

***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](mailto:durham.martyrs@diocesehn.org.uk)  
WEBSITE: [www.durhammartyrs.co.uk](http://www.durhammartyrs.co.uk)  
Mill Lane, Gilesgate, Durham DH1 2JG

*Parish Secretary: Mrs M. D. Towers*

## Parish Newsletter – 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2025 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year

**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 Fr. Paul if you have someone in hospital)

We have a parish council meeting next Tuesday. Please let me know if you have any issues you'd like raised. Nothing trivial, mind you.

Our annual parish retreat is next weekend in Keswick. We look forward to it more and more each year.

Mary Harrison steps down from her role as Chair of The Buildings' Committee. Can I thank Mary for the meticulous guidance she has given us over the years.

Our next International Meal is now planned. Please see the bulletin for further information. I hope the two meetings for Readers and Ministers of the Eucharist were helpful to all who attended. I found them very helpful.

Great suggestions that were helpful to me, too. Clarity for both ministries. As the sound advice given to a young curate by his PP echoes, 'know when to stand up, speak up and shut up'.

New Mass Books are being ordered for both churches. Again, my thanks to those who so generously donated for this purpose, especially one very large donation.

## Feast Day

Thursday, 27 February	St. Gregory of Narek
Saturday, 1 <sup>st</sup> March	St. David, Patron of Wales

Prayers – please keep in your prayers:



Kitty Trainor	Tony Twomey
Ann Hourican	Ian Hamilton
Mary Armstrong	Ann Close
Sheila Owens	Margaret Graham
Margaret Nancarrow	Veronica O'Reilly
Freda March	Judith McLean
Michael Farmer	Christopher Godbolt
Ann Childs	Jean Smith

## Anniversaries

Billy March	James Kelly
Doreen Power	Anne-Marie Melvin
Sheila Wilkinson	David Kelly
Cassie Childs	Jack Bradley
Mary Lennon	Cara Armstrong-McKay



## Forthcoming Funerals

**John McDonough**, whose Requiem Mass will take place at St. Joseph's on Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> February, at 10.00am followed by cremation in Durham at 11.30am.

**Children's Liturgy** at St Joseph's will normally take a break during school holidays. This means there will be **no sessions this Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February and Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> March**. We look forward to seeing the children when we resume on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March.

## St Bede's Chapel Eucharistic Services

There is no Eucharistic Service in St. Bede's Chapel on Monday February 24<sup>th</sup>. There will be a service on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> at 9:15am

## Journey in Faith

The next meeting of the Journey in Faith will take place at St. Joseph's on Thursday, 27<sup>th</sup> February, at 2.30pm.

**Broken Rosaries** – if you have a rosary which needs mending, please contact Br. Lucjan on 07459 936 907 and he will repair it.

**Missio APF/Mill Hill collections for the month 2025** Ss. Godric and Bede Red mission boxes / donations for St Bede's will be collected and emptied by sponsors in the usual way during March. Please bring those for St. Godric's to Sunday Mass on 2nd, 9th, 16th or 23rd March.



A big thank you for your continued support and generosity.



**Parish Ceilidh 15<sup>th</sup> March St. Joseph's School Hall, 7.00-10.00pm**

Tickets available after Masses this weekend, 22<sup>nd</sup>/23<sup>rd</sup> February - £5 Adults, £2.50 Children  
Spot Prizes - Raffle - Quiz - Shared Table  
Brilliant Ceilidh Band 'North by North East'

It will be a wonderful Parish celebration. All welcome!

### **The Season of Lent**

Ash Wednesday is on 5<sup>th</sup> March, the beginning of Lent. There will be Mass at St. Joseph's at 10.00am and at St. Godric's at 7.00pm.

The parish **Charity Lenten Lunches** will commence on Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> March and continue on the following Fridays – 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> March and 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> April from 12.00-1.00pm. Please contact Marjorie if you or your group would like to host a lunch.



### **LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 2026**

Some parishioners have expressed an interest in visiting Lourdes in 2026. If you are interested (no commitment) could you give your name to Marjorie and we can begin the planning process.

The dates we are thinking about are Half Term 23<sup>rd</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> May.

### **Join CAFOD's Big Lent Walk in the Jubilee Year**

You are invited to join CAFOD's Big Lent Walk and journey together with Catholics in England, Wales and Scotland as Pilgrims of Hope in this Jubilee Year - walking 200km over 40 days during Lent. Journey to one of the churches or shrines designated as places of pilgrimage in our diocese as part of your Big Lent Walk. Every £1 you raise will support communities like Lokho's in Kenya, experiencing the worst impact of the climate crisis, to rebuild their lives in hope. Sign up here: <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/>

**Parish Handbook** – Updated versions of the Parish Handbook and Leaflets are now available on the website. The handbook is also available on the notice boards at the back of each church and there are also a few copies of the leaflet.

### **Ecumenical Midday Prayer Service at Ushaw**

Starting Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March, there will be a weekly Ecumenical Prayer Service at Ushaw. The service will be at noon each Tuesday in St. Cuthbert's Chapel. Based on

shared traditions of prayer and reading scripture, the service aims to bring together Christians of all denominations. Everyone is very welcome to attend.

### **International Lunch**

The first International Lunch of 2025 will be taking place on **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March at St. Joseph's after the 10:30 Mass**. It's a great opportunity for our community to come together and enjoy a nice time while tasting delicious food from around the world. It would be great to see parishioners from both St Joseph's and St Godric's there. We'll also have a fun activity for the children.

There'll be a place at the back of St Joseph's Church to write your name down if you're planning to attend. Feel free to bring some food to share and be ready to enjoy it with our lovely parish community. For more information feel free to join the WhatsApp group <https://chat.whatsapp.com/CQvZ7yZUI8N2BaSggdft7W>  
We're looking forward to seeing you there.

### **THE UPPER ROOM - THE LAST SUPPER**

Christian Stejskal, who is presenting The Upper Room/The Last Supper performance on 11<sup>th</sup> March in St Godric's Church, has asked if we can help with accommodation on the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> March. If any parishioner can help please contact Marjorie or Joe Hughes.

**Diocesan Vision Discussion:** During 2024, Bishop Stephen invited us to pray and discern how the Holy Spirit is inviting us to grow in mission in our parishes and communities. He asked that we have discussions locally about a draft Diocesan vision. The Diocesan Vision includes 4 commitments, and there will be a meeting at St. Cuthbert's, Old Elvet, Durham about the second of those commitments '*To Grow as One Diocesan Family - Rebuilding Relationships*'. We would love to hear from as many people as possible, so please do come along on **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> March at 2.00pm**.

### **From the Diocese**

#### **WEBINAR: SEEDS OF HOPE**

You are cordially invited to join Bishop Stephen and members of the Diocesan Environmental Group (DEG) in a webinar to find out more about the DEG and what we can all do to reduce our impact on the environment.

**Date: Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

**Time: 11.00am – 12.30pm**

**Details, instructions and Zoom link available on the Diocesan website:**  
<https://tinyurl.com/mr4cmj99>

### **St. Vincent de Paul Society and CAFOD**

The St Vincent de Paul Society and CAFOD are working together to offer a week of free residential work experience for 20 young adults in England and Wales. The experience will run from 22<sup>nd</sup> 27<sup>th</sup> June in London. Candidates must be aged have completed their first or second year at university and have a passion for social justice. Applications close on the 20<sup>th</sup> April. For any queries, please contact [KeziaH@svp.org.uk](mailto:KeziaH@svp.org.uk)

## **Holy Island SVP Vinnies Camp- Volunteering is a Work of Heart**

Holy Island Children's Camp is looking for new volunteers to help in their Holiday Centre on Holy Island. They are in need of young adults to help the children have a great week's holiday on the island in Summer 2025. Full training and support will be given and would suit someone wanting to give back to the Community by helping 9–12-year-olds have fun for a week. They are also keen to attract people who would like to help by volunteering in the Kitchen/Dining room and with caretaking.

Term Time Camps need lots of volunteers if they are to survive. If you could find a few days in term time to help out with serving meals, prepping salads and washing dishes they would be truly grateful. By running term time camps, Summer Vinnies Holidays for children can be sustained. Further information can be found at <https://svp.org.uk/microsite/ozanam-camp> or if you'd like to chat about the role please email [BarbaraT@svp.org.uk](mailto:BarbaraT@svp.org.uk)

## **Relaunch of the Diocesan Youth Council**

YMT and the Diocese are thrilled to announce the upcoming relaunch of the Diocesan Youth Council, a vital platform for the voices of young people in the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle. This initiative, paused during the COVID-19 pandemic, offers a space for young leaders to develop skills and engage in meaningful dialogue about the future of our Church.

The first meeting is scheduled for Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2025, at St. Mary's Cathedral in Newcastle, from 2:30 pm to 4:00 pm. We are actively seeking motivated students from Year 9 and above to join this transformative council. For more details on the council, how to nominate candidates, and to view the full announcement, visit: <https://diocesehn.org.uk/news/announcing-the-relaunch-of-the-diocesan-youth-council/>

## **Youth Helper for the Lourdes Pilgrimage 2025!**

Are you interested in joining our Lourdes Pilgrimage in 2025 as a youth helper? Now is the time to register and secure your spot! By registering, you will receive all necessary forms that need to be completed as soon as possible. Don't miss this incredible opportunity to serve and experience a unique spiritual journey.

**Registration Deadline:** End of March 2025. Sign up today at [www.ymt.org](http://www.ymt.org) and be a part of this unforgettable experience. Hurry, spaces are filling fast!



## **Little Sisters of the Poor - Irish Night**

**Saturday, 29<sup>th</sup> March at 7.00pm**

Dance the night away to the Ceilidh Band, enjoy the Irish Dancers whilst feasting on Irish Stew, soda bread and a dessert. (Alternative choice for vegetarians). Tickets £10 each. Licensed Bar.

Telephone – (0191) 2731279

# Mass Intentions for the Week

23<sup>rd</sup> February 2025

	St Godric's	St Joseph's
Saturday 22 February	NO MASS	5.00pm Vigil Mass Peter and Catherine McLoughlin
Sunday 23 February	9.00am Vince McPartlin 3.00pm-4.00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	10.30am Anniversaries of Alf Carr, and Doreen Power, and Birthday Remembrances of Austin Flynn and Anne-Marie Melvin
Monday 24 February	NO MASS	9.15am Service of Word and Holy Communion
Tuesday 25 February	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am Helen Willis, and Estelle Wild Birthday Remembrance	NO MASS
Wednesday 26 February	NO MASS	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am Requiem Mass of the late John McDonough
Thursday 27 February	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am Special Intention (MT)	NO MASS
Friday 28 February	NO MASS	9.30am - Exposition 10.00am Cassie Childs Anniversary
Saturday 01 March	NO MASS	5.00pm Vigil Mass Marie and Jack Bradley
Sunday 02 March	9.00am John Carré 3.00-4.00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	10.30am Rosena Conway, Maureen Coulthard, and Hugh Clark

## St. Cuthbert's

Sun 23	Mon 24	Tue 25	Wed 26	Thurs 27	Fri 28	Sat 29	Sun 30
10.00am And 6.30pm	NO MASS	9.15am	7.00pm	12.15pm	12.15pm	9.15am	10.00am and 6.30pm