

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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Sunday, 5th November 2023 – 31st Sunday of the Year Parish Newsletter

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Office hours: Tuesday-Friday, 8.30am-4.00pm
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(Please telephone Fr. Paul if you have someone in hospital)

We had an open meeting on Thursday evening to chat about moving onwards and upwards as parish. Fr. John O'Brien, Spiritan, led the discussion. Quoting Pope Francis regularly, John pointed to the 'perfect storm' that will be the shortage in priestly numbers. I'm sure we are wise enough to realise the reality of this imminent storm.

If nothing else, a meeting like this brought together a broad spectrum of ideas, hopes, fears and what has already been achieved in our parish. There was real openness from all present and with John's gentle guidance, we were able to look at many aspects of parish life. Our hope now is to have a second such meeting followed by a bigger gathering. For me, as Parish Priest, it struck me that first, we have so much to be grateful for in our parish but also, none of us are getting any younger, so how can we pass on a legacy that is not simply maintenance of buildings and structures but moving on with excitement and possibility. As the son of an Israeli hostage and peace activist, Noam Sagiv says "we cannot open new doors with old keys." If there was one thing I took from Thursday's meeting, it was the passion we all share for our parish.

Last Sunday's International Meal was a great success. Thanks to all for their national dishes. Well done to those who put so much effort into organising it. We look forward to regular gatherings. "The best meals are those prepared by loving hands." *Ken Poirot.*

"Events in Israel and Gaza have deeply shocked us all. There is no justification for Hamas' barbaric terrorist act against civilians, including children and babies. We must acknowledge this and pause. Also, we must urge Israel to uphold international law as it prepares to invade Gaza. But then the next step is to ask: what now? Do we surrender to this terrible violence and let our striving for peace die – or do we insist that there must and can be peace? I am convinced that we have to move on and keep the larger context of the conflict in mind." *Daniel Barenboim*

Feast Days

Tuesday, 7 th November	St. Willibrord Bp
Thursday, 9 th November	The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica
Friday, 10 th November	St. Leo the Great Pp, D
Saturday, 11 th November	St. Martin of Tours

Prayers – please keep in your prayers:



Meg Dixon	Yvonne Reid
Joe Watson	Jared Howarth
Sheila Owen	Francesca Camilerni
Ken Riddle	Nicola Dawson
Breda Gallagher	Ian Hamilton
Marjorie Carey	Brian Harland
Tom Oliver	

Anniversaries

Harriet Morris	Annie Whitehead
Bill Hannigan	Mary Hill
Bernard McGoay	Betty Carroll
Philip Gibson	Joe Shaw
Mary Agnes Graver	Patricia Adams
Dennis Dunlop	Vincent Crawford
Anne Bell	

SUPPORT FUND November 2023

This is a gentle reminder that the Parish Support Fund continues to operate thanks to the generosity of our parishioners. Once again it is timely to thank all who have and continue to contribute. The fund exists to provide financial support to members of the parish in need. The maximum award is usually £300 and a small panel, established by Fr Colm, administers the fund.


On occasion requests have come in from those who while living within the parish boundaries may not have any direct link to our parish. Again, in these cases the panel consider the need of the applicant and come to a decision.






Memorial Sunday - our annual Memorial Sunday Mass will take place on **Sunday 26th November** at St. Joseph's at 3.00pm. All families of deceased parishioners who have been bereaved during the year 1st November 2022 - 31st October 2023 have received a personal invitation from Fr. Colm to come along and light a candle in

remembrance of their loved ones. Fr. Colm will light three larger candles (one for St. Joseph's, one for St. Godric's, and one for St. Bede's Chapel) which represent the deceased members of the wider parish and our families and friends. These will be lit at every Mass until Christmas. Please come along to the Mass and join us for seasonal refreshments in the Jubilee Room afterwards. Everyone welcome.

Can YOU help during Lumière?

 Lumière this year is from Thursday, November 16th until Sunday, November 19th. We are hoping to open St. Godric's for three evenings, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 6.00 - 8.00 pm for light refreshments and to encourage our visitors to enjoy a time of quiet reflection in our beautiful church.

If you can offer any help in any capacity, welcoming,  serving in our café,  baking for the event,  being a friendly face ☐ please contact Kathleen on 07759130837.

What is the Journey in Faith?

The Journey in Faith Parish Programme begins on 30th November and runs until Easter next year. It is held on Thursday evenings at 7.30 in the Jubilee Room at St. Joseph's.

The Programme of talks are given by invited speakers from the parish and surrounding area. A copy of the programme will be placed in both churches and on the website. Each session involves a presentation and some informal group discussion and concludes by 9 pm with tea and coffee.

The programme generally attracts three categories of people:

- Those who are curious and want to know more about Catholicism and might want to become more committed.
- Those who are already firmly resolved to become Catholics.
- Parishioners who come to refresh their own understanding of what our faith teaches, and also, very importantly, to support enquirers and welcome them into our community.

Discussion is always enriched through the attendance of parishioners so do come along and support this. For further information speak Marjorie in the parish office, 07483 369 561- or Erica Smith, Peter Thompson or Joanna Pallister.

Cafod “World Gifts”

We have received a supply of Cafod “World Gifts” Catalogues, and there are copies available at the back of each church if you would like to take one. See poster.

Launch of the Clergy Training Fund 2023

Each year we make an appeal to support the Clergy Training Fund in response to the ever-increasing costs of training priests and deacons to serve in our diocese. At present we have three men training for the priesthood – one in the English College Rome, another in St. Mary’s College, Oscott and another at Allen Hall in London.

There are also approximately 10 enquirers who meet monthly at the priestly discernment meetings at St. Mary’s Cathedral. We also have four candidates who are currently being formed to serve as permanent deacons.

Thank you for contributing to past appeals. This generosity means that we can support the clergy of tomorrow and ensure the flourishing of our church.

There will be a **retiring collection** this weekend, 4th/5th November, and the appeal will remain open for donations for two more weeks.

Fr. John Bagnall, Diocesan Director of Priestly Vocations

From the Centre for Catholic Studies

The Truth Untold: Remembrance and Moral Injury

A talk by Revd Dr Brian Powers

7pm-8pm on Friday 10th November in the Bishop's Dining Room in the Castle, Palace Green, Durham

To honour Remembrance Day, come and learn about the experiences of veterans as they grapple with the aftermath of service. Brian will introduce the concept of moral injury, and will suggest that, while remembering the sacrifice of those “who will not grow old” and the cost of war, we turn our gaze to those who will grow old in great moral agony.

You are welcome to simply turn up, although registration is encouraged, especially if you would like a reminder email the day before the event or directions to the Bishop's Dining Room. You can [register here](#).

If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact us (the International Centre for Moral Injury) at icmi@durham.ac.uk. If you can’t make it to the talk but are interested in moral injury, please consider [joining our mailing list](#)

Change of Mass Time- St. Joseph’s

Please note that the Friday morning Mass on 10th November has been moved to the earlier time of 9.00am

Mass Intentions for the Week



5th November 2023

	St Godric's	St Joseph's
Saturday 4 November		5.00pm Vigil Mass Philip Gibson Anniversary
Sunday 5 November	9.00am In thanksgiving for Monica O'Connor's recovery 3.00-4.00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	11.00am Annie Whitehead and Bill Hannigan
Monday 6 November	NO MASS	9.15am Service of Word and Holy Communion
Tuesday 7 November	9.30am - Exposition 10.00am Myra Willis and Frank and Bernard McGoay	NO MASS
Wednesday 8 November	NO MASS	9.30am - Exposition 10.00am Liam Hayden
Thursday 9 November	9.30am - Exposition 10.00am William Hayden	NO MASS
Friday 10 November	NO MASS	8.30am – Exposition 9.00am Mary Hayden
Saturday 11 November	NO MASS	5.00pm Vigil Mass The Ward and Dunne Family and Nance Thompson Anniversary
Sunday 12 November	9.00am In thanksgiving for Monica O'Connor's recovery	11.00am Thomas Coulthard

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)	7.00pm (Mass for Deceased Members of the Catenian Association)	12.15pm	10.00am (Bereavement Mass)	10.00am and 6.30pm

