

The Parish of the Durham Martyrs
*Incorporating the Churches of Our Lady of Mercy
& St. Godric, St. Joseph and St. Bede*

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Sunday, 2nd July 2023 – 13th Sunday of the Year Parish Newsletter

Parish Priest Fr. Colm Hayden
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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)

Can I take this opportunity to say thank you for your kindness as I celebrated 40 years of priesthood. I am very grateful for the many cards and gifts. It was a lovely celebration last Saturday and big “thank you” to those who organised and helped with the reception in St. Joseph’s school after the 5.00pm Vigil Mass. It was good to be able to have Tom O’Loughlin to join me too. Tom was ordained the same date, same time, same place.

I know many of you particularly enjoyed both Fr. Tom and Fr. John O’Brien’s words at the Mass. John gave us much food for thought on ‘The Best of Times and the Worst of Times.’ His words were especially relevant to our present position as a Diocese. A continued conversation on an evolving Church is always essential.

The Synod of the Laity will provide one way forward, but only one. All takes time to realise. As one wise parishioner keeps reminding me, “we have to keep looking at the positives.” And there are so many, especially in our parish community.

“How baffling you are, oh Church, and yet how I love you! How you have made me suffer, and yet how much I owe you! I would like to see you destroyed, and yet I need your presence. You have given me so much scandal and yet you have made me understand what sanctity is. I have seen nothing in the world more devoted to obscurity, more compromised, more false, and yet I have touched nothing more pure, more generous, more beautiful. How often I have wanted to shut the doors of my soul in your face, and how often I have prayed to die in the safety of your arms.

No, I cannot free myself from you, because I am you, though not completely. And besides, where would I go? Would I establish another? I would not be able to establish it without the same faults, for they are the same faults I carry in me.

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And if I did establish another, it would be my Church, not the Church of Christ. I am old enough to know that I am no better than anyone else. ...)

The Church has the power to make me holy but it is made up, from the first to the last, only of sinners. And what sinners! It has the omnipotent and invincible power to renew the Miracle of the Eucharist, but is made up of men who are stumbling in the dark, who fight every day against the temptation of losing their faith. It brings a message of pure transparency but it is incarnated in slime, such is the substance of the world. It speaks of the sweetness of its Master, of its non-violence, but there was a time in history when it sent out its armies to disembowel the infidels and torture the heretics. It proclaims the message of evangelical poverty, and yet it does nothing but look for money and alliances with the powerful.

Those who dream of something different from this are wasting their time and have to rethink it all. And this proves that they do not understand humanity. Because this is humanity, made visible by the Church, with all its flaws and its invincible courage, with the Faith that Christ has given it and with the love that Christ showers on it.

When I was young, I did not understand why Jesus chose Peter as his successor, the first Pope, even though he abandoned Him. Now I am no longer surprised and I understand that by founding his church on the tomb of a traitor(...)He was warning each of us to remain humble, by making us aware of our fragility. (...)

And what are bricks worth anyway? What matters is the promise of Christ, what matters is the cement that unites the bricks, which is the Holy Spirit. Only the Holy Spirit is capable of building the church with such poorly moulded bricks as are we.

And that is where the mystery lies. This mixture of good and bad, of greatness and misery, of holiness and sin that makes up the church...this in reality am I (...)

The deep bond between God and His Church, is an intimate part of each one of us.(...)To each of us God says, as he says to his Church, "And I will betroth you to me forever" (Hosea 2,21). But at the same time he reminds us of reality: 'Your lewdness is like rust. I have tried to remove it in vain. There is so much that not even a flame will take it away' (Ezechiel 24, 12).

But then there is even something more beautiful. The Holy Spirit who is Love, sees us as holy, immaculate, beautiful under our guises of thieves and adulterers. (...) It's as if evil cannot touch the deepest part of mankind.

He re-establishes our virginity no matter how many times we have prostituted our bodies, spirits and hearts. In this, God is truly God, the only one who can 'make everything new again'. It is not so important that He will renew heaven and earth. What is most important is that He will renew our hearts. This is Christ's work. This is the divine Spirit of the Church."

Carlo Carretto PFE (2nd April 1910-4th October 1988) was an Italian writer and a member of the Catholic Congregation of the Little Brothers of the Gospel,

Feast Days

Monday, 3 rd July	St. Thomas, Apostle
Tuesday, 4 th July	St. Elizabeth of Portugal
Wednesday, 5 th July	St. Anthony Zaccaria P
Thursday, 6 th July	St. Maria Goretti V, M
Saturday, 8 th July	St. Augustine Zhao Rong & Companions MM

Prayers – please keep in your prayers:



Meg Dixon	Bernard and Yvonne Reid
Joe Watson	Jared Howarth
Sheila Owen	Francesca Camilerni
Tony Collinson	Nicola Dawson
Ken Riddle	A sick grandchild
Breda Gallagher	

Anniversaries:

Eric Bennett	Patrick and Kitty Farrell
Owen Kenna	John Dodds
Kelly Nicola Dunne	Joe Turner
Helena Wilson	Patricia McLoughlin
Michael Pattison	Susan Finney



Sympathy – we extend our sympathy to the family and friends of Rebekah Fox, late of Liverpool, whose Funeral Service will take place at St. Godric's on Thursday, 13th July, at 11.45am followed by burial in South Road Cemetery at 12.45pm. *Requiescat in pace.*

There will be a **Coffee Morning** on **Monday 10th July** immediately after the 9.15 Service of Word and Holy Communion in St Bede's Room in St. Godric's School. All proceeds will go to Women In Need in India. Everyone is very welcome.

The Friends of St Godric's are holding their Summer Fayre on

Sunday 9th July 2023, 12 noon until 3pm on St Godric's school grounds

Our stalls usually include tombolas for children and grown-ups, pre-loved toy stalls, refreshment and cake stalls, craft tables, hair braiding and tattoos, games stalls e.g. can alley, lawn darts and a football shoot out, pre-loved uniform and more...

Would you like to help? Can you...

- Donate good quality items either as raffle prizes or for sale on one of the stalls? For example, soft toys, other toys, books, gift-quality toiletries, candles, smellies, bottles, sweets, chocolates, cakes, pies, scones
- Make a donation to our summer fayre prize fund? We will organise a big shop to make sure the tombola and other stalls are well stocked. See below for ways to donate.
- Give an hour of your time between 12 noon and 3pm to help with a stall?
- Help with some of the more creative stalls e.g. hair braiding, pottery painting, tattoos, crafts? We can arrange the stall to suit your skills!
- Help with any contacts for businesses that might be willing to offer a prize for the raffle?
- Come along on the day and bring your pocket money!

If you would like to know more or to offer help/donations, please email friendsofstgodrics@gmail.com

**Want to donate to our summer fayre prize fund? Donations are preferred via BOPP through this link <https://bopp.app/link/2414k>

Sea Sunday – 9th July

Next Sunday is Sea Sunday. Seafarers and fishers play a vital role in all of our lives, but they often work in difficult, hazardous conditions. In the last year, more crews have been abandoned by their employers than ever before. Many are still being denied the right to leave their ships for even a short break away from the relentless noise and pressure onboard. Many are reporting more stress and poorer mental health. Sea Sunday is Sunday 9th July. It is when the Church prays for all those who live and work at sea.

Your support will make a big difference to seafarers and fishers in need. You can donate in church, by visiting www.stellamaris.org.uk/donate or by texting 'SEA' to 70460 to donate £5. This collection is vital to enable Stella Maris (formerly called Apostleship of the Sea) to continue its important work - so please give generously. Thank you.

Fourth Option of Giving by Credit/Debit Card

A Fourth Option of Giving by Credit/Debit card is to be shortly introduced following requests from some Parishioners who often don't carry as much cash as they used to.

The current three methods will REMAIN as usual:

1. By Standing Order - the much-preferred method
2. By Envelope
3. By Cash on the Collection Plate

The added advantage is that people will be also able to use it for Special Collections and the Piety (papers and cards) Stall.

There will be a Credit/Debit Card terminal at both St Joseph's and St Godric's from Saturday 15th July with clear simple instructions and also how to register to Gift Aid the Giving if people wish to.

If you normally pay for your shopping with a bank card at a 'Tap and Go' terminal or get cash out at a 'Cash Point' then you will find that the system being installed is very familiar and easy to use.

To help ease the introduction there will also be support in attendance for the first two weekends to help people if needed.



Barbara Robertshaw would like to thank everyone who has donated spectacles, and she will be sending off 1,000 pairs to Africa and Asia shortly. There will be no further collections for the time being.

From the Diocese

Pauline Books and Media, Newcastle

Please note that from the Monday 10th July the Cathedral bookshop will have revised opening hours:

Monday	Closed
Tuesday	Closed
Wednesday	10:00am – 4:30pm
Thursday	10:00am – 4:30pm
Friday	10:00am – 4:30pm
Saturday	9:45am – 4:00pm
Sunday	9:30am – 1:15pm

For orders and enquiries outside of these hours please:

Telephone: 0151 7091328

Email: orders@pauline-uk.org

www.paulineuk.org

Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies (CCRS) 2023-2024

The Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies is managed and awarded by the Board of Religious Studies on behalf of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. The programme seeks to ensure that participants have a basic understanding of the central beliefs of the Catholic faith. This programme is available for catechists, lay leaders and other adults wishing to deepen their understanding of the Catholic faith and Catholic education, serving teachers in Catholic and other schools, and teachers

in training preparing to take up posts in Catholic schools. The CCRS course programme is now available for 2023-2024 on the Diocesan website: <https://diocesehn.org.uk/education/continuing-professional-development-and-formation/#ccrs>

If you would like further information, please contact Eamonn Diffley at the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle, Department for Education on 0191 243 3313 or email education@diocesehn.org.uk

News from CAFOD

The Church's mission – an event with Cardinal Tagle

The Church has a mission but what is it? And how should we do it? Cardinal Tagle of the Philippines has responsibilities for evangelisation and mission in the Vatican and was President of Caritas International (a global network of Catholic relief and development agencies) and is a fantastic speaker. We invite you to join us online for **Mission Unleashed: Embracing the Social Dimension of Evangelisation** in which Cardinal Tagle will speak on the Church's mission and the fundamental links between evangelisation (sharing Christ and his Good News) and social action. **14 July 7:00-8:30pm.**

Please click [here for more information and to book your place](#) for this webinar hosted by CAFOD. Please pass this invitation on to others who may be interested.

Durham Churches Together Forthcoming Events

Friday 7th July: 7.00pm

Music for a Summer Evening St. Cuthbert's Church, North Road, Durham.

Tickets £5 on the door. Book in advance by e-mailing Events.cuths@gmail.com

Sunday 9th July: 2.00-5.00pm

St. Mary's Church Garden Party, Shincliffe Village. (for the parish and community in Shincliffe). *See posters.*

Services of Word and Holy Communion – 4th and 7th July

Please note that the following Masses have been replaced with Services of Word and Holy Communion

Tuesday, 4th July at St. Godric's
Friday, 7th July at St. Joseph's

Mass Intentions for the Week

2nd July 2023

	St Godric's	St Joseph's
Saturday 1 July		5.00pm Vigil Mass Martin Booth
Sunday 2 July	9.00am Susannah Michiels	11.00am Norman and Alex Wright and Bryan Morn
Monday 3 July	NO MASS	9.15am Service of Word and Holy Communion
Tuesday 4 July	10.00am Service of Word & Holy Communion	NO MASS
Wednesday 5 July	NO MASS	9.30am - Exposition 10.00am Peter Reid Birthday Remembrance
Thursday 6 July	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am Special Intention (KC)	NO MASS
Friday 7 July	NO MASS	10.00am Service of Word & Holy Communion
Saturday 8 July	NO MAS	5.00pm Vigil Mass David Adams Anniversary and Paddy and Kitty Farrell
Sunday 9 July	9.00am Mgr. Paul Hardy	11.00am Ursula Meaney

St. Cuthbert's

Sun 2	Mon 3	Tue 4	Wed 5	Thurs 6	Fri 7	Sat 8	Sun 9
10.00am and 6.30pm	12.15pm	12.15pm	7.00pm	12.15pm	10.00am Requiem Mass of Maria Farrington	9.15am	10.00am and 6.30pm