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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Parish Newsletter: 24th – 30th October
30th Sunday of the Year

Parish Priest Fr. Colm Hayden
Parish Secretary: Mrs. M, D. Towers
Office hours: Tuesday-Friday, 8.30am-4.00pm
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(Please telephone the Chaplain if you have someone in hospital who would like a visit)
For bereavement support, please contact the Parish Secretary

Our thanks to Stanley Bethapudi for a fascinating workshop on meditation, and healing powers of the breathing and physical exercises. In an age of bombardment of the senses and the gym culture , it was so interesting to see and hear how this can be counteracted. With three young doctors present at the session, we were given access to medical opinion that would cost an arm and a leg elsewhere.

WhatsApp groups have provided an excellent means of communication for the various parish groups. I hope those who struggled with accessing a group have succeeded, and those no longer members of a group, have successfully exited. If struggling with either, I'm sure some of our tech wizards can assist.

I'm sure some of you are aware that Audrey Lane has been struggling with poor health for some time. Sadly, Audrey is having to step back from her role as sacristan . Can I ask those who generously stepped into Audrey's shoes, please continue as I try to put a more permanent plan in place. Thanks.

Feast Days

Monday, 26th October	Ss. Chad and Cedd Bps
Wednesday, 28th October	Ss. Simon and Jude, Apostles
Friday, 30th October	The Martyrs' of Douai College
Sunday, 1st November	All Saints' Day



Prayers – please keep in your prayers:

Mary Armstrong	Rose Simpson	Sigrid Peyerimhoff
Nigel Anthony Cunningham	Maureen Milsom	Rita Harrison
Tom Kimmit	Christina Reid	Amanda Hyland
Mary Crilley	Shirley Harrison	Tom Smith
Sheila Wressel	Frank Firth	

Anniversaries:

Joseph Hadfield	John Charlton
Jennie Charlton	Austin Dobbie
Pat Hodgson	Dennis Cummings



We extend our sympathy to the family and friends of the late **Yvonne Reid** Her Requiem Mass will be held at **St. Joseph's** on **Friday, 13th November, at 10.00am**. *Requiescat in pace.*

…… and also to the family and friends of the late Frank Richardson, whose funeral was held during the week.

Daylight Saving Time Ends at 2.00am on Saturday 24th October



St. Bede's Chapel

The chapel will be open for a Eucharistic Service on **Monday October 26th starting at 9am.** However there is **no service on Wednesday 28th.**

Services recommence on Monday November 2nd at 9am,



Grateful thanks to Audrey Lane who has had to step down from her sacristan/stewarding duties owing to ill health.

We wish her all the best in the future.

Readers' Meeting – Saturday, 31st October
Fr. Colm has arranged a meeting for all parish readers. It will take place at St. Joseph's from 10.30am for one hour.

Youth Group News

Family Pilgrimage – Saturday 24 October, 3pm
Come and be part of our joyful Youth Group **Family Pilgrimage** as we celebrate the **Jubilee Year of St Francis**! We'll walk together from **St. Cuthbert's** to **Durham Cathedral**, finishing at the **Franciscan Friary**.

Because this is a Jubilee Year, people who join the pilgrimage with sincere faith — and complete the usual conditions — can **receive a plenary indulgence**.

We'll enjoy stories of St. Francis, build our **LEGO Church**, pray at **St Cuthbert's Shrine**, walk by the river celebrating God's creation and enjoy food together.
Meeting Point: St. Cuthbert's Church DH1 3HL
Time: 3pm

Who: All young people and families
Bring: comfy shoes, water, light jacket.

For more information and to let us know you are coming please email durhammartyrsparishyouthgroup@gmail.com

Dates for your diary.
The dates planned for the youth group for the rest of this year are:
24th October, 21st November, 12th December
We look forward to seeing you there!



Thank you for celebrating World Mission Sunday

Thank you for your donations to the World Mission Sunday appeal.Your prayers and support will help missionaries work alongside communities worldwide, regardless of background or belief. Please continue to pray for all who share the love and hope of Christ with our sisters and brothers in need throughout the world.

To support mission year-round, visit missio.org.uk or call 020 7821 9755 (office hours).

Parish Community Christmas Fayre - 10:30 - 12:30 Saturday 28th November.



Preparations are now underway for our Christmas Fayre and once again we need you ! Please let Cynthia, Erica or Marjorie know if you have any fresh ideas and if you are able to help.

We hope you will donate goods for our Tombola Stalls on the following dates:

Weekend of 30th October	Bottles
Weekend of 7th November	Chocolate
Weekend of 14th November	Fancy Goods

Please place donations in the boxes at the back of both Churches.



The Children's Magician is booked and Santa assures us that he will do everything in his power to attend !

This is a very special event for our Community and Parish so please spread the word and pop the dates into your diaries.

Thank you ALL in advance for your support.

CONCERTS

Early notice of two Concerts coming up in St. Godric's Church.



- **Saturday 21st November 7.30pm - Durham University Chamber Choir**
- **Wednesday 9th December 7.30pm - Dunelm Consort**

Further details to follow.

We need help with stewarding for each concert. If you are able to help please contact me: Email: joe.hughes2017@hotmail.com



Wednesday Lunch Club

Please note that there **will not be Lunch Club next Wednesday, 28th October,** owing to the Half Term Break. It will resume the following **Wednesday, 4th November.**

Litte Sisters of the Poor - Christmas Fayre

The Little Sisters of the Poor will be holding a Christmas Fayre on **Saturday 21st November 2026** at St Joseph's Home, Westmorland Road, Newcastle.

The Fayre is on from 12pm until 3pm. There will be a raffle, tombola, bottle stall, arts and crafts and other stalls. They will have a children's stall where everyone is a winner. Refreshments will be available.

All are welcome. See poster.

Tip for Sustainable Living - Instead of buying hothouse or air-freighted produce, embrace seasonal eating. Incorporate more root vegetables like sweet potatoes, carrots and pumpkins into your autumn diet.

These hearty foods are among the most climate-friendly foods available, and are filled with nutrients to support your immune system through the winter months. *(Care for Creation Group)*

Parish School News



Become a Prayer Sponsor - Our parish schools are inviting St. Joseph's and St. Godric's parishioners to become Prayer Sponsors for children preparing to receive the Sacrament of First Holy Communion.

This is a wonderful opportunity to support our children on their journey of faith by keeping them in your prayers as they grow in their relationship with Jesus and prepare to receive Him in the Eucharist.

If you would like to take part in this special ministry, please come forward after the Baptism-themed preparation liturgy during Mass on Sunday 1st November. Parishioners will have the opportunity to be introduced to and matched with a child to sponsor through prayer.

Your prayers and encouragement will be a treasured gift to our children as they take this important step in their faith journey.

Thank you for helping our children feel supported and surrounded by the love and prayers of our parish community.

St Thomas More Catholic Primary School
https://stthomasmorebelmont.bwcet.com/

The Friends of St. Thomas More are currently raising funds to support the refurbishment of our outdoor areas. If you shop at Tesco please consider popping an extra few blue tokens into our box!

There are only two weeks left to collect tokens in the stores in Dragonville, Claypath, North Road and Market place. We would love to be the top token collectors to reach the £1500 maximum. Thank you for your support. *See the poster at the back of each church.*

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

We would like to thank all of our wonderful families for their kind donations for our Harvest Celebration and also thank you to everyone who came to support the event in school. Your generosity and support are truly appreciated.

The school will close on Friday 23rd October and reopen on Monday 2nd November.

Dear God, Please watch over all of our children and keep them safe wherever they go. Surround them with your love, protect them from harm and help them to have kindness in their hearts each day. Amen

St Godric's Catholic Primary School
https://stgodricsdurham.bwcet.com/

Thank you for all your support and prayers during this first half term. It has been a busy few weeks, including our recent Ofsted inspection. We were very pleased with the outcome and extremely proud of the way our children represented our school throughout the process. If you would like to read the report, it is available on our website using the link : St. Godric's Ofsted report School is closed next week for half term, and we would like to wish all of our children and families a happy and restful break. We look forward to seeing the children who are preparing for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion at Mass on 1st November.

Mass Intentions for the Week

25th October 2026

	St Godric's	St Joseph's
Saturday 24 October	NO MASS	5.00pm Vigil Mass Belle Blakey and Josephine Lyons
Sunday 25 October	9.00am Susannah Michiels 3.00-4.00pm – Exposition	10.30am Betty McGurk and Seamus Lynskey
Monday 26 October	NO MASS	9.15am Service of Word and Holy Communion
Tuesday 27 October	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am In thanksgiving to Our Lady of Sorrows	NO MASS
Wednesday 28 October	NO MASS	9.30am - Exposition 10.00am Derek Coxon
Thursday 29 October	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am Catherine Alderson	NO MASS
Friday 30 October	NO MASS	9.30am - Exposition 10.00am Service of Word & Holy Communion
Saturday 31 October	NO MASS	5.00pm Vigil Mass In thanksgiving for prayers answered
Sunday 1 November ALL SAINTS' DAY	9.00am Susannah Michiels 3.00-4.00pm – Exposition	10.30am Brian Harland 2nd Anniversary, Ken Herbert Birthday Remembrance, and Joyce Pearson Birthday Remembrance

St. Cuthbert's

Sun 25	Mon 26	Tue 27	Wed 28	Thurs 29	Fri 30	Sat 31	Sun 01 Nov
10.00am and 6.30pm	NO MASS	12.15pm	7.00pm	12.15pm	12.15pm	9.15am	10.00am and 6.30pm