Facebook event page for ease of sharing <https://www.facebook.com/share/16JkAAX2Di/?mibextid=wwXlfr>

Durham Martyrs Walking Group – May 2025

Our next walk will be to 'the Toon' on Saturday 17th May, starting with Mass at St Mary's Cathedral at 10am, entering by the Holy Door. Following Mass we will walk down to the Quayside, along to Ouseburn and then to Heaton Park and across to Jesmond Dene, over to Exhibition Park and return to the City Centre.

Total distance is approximately 7miles. Plenty of opportunity for refreshment stops on the route! For anyone not wanting to do the whole route, a walk down from the cathedral to the Quayside and then back to the city centre is an option.

There is a train at 9.16 which arrives at Newcastle Central Station at 9.28 allowing plenty of time for a slow walk over to the cathedral. In the event of any problems with that train the next one is 9.27 and arrives in Newcastle at 9.40 so still sufficient time to get across to the cathedral before Mass starts.

It would be helpful to know who plans to attend so for those of you who are on Walking Group What's App please post a message or for anyone else please let Marjorie know.

Legion of Mary

Please note that meeting times and venue has now been moved to **Friday at 7.15pm in St. Godric's** (that is the upper room at the back of St Godric's Church).



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

TYNE CENTRAL COUNCIL 200 CLUB

Results – May 2025

1 st (£50)	No. 114
SVP Conference	St. Joseph's Sunderland
Margaret Humphreys	St. Joseph's Birtley
2 nd (£25)	No. 4
J. Doyle	St. Charles Gosforth
Joanne Wardell	St. Mary & St. Wilfred Bishop Auckland
Elizabeth Kelly	St. Joseph's Birtley

With many thanks for your continued support

Vespers (Evening Prayer) at Ushaw: On Sunday 18th May at 4pm, please join us for Sung Vespers in St. Cuthbert's Chapel at Ushaw. This is an opportunity to pray together the Evening Prayer of the Church for the 5th Sunday of Easter. All are very welcome to join us for the service.

From the Diocese

Laudato Si' Mass

Bishop Stephen will celebrate Mass at 10.00am at St Mary's Cathedral on Saturday 24th May to celebrate 10 years since the publication of Pope Francis' encyclical – Laudato Si'.

All are welcome to attend this Mass which marks the start of Laudato Si' week. More information on the Diocesan website: <https://diocesehn.org.uk/whats-on/event/laudato-si-week-2025-mass/>

Events

The Legacy of Pope Francis and the Future of Christianity - After 12 years of the one of the most reforming pontificates in modern times, how does the Christian future now look? In a lecture at **Holy Name Church, Jesmond, Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 3JX** on **Saturday 17th May at 11am**, Pope Francis' foremost English-language biographer and collaborator, Dr Austen Ivereigh, will look both back and ahead to argue that the Francis era has reshaped the Church's ability to respond to a new, global era. The event will be chaired by Professor Anna Rowlands, Professor of Catholic Social Thought and Practice at the Centre for Catholic Studies at Durham University.

Anna has been a regular contributor to BBC Radio 4's *Thought for the Day*. She and Austen were both in Rome as expert facilitators at the October 2024 gathering of Bishops making proposals for renewal of the Church - proposals which were accepted by Pope Francis. The lecture will take place in the church, booking is not required and all are welcome.

Courses

- **Refresher session for existing Liturgical Leaders of Celebrations of the Word and Holy Communion -**

A refresher session for existing Liturgical Leaders of Celebrations of the Word and Holy Communion to support them in their ministry. Please note that participants must already be commissioned in this ministry to attend this session.

Please let Marjorie know if you would like to attend and she will book you in.

Date: Monday 23rd June 2025

Location: St. Hilda's Diocesan Resource Centre, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE15 7PY

Time: 10.00am-2.00pm. You will need to take a packed lunch, but refreshments will be provided.

Cost: £15.00 per person

SIGNIFICANCE FESTIVAL

Significance and the Youth Ministry Team invite all parishioners to join them at the Emmaus Village for the annual Significance Festival on **Saturday 28th June** beginning with Mass at 3.00pm celebrated by Bishop Stephen and followed by a Barbecue and Ceilidh in the evening.

The Department for Formation and Mission is offering a half-day on 'Witness: Sharing our Faith in Today's World', a Year of Jubilee Formation opportunity which will lead into the Festival.

Entry is free with charges for accommodation on Friday and Saturday nights. BBQ tickets will cost £10.

All proceeds and donations will support Significance, the charity founded by Fr. Dermott Donnelly. Please support this vital work. To request a booking form and for further information email Nicole at nsalkeld@ymt.org or Tel. 01207 592244.

Durham Churches Together AGM - This year's AGM will be held on Thursday, 12th June, from 7.00-8.00pm at Waddington Street United Reformed Church.

Refreshments will be served. All welcome.

Mass Intentions for the Week

11th May 2025

	St Godric's	St Joseph's
Saturday 10 May	NO MASS	5.00pm Vigil Mass In celebration of 25 th Wedding Anniversary (P & A Cardozo)
Sunday 11 May	9.00am Frank and Bernard McGoay 3.00-4.00pm - Exposition	10.30am Rita Smart, and George Laurie
Monday 12 May	NO MASS	9.15am Service of Word and Holy Communion
Tuesday 13 May	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am Pauline Davidson	5.00pm Reception into church of the late Betty Eccles
Wednesday 14 May	NO MASS	9.30am - Exposition 10.00am Requiem Mass of the late Betty Eccles
Thursday 15 May	9.30am- Exposition 10.00am Thomas Doherty	NO MASS
Friday 16 May	NO MASS	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am Sick of the Parish
Saturday 17 May	NO MASS	5.00pm Vigil Mass 40 th Wedding Anniversary Celebration (Margaret & Derek Wallace), and Kevin Crilly Anniversary
Sunday 18 May 5 th Sunday of Easter	9.00am Susannah and George Michiels	10.30am Success in exams, and Betty McGurk Birthday Remembrance

St. Cuthbert's

Sun 11	Mon 12	Tue 13	Wed 14	Thurs 15	Fri 16	Sat 17	Sun 18
10.00am and 6.30pm	No Mass	6.30pm	6.30pm Chaplaincy Mass in Durham Cathedral	12.15pm	9.15am	12.15pm	10.00am and 6.30pm