

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: durham.martyrs@diocesehn.org.uk
WEBSITE: www.durhammartyrs.co.uk
Mill Lane, Gilesgate, Durham DH1 2JG

Parish Secretary: Mrs M. D. Towers

Parish Newsletter – 7th June 2026 THE BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

Parish Priest Fr. Colm Hayden

Parish Secretary: Mrs. M, D. Towers

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

Parish mobile: 07483 369 561

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

We celebrate Corpus Christi this Sunday by gathering as an international Community to share a meal. How fitting to have an international meal of sharing in these fragile times. The meal will take place in the Jubilee Room immediately after the 10.30 Mass at St Joseph's. The celebration of Corpus Christi will also be celebrated with the annual Corpus Christi procession at Ushaw College.

Our Youth Group invited the Durham Gospel Choir to their gathering last Saturday evening, and the Choir were marvellous. The members are all university students from around the globe, and all students here in Durham. My regret was that the parish weren't present, and so we hope to do something about that in the future. A special thank you to our parish group for organising.

My sympathies to Emma Turnbull on the sudden death of her Dad. And sympathies also to the Bethapudi brothers, Sam, Sed and Raj, on the death of their Mother in India. Our parish Camino pilgrims head off again on Monday to walk the Portuguese Camino. We (Chris Brennan, Dennis Bradley and myself) will remember you all as we walk from Porto to Compostela. Your prayers please that we get back in one piece.

Our BOP group were joined by Barbara Reilly O'Donnell to discuss ways of improving links between the schools and Parish. It was a really positive meeting with good suggestions for moving forward. We had our first meeting of the Parish Grants Committee. This is a small group looking into ways of accessing funding for our buildings. Community outreach is an essential for accessing any financial resources. If you have any suggestions, please let me, or Marjorie, know, and we'll pass on to the Committee. Our congratulations to our children from St. Godric's School receiving their First Holy Communion this Saturday, and to St. Joseph's and St. Thomas More's next Saturday.

Continued over/....

Plans for our big celebration at St Leonard's on 12th July are in full swing. We will be celebrating not only a new school, but an opportunity for us to gather as one worshipping parish community. Thank you all for your encouragement in this endeavour. Lovely hearing how so many of you have missed our Christmas and Easter gatherings. Staff and students are looking forward to welcoming us.

“The only cure for sagging of fainting faith is Communion. Though always Itself, perfect and complete and inviolate, the Blessed Sacrament does not operate completely and once for all in any of us. Like the act of Faith it must be continuous and grow by exercise. Frequency is of the highest effect. Seven times a week is more nourishing than seven times at intervals.”

J.R.R. Tolkien

Feast Days

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Monday, 8 th June | St. William of York |
| Tuesday 9 th June | St. Ephrem, Deacon/St. Columba Ab |
| Thursday, 11 th June | St. Barnabas, Apostle |
| Friday, 12 th June | The Sacred Heart of Jesus |
| Saturday, 13 th June | The Immaculate Heart of Mary |

Prayers – please keep in your prayers:



| | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| Mary Armstrong | Rose Simpson |
| Nigel Anthony Cunningham | Maureen Milsom |
| Josephine Lyons | Robin Humphrey |
| Tom Kimmit | Shirley Harrison |
| Mary Crilley | Marion Ridley |
| Sigrid Peyerimhoff | Sheila Wressell |
| Syd Inglis | |

Anniversaries:

| | |
|------------------------|------------------|
| Violet and Jack Dooner | Robert Burn |
| Michael Stoker | John Shaw Senior |
| Mark Farrell | Fred Leonard |
| | |



Sympathy – we extend our sympathy to Emma Turnbull, her Mum Jean and family on the sad loss of her Dad, Peter. His Funeral will take place at Durham Crematorium on **Thursday, 18th June at 11.30am.**

...and also to Carol Hunter on the sad loss of her sister Maggie Hall.

Requiscant in pace.



The family of the late Ian Baillie wish to thank parishioners, for their prayers, masses, cards and messages received during Ian's illness and during their subsequent bereavement. Thanks also to the sacristans, stewards and hospitality team, and all who attended Ian's funeral.

Special thanks to Marjorie, Matthew Grehan- Bradley, and to Fr. Colm for his ongoing care and support.

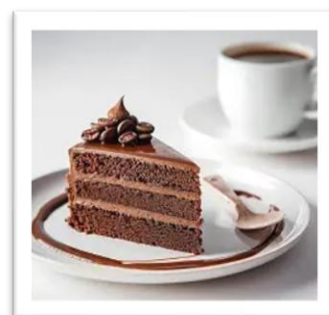
Donations to Myeloma UK - £437.50 and Macmillan Cancer Support - £381 were gratefully received.

St. Godrics Church cleaning.

Dear all - Church cleaning is scheduled for next **Tuesday 9th June** after 10am Mass. All are welcome for even the smallest job. It all helps. Thank you.

There will be a Parish Coffee Morning on **Monday 15th June**. It will take place immediately after the **9.15** Service of the Word and Holy Communion in St Bede's Room in St Godric's School.

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



We'd like to say a huge thank you to the Durham University Gospel Choir for joining us last week. They carried out a workshop with the children, teaching them a new song and then we had the privilege of listening to the choir perform for us.

The next youth group is taking place on the day of the Significance Festival Saturday 27th June <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1H3KkJ3bhW/> As this is such a special event, we would really love for our young people and their families to join us in attending this family friendly event instead of our usual arrangements.

More details will follow, so look out on the parish and youth group social media, as well as in the bulletin in the coming weeks. We hope you can join us!

“Young people have so much to give to our society and our world and I want to give them every opportunity to develop their potential. Through the projects SIGNIFICANCE will support, young people will be inspired to reach high and achieve their best.” Fr Dermott Donnelly

Children's Liturgy - We welcome the children back to Children's Liturgy at St. Joseph's from this Sunday.

The International Lunch will be taking place in the Jubilee room, **St. Joseph's** after **10:30 Mass this Sunday, 7th June**. We would love you to join us for this happy celebration of the rich diversity of nationalities in our parish. If you are able to, please bring a traditional dish from your part of the world.

Holy Mother, The Church - women's faith group - will meet again on **Thursday 11th June** in the Jubilee Room at 7.30pm and on **25th June** in the Don Bosco Room at 7.30pm. Meetings are held every other Thursday.

Franciscan Seminar Series 2026

The second of the three seminars will take place at the friary on **Tuesday, 23rd June at 7.00pm**, for approximately one hour. Everyone welcome.



Save the Date – on **Tuesday, 30th June**, the SVP will be holding a Summer Tea Afternoon in St. Joseph's Jubilee Room at 2.00pm.

If interested, please sign the lists at the back of each church and tick if transport is required.

Celebration of the Lives of Loved Ones Mass

On Saturday 27th June, the Bereavement Support Group will hold the Celebration of the Lives of Loved Ones Mass at 10.00am in St. Joseph's.



We hope that you will be able to join us to remember our loved ones and lay a flower in their memory. We will be serving refreshments afterwards in the Jubilee room and would love to see you all.



**TYNE CENTRAL COUNCIL
200 CLUB**

Results – June 2026

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1st (£50) | No. 69 |
| A. Cruddace | Our Lady of Lourdes, Wallsend |
| Linda Wood | All Saints, Lanchester |
| 2nd (£25) | No. 36 |
| A, Murray | St. Cuthbert's, Kenton |
| Isobel Armstrong | Durham Martyrs – St. Godric's |

With many thanks for your continued support

CAFOD - TACKLE THE GLOBAL DEBT CRISIS PETITION - Low-income countries are being pushed into a deepening debt crisis, forced to pay ever higher interest rates to wealthy lenders. Money that should be spent on healthcare and education is flowing out of countries that can least afford it.

Next year, the UK will chair the G20. This petition calls upon the government to use the UK's G20 presidency to bring governments together to fix the broken global debt system and guarantee fast, fair and effective debt relief for countries in crisis.

Many thanks to all who took the time last weekend to sign the Caford petition about the deepening debt crisis and its devastating effect on some of the poorest countries in the world. If you haven't signed yet, please consider doing so this weekend.

Parish School News



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School
<https://stjosephsgilesgate.bwcet.com/>

On Wednesday 10th June we are delighted to welcome our new starters in Reception to our Stay and Play event.

This is a wonderful opportunity for children to explore their new learning environment and begin to feel comfortable and excited about starting school. This will be from 3.45pm - 5pm.

Also on **Wednesday 10th June**, Year 5 and 6 will be attending Mass in church at 10am. All families and friends are welcome to attend.

Please join us on **Thursday 11th June** for a warm, informal coffee afternoon which will be focused on supporting children who feel anxious about school. The time is 2pm in school. If you have any questions or need any help with anything, please call the office and we will be happy to help.

Non-School Uniform Day will take place on **Friday 12th June** in school with any donations of chocolates for the School Summer Fayre. All donations will be greatly received.

The Mini Vinnies will be hosting our Frosty Fridays during morning breaktime On Friday 12th June, They will be selling ice cold treats to raise money for local charities.

On **Saturday 13th June at 10am** , we are delighted to invite our children and their families in church as they celebrate their **First Holy Communion**. This special occasion marks an important milestone in their faith journey, and we look forward to coming together in prayer on this memorable day.



St Godric's Catholic Primary School
<https://stgodricsdurham.bwct.com/>

Our Year 4 children have been beautifully prepared for their First Holy Communion

through our Sacramental Programme, led with such care by Mrs McNally and supported by our wonderful catechists: Leanne Taylor, Catherine Taylor, Violeta Lara Dominguez and Anne Sharp. We are so grateful for the time, love and dedication they have given throughout the year. This Saturday, the children either received the Sacrament for the first time or received a special blessing, and we hold them all in our prayers as they continue their journey of faith.

We will be further celebrating together in school on Friday 12th June at 9.15am. The children will come in their Communion outfits and parents are warmly invited to join us. We would also like to extend this invitation to all prayer sponsors in the parish. After the service, we will be serving tea, coffee and cake, and we look forward to sharing this joyful moment of thanksgiving with our parish community.

This week, we were delighted to welcome parents of our September 2026 Reception cohort to an information meeting, where staff were introduced and we shared what life in Reception will look like next year. We are excited to continue working with families already in our Nursery, and equally excited to welcome those joining St Godric's for the first time.

Next Wednesday at 10.00am, we will be hosting a meeting for parents of children starting Nursery in September. Please do spread the word - if you know anyone looking for a Nursery place for their three-year-old, they are very welcome to come along, meet the team and enjoy a tour of our Nursery and school.



St Thomas More Catholic Primary School
<https://stthomasmorebelmont.bwct.com/>

Next week, our year 5 and 6 children will be setting off bright and early for a very special educational visit to

London, where they will spend a memorable day exploring one of the most iconic and historically rich cities in the world.

The day promises to be full of excitement from the moment they catch the train from Durham Station. The highlight of the trip will be a visit to the Houses of Parliament, a truly inspiring setting at the heart of British democracy. During their time there, the children will take part in a guided tour, exploring the magnificent surroundings of both the House of Lords and the House of Commons.

They will also participate in an engaging workshop, designed to help them deepen their understanding of how decisions are made and how our country is governed. Of course, no school trip would be complete without some time to relax and enjoy each other's company!

Both children and staff are looking forward to a well-earned treat with tea at Pizza Express, providing a chance to unwind, chat about the day's highlights, and refuel before the journey home.

Friends of St. Thomas More - We are holding our annual school Sports Day and Summer Fayre on **Thursday 18th June**. The fayre will begin at 2:30pm once all sports events are completed. There will be tomobolas, refreshments, a raffle, lots of games and hopefully lots of people supporting the event.

We would also love any extra help! At present the Friends of STM is run by five volunteers. If you are free and would like to offer some time to help on a stall please sign-up here <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/y9WX5fF2C2> or via the QR code or contact school.

Any donations for our bottles tomobola, chocolate tombola or raffle can be left at tge back of church or dropped off at school. Thank you.

Diocesan Property Trustee Vacancy - Role: Property Trustee

Description: The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle is looking to appoint a Trustee with property skills and experience. Chaired by the Bishop, The Board of Trustees provides leadership and determines the overall strategic direction of the organisation.

Individuals with significant property, estates management and acquisitions experience and knowledge of charity law relating to land are encouraged to visit the Diocesan Website to download the role descriptor and application form.

How to apply: Please visit <https://diocesehn.org.uk/vacancy/diocesan-trustee/>

Closing Date: 26th June 2026

Little Sisters of the Poor Fundraising Night

50s and 60s night at St Joseph's Home, Newcastle

Live entertainment, licenced bar, bingo

7pm on Saturday 4th July 2026

Tickets £7 from 0191 273 1279

All proceeds to St Joseph's Home – see poster.

Mass Intentions for the Week

7th June 2026

| | St Godric's | St Joseph's |
|------------------------------------|--|--|
| Saturday 6 June | 10.00am First Holy Communion Celebration | 5.00pm Vigil Mass Margaret White and Belle Blakey |
| Sunday 7 June CORPUS CHRISTI | 9.00am Deceased members of the Abraham and Alexander Families | 10.30am Fr. Peter Smith and Peter Lawrence RIP |
| Monday 8 June | NO MASS | 9.15am Service of Word and Holy Communion |
| Tuesday 9 June | 9.00am – Exposition 10.00am Delia Frobisher | NO MASS |
| Wednesday 10 June | NO MASS | 9.30am - Exposition 10.00am -St.Joseph's School Yrs. 5 & 6 attending Norman & Alex Wright, Bryan Moran, and the Oliver Family |
| Thursday 11 June | 9.30am – Exposition 10.00am Fred Leonard (1 st Anniversary) and a Special Intention (RM) | NO MASS |
| Friday 12 June | NO MASS | 10.00am Service of Word and Holy Communion |
| Saturday 13 June | NO MASS | 10.00am First Holy Comunion Celebration 5.00pm Vigil Mass Jim Darby (Recently deceased) and Mary Booth (1 st Anniversary) |
| Sunday 14 June | 9.00am Special Intention (JM) 3.00-4.00pm - Eposition | 10.30am Hugh Clark, Paul Smith and Ken Herbert 3 rd Anniversary |

St. Cuthbert's

| Sun 7 | Mon 8 | Tue 9 | Wed 10 | Thurs 11 | Fri 12 | Sat 13 | Sun 14 |
|--------------------------|---------|---------|--------|----------|---------|---|--------------------------|
| 10.00am and 6.30pm | NO MASS | 12.15pm | 7.00pm | NO MASS | 12.15pm | 9.15am Service of Word & Holy Communion | 10.00am and 6.30pm |