

**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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*Parish Secretary: Mrs M. D. Towers*

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2024  
Parish Newsletter



**Parish Priest** Fr. Colm Hayden  
**Parish Secretary:** Mrs. M, D. Towers  
Office hours: Tuesday-Friday, 8.30am-4.00pm  
**Hospital Chaplain** Fr. Paul Tully-01388 818544/01913332183

We were blessed for our annual parish retreat. The weather may have been mixed, but the sense of togetherness and positivity of the group was lovely. We took time for prayer, sharing, and relaxed gathering for walking in the stunning surroundings, and unwinding each evening. The food was excellent, staff were kind and hospitable, as always. Accommodation was basic, but good. Capping it all was the extraordinary beauty of the Lakes.

Thanks to all our retreatants and to Katie for her youthful leadership and inspiring optimism. It was for many of us a realisation that we can be weighed down in such negativity in a world in turmoil and sometimes it requires younger and more enthusiastic Spiritual hope to point us forward. This enabled, on occasion, a fuller sharing and discussion on Faith. My thanks to all for sharing themselves.

We also had chance to share in the special birthday of Norbert Peyerhimoff. Those attending our 10.30am Mass at St. Joseph's will know Norbert from that friendly welcome he gives as he opens the door to all. Alles Gute zum Geburtstag, Norbert.

Fitting perhaps to have the reflective words:

### **A Walk, by Rainer Rilke**

“My eyes already touch the sunny hill, going far beyond the road I have begun. So we are grasped by what we cannot grasp; it has an inner light, even from a distance – and changes us, even if we do not reach it, into something else, which, hardly sensing it, we already are; a gesture waves us on answering our own wave ... but what we feel is the wind in our faces.”

Our pre-Easter Liturgy meeting took place on Wednesday. It was positive and constructive with Sunday’s music given a full and lively discussion. We are always welcome to more musicians and singers at both churches. Thanks again to all who contribute. We are very fortunate.

We are fast approaching Holy Week, so can I ask for volunteers for reading etc. This is so important and essential. Please sign up. Thanks.

“The language of the Catholic Church – the liturgy, the prayer, the gospels – was in many ways my first poetry.” **Alice McDermott**

We have an important insert in the bulletin from our Parish Safeguarding reps, Kathleen and Dennis. Basically, it is to remind us of appreciating and developing a mindset of what Safeguarding means. Perhaps the best way for volunteers, especially, is to alert ourselves each time we gather to discuss our numerous parish activities, we might simply give a brief reminder of its importance.

“Pity the nation whose people are sheep, and whose shepherds mislead them.  
Pity the nation whose leaders are liars, whose sages are silenced, and whose bigots haunt the airwaves.  
Pity the nation that raises not its voice, except to praise conquerors and acclaim the bully as hero and aims to rule the world with force and by torture.  
Pity the nation that knows no other language but its own, and no other culture but its own.  
Pity the nation whose breath is money and sleeps the sleep of the too well fed.  
Pity the nation – oh, pity the people who allow their rights to erode and their freedoms to be washed away.  
My country, tears of thee, sweet land of liberty.”

**Lawrence Ferlinghetti**

**(Book: Ferlinghetti’s Greatest Poems)**

## Feast Days

Thursday, 7 <sup>th</sup> March	Ss. Perpetua and Felicity MM
Friday, 8 <sup>th</sup> March	St. John of God Rel

Prayers – please keep in your prayers:



Meg Dixon	Yvonne Reid
Sheila Owen	Jared Howarth
Ken Riddle	Francesca Camilerni
Breda Gallagher	Nicola Dawson
Sean Casey	Betty Eccles
Brian Harland	Helen Tumelty
Halusia Good	Sheila Wressell
Bill Harris	Margaret Robinson
Tony Twomey	Cud Hall
Lorraine Scullion	Margaret Graham

## Anniversaries

Isabella Eccles	Philip Grainger
John Blake	Sharon Minns
Thomas Reid	Aiden Bryden



**Sympathy** – we extend our sympathy to the family and friends of the late Marianne Mortemore. Her Funeral Service will take place at St Joseph's on Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> March at 11.30am followed by burial in Durham.

## Funerals this week

Margaret Mary Smith, Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> March, Requiem Mass, St Joseph's at 10.00am

James Brian Bowes, Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> March, Funeral Service, St. Godric's at 11.00am

**Baptism** – we welcome into our parish community, Margot Simpson, who will receive the Sacrament of Baptism after the 9.00am Mass at St. Godric's, this Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March.



**Missio APF/Mill Hill collections for the month of March 2024 Ss. Godric and Bede** - Red mission boxes 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 before the end of March.

A big thank you for your continued support and generosity.

The  
Season  
of  
Lent



**Stations of the Cross** will commence at 7.00pm and will alternate between St. Godric's and St. Joseph's.

All services will conclude with the distribution of Holy Communion.

Date	Church	Group
1 <sup>st</sup> March	St. Godric's	Liturgy Group
8 <sup>th</sup> March	St. Joseph's	Inclusive Church
15 <sup>th</sup> March	St. Godric's	Sanctuary 21
22 <sup>nd</sup> March	St. Joseph's	Justice and Peace

### Lenten Charity Soup Lunches - 12.00-1.00pm at St. Joseph's

Grateful thanks to the groups below who will be hosting our Lenten Charity Lunches.

Date	Group
1 March	Justice & Peace
8 March	Durham Food Bank & Laurel Avenue Community Centre
15 March	SVP
22 March	Bereavement Support Group

### Br. John's Lenten Faith Sharing Meetings for Easter at the Friary

These will take place on three Monday evenings from 7.00-8.30pm

26<sup>th</sup> February 'The Human Condition'

4<sup>th</sup> March 'Our Personal Vocation'

11<sup>th</sup> March 'God's People in the Making'

### Save the Date

- (i) Next **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March** we'll be having our **International Lunch** You are all welcome to attend it at **St. Joseph's after the 10:30am Mass**. 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>



- (ii) **St. Leonard's Spring Concert**

The Spring Concert will take place at St. Joseph's on Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> March at 7.00pm, and music will include Mozart Missa Brevis in D Minor, KV65. All welcome – free entry. *See poster.*

### Durham Singers: Dona Nobis Pacem, a concert for peace

"This will be our reply to violence: to make music more intensely, more beautifully and more devotedly than ever before." So said Leonard Bernstein, who in his *Chichester Psalms* draws on his faith to do just that.

The second piece premières Tarney's *Canticle of Elizabeth*, peace in the bearing of a child who heralds the dawn of salvation. Then Vaughan Williams sets a recurring plaintive cry for peace in *Dona Nobis Pacem*. If you can, please come and join us in our concert for peace. **Saturday 9 March 2024, 7.30pm, Durham Cathedral. Tickets from the [Durham Cathedral website](#).**

See: <https://www.durhamcathedral.co.uk/calendar?date=2024-03-09>



Our next **Movie Night** will be **Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March** at 7pm in the Jubilee Room.

The film is "Chocolat" (12 rating). It tells the story of a French woman and her daughter who arrive in a small, remote village to set up a chocolate shop at the beginning of Lent. This really shakes up the rigid morality of the community.

The film received 5 Oscar nominations and stars Juliette Binoche, Judi Dench, Alfred Molina and Johnny Depp. All welcome.

### **Safeguarding**

At a recent meeting of Diocesan Clergy, Bishop Stephen asked that at all parish meetings, functions and events the issue of safeguarding be addressed as a high priority.

Safeguarding needs to be considered in its widest context to include health, safety and well-being. It is the responsibility of us all to ensure that our parishes and institutions are safe places for all comers and that the risk of avoidable harm is reduced as much as possible. We need to create safe spaces of true welcome in which relationships can develop which are enriching and respectful. Where agendas or dynamic risk assessments for events are produced, 'safeguarding' needs to feature prominently.

Further advice and information can be provided by Dennis Bradley or Kathleen Murray, and the Diocesan Safeguarding Team are always happy to give guidance.

### **St. Leonard's School Petition to Parliament**

If you took any of the blank sheets away last weekend, please return them and put them in the box at the back of church this weekend. Thank you.

### **Health and Safety – Jubilee Room, St. Joseph's**

Please do not stack chairs and tables in front of the electric heaters in the Jubilee Room. Notices have been put in place as a reminder. Thank you.

### **Newman Association**

**Newman Tyneside Circle** invites you to come and hear **Sue Oxley** speak about **The Five Mothers of Bernadette Soubirous and her Neglected Life**. The meeting will be at Holy Name parish hall, Jesmond, Newcastle [*nb new venue*], on **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March**, at 7.30pm.



### Parish Retreat to Keswick

Thank you to everyone who made the Parish Retreat such a special time. It was a weekend filled with joy, laughter and time with Jesus.

The weather was beautiful and only highlighted the beautiful surroundings of the Lake District. We have booked Castlerigg



Manor for next year and the retreat will run from 28<sup>th</sup> February – 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2025.

If you would like to know more or are interested in being a part of the retreat, please contact Katie at 07807 935066 or [Katie-flood@live.co.uk](mailto:Katie-flood@live.co.uk)

(Please do not pay any deposits or make any payments yet - simply register your interest to be added to the list.)

### St. Leonard's new build

Ryder Architecture have shared some images that reflect the new design at St. Leonard's Catholic School. For those parents with children in primary school, you can see how your child will benefit from the new build [here](#).



**Top Left:** The entrance to the new building as seen from outside Springwell Hall.

**Top Right:** The view from North Road.



**Middle Left:** The view of the school from the current road entrance of Fieldhouse Lane.

**Middle Right:** The generously sized dining room, with views opening to the south and the outside area where pupils can gather.



**Bottom Left:** The view looking back into the school with the dining room directly ahead and the two wings of the school on either side.

**Bottom Right:** The view of the entrance to the new building from just outside Springwell Hall.

# Mass Intentions for the Week



3<sup>rd</sup> March 2024

	St Godric's	St Joseph's
Saturday 2 March		5.00pm Vigil Mass Peter Watts and a Special Intention (LS)
Sunday 3 March	9.00am Doreen Barret (SVP) 3.00-4.00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	10.30am Fr. Peter Smith and in remembrance of Anne Miller (Roundwood, Ireland)
Monday 4 March	NO MASS	9.15am Service of Word ad Holy Communion
Tuesday 5 March	9.30am - Exposition 10.00am Special Intention (BF) and Frank and Bernard McGoay	NO MASS
Wednesday 6 March	NO MASS	10.00am Requiem Mass of the late Margaret Mary Smith
Thursday 7 March	9.30am - Exposition 10.00am The Michiels and Condon Family and John Doyle Birthday Remembrance	NO MASS
Friday 8 March	NO MASS	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am Dave Simpson (SVP) and Maureen and Andy Griffiths
Saturday 9 March	NO MASS	5.00pm Vigil Mass Belle Blakey and Anthony Farmer
Sunday 10 March	9.00am Special Intention (Annie)	10.30am Fr. Colum Adamson

## St. Cuthbert's

Sun 3	Mon 4	Tue 5	Wed 6	Thurs 7	Fri 8	Sat 9	Sun 10
10.00am and 6.30pm	NO MASS	12.15pm	7.00pm	12.15pm	12.15pm	9.15am and 11.00am (Sung Latin Mass)	10.00am and 6.30pm

## Durham Martyrs Bereavement Support Group

Our Bereavement Support Group provides church services and home visits or phone calls to support our parishioners who have had a bereavement.

### Celebration of the Lives of Loved Ones

This Mass is held on a Saturday morning around Pentecost time and is an opportunity to reflect on the lives of loved ones and celebrate their lives with the laying of a flower in their memory.

We provide refreshments afterwards and the chance to chat with others.



### Memorial Sunday Mass of Remembrance

This Mass is held on a Sunday afternoon in November and is aimed at those parishioners who have lost a loved one in the past year. We invite you to light a candle in their name and share seasonal refreshments with us afterwards.

We also light a large candle for each of our three Mass centres to commemorate all those we have lost.



### Home visits or phone calls

We can also visit you at home or phone you for a supportive chat. We are guided by Fr Colm on the need for these visits and calls, or you can request a visit or a call by contacting the Parish Secretary

07483 369 561 or [secretary.stjandstg@btconnect.com](mailto:secretary.stjandstg@btconnect.com)

**A quote from Kathryn Mannix from her book *With the End in Mind: Dying, Death and Wisdom in an Age of Denial***

“Bereaved people, even those who have witnessed the apparently peaceful death of a loved one, often need to tell their story repeatedly, and that is an important part of transferring the experience they endured into a memory, instead of reliving it like a parallel reality every time they think about it.”