

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 – 9th March 2025 1st Sunday of Lent

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)

A marvellous Parish retreat was had by all at Keswick last weekend. In an atmosphere of stunning natural beauty, we celebrated times of prayer, sharing and relaxation. The retreat was excellently led by Katie Flood, who with great sensitivity engaged us all as we reflected on our journey through life as individuals, and as Parish. We didn't take ourselves too seriously though, as we enjoyed each other's company walking the local Lake, or rambling through Keswick and relaxing evenings. Thanks to everyone for your generosity of Spirit, and a special thanks to Katie, whose leadership skills increase year by year.

My gratitude to our Capuchin Brothers for allowing me the freedom to be a part of the retreat.

Our International Meal is this Sunday after the 10.30 Mass. Always a great occasion for sharing diversity, especially of a culinary nature. Thanks again to our feeders!

Don't forget what looks like a very exciting evening at St. Godric's next Tuesday. If you haven't got a ticket, you can pay at the door.

Our parish ceilidh is next Saturday the 15th. Tickets are available. It'll be a great parish event. Dispensation from all Lenten fasting, penitential exercise such as the wearing of hair shirts etc are given for this one occasion.

Stations of the Cross each Friday through Lent at 7.00pm alternating in both our churches beginning with St Godric's.

' "Have patience with all things, but first of all with yourself."

Francis de Sales

A quote from Pope Francis:

"The Way of the Cross alone defeats sin, evil and death, for it leads to the radiant light of Christ's resurrection and opens the horizons of a new and fuller life. It is the way of hope, the way of the future. Those who take up this way with generosity and faith give hope and a future to humanity."

Address at Via Crucis in Blonia Park, Krakow, Poland, July 30, 2016.

Don't forget Exposition on Sunday afternoons at 3 at St Godric's as a possible Lenten exercise.

Prayers – please keep in your prayers:



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

Anniversaries

Fr. Charles Crilley	William Charlton
Ken Riddle	Bill Harris
Helen Avery	Nellie Stoker
Jane Carter	Bernard Dooner



Forthcoming Funerals

The Funeral Service of the late Teresa Madge Raine, will take place on Tuesday, 18th March at Durham Crematorium at 1.00pm.

Children's Liturgy at St Joseph's will resume this Sunday 9th March.

Journey in Faith

The next meeting of Journey in Faith will take place at St. Joseph's on Thursday, 13th March 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.

Northern Cross

The March Edition of the Northern Cross is on sale. Price £1.50



There will be a parish coffee morning on **Monday 17th March**. It will be held in St. Bede's Room in St. Godric's School immediately after the 9.15 Service of the Word and Holy Communion.

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

Church cleaning at St. Godric's

The next Church cleaning session is this Tuesday 11th March after 10 o'clock Mass. All are welcome for even the smallest job. It has turned out to be a fun parish event!! Thank you to all.

Missio APF/Mill Hill collections for the month 2025 St. 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 15th March St. Joseph's School Hall, 7.00-10.00pm

Tickets available after Masses this weekend, 8th/9th March -
£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

Sunrise Services – St. Joseph's

Sunrise Services will take place at St. Joseph's on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7.30am throughout Lent.

Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross will take place each Friday evening throughout Lent, the first one being at St. Godric's this Friday (7th March) at 7.00pm.

Date	Church	Group
7 th March	St. Godric's	Ecumenical Stations
14 th March	St. Joseph's	Memory Café
21 st March	St. Godric's	Sanctuary 21
28 th March	St. Joseph's	SVP
4 th April	St. Godric's	Lunch Club
11 th April	St. Joseph's	Booked - Group TBC

Charity Lenten Lunches

Date	Group
7 th March	Justice and Peace
14 th March	Local Charities
21 st March	SVP
28 th March	
4 th April	Sanctuary 21
11 th April	Bereavement Support Group

Please contact Marjorie if you or your group would like to host the remaining slot.

Readers and Ministers

We need to start planning for Holy Week and Easter, so Fr. Colm has asked that you let Marjorie know of your availability as soon as you can. Thank you to those who have already replied.

Easter Services and Masses

Day	Date	Time	Church
Holy Thursday	17 th April	7.00pm	St. Godric's
Good Friday	18 th April	3.00pm	St. Joseph's
Holy Saturday	19 th April	7.00pm	St. Joseph's
Easter Sunday	20 th April	9.00am 10.30am	St. Godric's St. Joseph's

Celebration of the Mini Triduum – a celebration of the Mini Triduum for the sick and housebound has been organised for the Wednesday of Holy Week – 16th April This will take place at 2.00pm in St. Joseph's Church, followed by a 'Celebratory Tea' in the Jubilee Room provided by the SVP. More information to follow.

The Upper Room/Last Supper

Final reminder

Tuesday 11th March 7.00pm

St Godric's Church

£5 pay on door

Performance lasts 75 minutes

Durham Martyrs Walking Group – March 2025

Our next walk will be the Frankland Circular Walk on **Saturday 15th March** meeting at the Pennyferry Bridge in Durham at 10.30am.

The walk follows a figure of eight out to a series of attractive ponds and a nature reserve and is approximately 5 miles long. Please note that this walk may be muddy in places so boots are required.

Please note that this walk will be cancelled in the event of very adverse weather conditions so it is advisable to let Marjorie know if you plan to attend so that we can contact you in this event.



St. Leonards' Spring Concert

Tuesday, 1st April

7.00pm at Elvet Methodist Church

Tickets are available from: <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-leonards-catholic-school/spring-concert/2025-04-01/19:00/t-pqeoddg>

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 23rd – 30th May.

International Lunch - The first International Lunch of 2025 will be taking place this **Sunday 9th 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.



Nursery Open Morning

St. Godric's School will be holding a Nursery open morning at 10am on Wednesday 12th March. This is an opportunity to learn more about our Nursery provision, meet the staff and look around our new Nursery. Our Nursery is for 3/4year olds and our next in take is the Summer term, starting Monday 28th April. Come along to find out more.

CAFOD Lent Appeal – Family Fast Day – 14th March

Rachel Blaylock from CAFOD will be attending Masses on 8th & 9th March to talk about this year's CAFOD Lent appeal and how we can be a pilgrim of hope with CAFOD this Jubilee Year, ahead of Family Fast Day. You'll be supporting communities experiencing the impacts of war, poverty and climate change to find solutions and hope. You can use the CAFOD envelope in church, or you can donate online at cafod.org.uk/envelope. Thank you for your support.

Fast Day envelopes are available at both churches this weekend, for return next weekend.

St Cuthbert's Catholic Church Coffee Morning and Spring Craft Fair

Saturday 5th April 10.00am to 2.00pm in the Parish Room. Gifts, Greetings Card, Easter Decorations and much more. All proceeds to the Church Stonework Appeal.

Catholic Herald

The March edition is now on sale at both churches - £5 per copy.

Legion of Mary Meetings

There is a proposal to start the Legion of Mary praesidia meetings and Legion work in the parish.

Initially, there will be a series of informal meetings after the Sunday Masses – possibly two or three meetings. If there is enough interest, weekly meetings can then be arranged at an agreed venue, date and time. Examples of the nature of the work that members can participate in (list not exhaustive):

- Home to home visit to the sick and housebound
- Hospital visits
- Cleaning the church and surroundings
- Helping with Catechism
- Helping to ensure the elderly are brought to the Lunch Club
- Care of children at Mass
- And any other work deemed suitable by Fr. Colm

If anyone is interested, please contact Marjorie in the Parish Office,

Forthcoming Ushaw Events

Ecumenical Midday Prayer Service at Ushaw:

A new Ecumenical Prayer Service is now being held weekly at Ushaw. The service is at 12 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.

Lent Day of Reflection:

On Thursday 13th March, Ushaw will be holding a Lenten Day of Reflection, an opportunity to focus on the season of Lent and what it means for us.

The day will be based around prayerful reflection on the Jubilee theme of Pilgrims of Hope, as part of our Lenten journey, and will include reflections on the Stations of the Cross. The Day of Reflection starts at 10.30am, and will finish by 3pm. The cost is £10.00 per person, to include refreshments on arrival. Lunch can be purchased in Ushaw's Café.

You can book your place online at <https://ushaw.org/whatson/a-lenten-day-of-reflection/>, by telephone on 0191 373 8500, or at the Ushaw reception desk.

Vespers (Evening Prayer) at Ushaw:

On Sunday 16th March at 4pm, please join us for Sung Vespers in St. Cuthbert's Chapel at Ushaw. This is an opportunity to pray together the Evening Prayer of the Church. All are very welcome to join us for the service.

St. Cuthbert's Day at Ushaw:

On Thursday 20th March, the Feast of St. Cuthbert, Mass will be celebrated in St Cuthbert's Chapel at 12.30pm.

Cuthbert is the patron of our Diocese, and also the patron saint of Ushaw. 2025 is a Jubilee year, a year to celebrate everything that is good about our faith, and a year in which we particularly want to celebrate the life and legacy of our patron saint.

Everyone is very welcome to attend, and there is no need to book. For further details see <https://ushaw.org/whatson/st-cuthberts-day-2/>

From the Diocese

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 and be a part of this unforgettable experience. Hurry, spaces are filling fast!

Mass Intentions for the Week

9th March 2025

	St Godric's	St Joseph's
Saturday 8 March	NO MASS	5.00pm Vigil Mass Belle Blakey, and Hannah Mary Drane
Sunday 9 March	9.00am Sylvia Layfield 3.00pm-4.00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	10.30am Brian O'Connor, Chantal Rouchouse and a Special Intention
Monday 10 March	NO MASS	9.15am Service of Word and Holy Communion
Tuesday 11 March	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am Special Intention (MT) and Colin and Estelle Wild	NO MASS
Wednesday 12 March	NO MASS	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am - World Peace (with St. Thomas More Reception Children)
Thursday 13 March	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am Anita and Bill Nichols	NO MASS
Friday 14 March	NO MASS	9.30am - Exposition 10.00am Rosie Francesca Braithwaite
Saturday 15 March	NO MASS	5.00pm Vigil Mass John and Olive Doyle Anniversary, and in celebration of a 90 th Birthday.
Sunday 16 March	9.00am Victims of war, conflict and famine. 3.00-4.00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	10.30am Rose Carr Birthday Remembrance, Deceased Harrington, Lennon and March Families, and Victoria Garnham Anniversary

St. Cuthbert's

Sun 9	Mon 10	Tue 11	Wed 12	Thurs 13	Fri 14	Sat 15	Sun 16
10.00am and 6.30pm	No Mass	9.15am	7.00pm	12.15pm Service of Word and Holy Communion	12.15pm	12.15pm	10.00am and 6.30pm