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

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Parish Newsletter: 1st – 6th November
All Saints Day

Parish Priest Fr. Colm Hayden
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 the Chaplain if you have someone in hospital who would like a visit)
For bereavement support, please contact the Parish Secretary

The Beatitudes in Poetry

(Inspired by Matthew 5:3-12)

Blessed are the hearts that humbly cry,
For heaven's kingdom is drawing nigh.
They see their need, their souls laid bare,
And find God's mercy waiting there.

Blessed are the ones who grieve and weep,
For God shall comfort their souls to keep.
In sorrow's depth, His peace will flow,
A healing balm for hearts laid low.

Blessed are the gentle, patient, and kind,
For the earth's great treasures they shall find.
With quiet strength, they walk the land,
Led by the touch of the Father's hand.

Blessed are the souls that long and yearn,
For justice bright, for truth to burn.
Their hunger's pangs shall be satisfied,
In God's great love, their hope abides.

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Blessed are the hands that forgive and care,
For mercy given is mercy shared.
God's grace will meet them on heaven's shore,
And endless kindness will be their store.

Blessed are the hearts unclouded, clean,
For they shall gaze on the King unseen.
Through faith and love, their eyes will see,
The face of God in eternity.

Blessed are the ones who bring peace near,
Who calm the storm, who quench the fear.
For they are children of heaven's King,
Bearing the joy His presence brings.

Blessed are the bold who endure the fight,
For heaven is theirs, their crown of light.
Through trials fierce, their faith stands tall,
Proclaiming the Savior, who conquers all.

When insults come, when trials appear,
Rejoice in hope, for God is near.
Great is the treasure in heaven's place,
For those who stand in His saving grace.

In humble hearts, God's kingdom grows,
Through mercy, peace, and love, it shows.
The blessed find joy, through trial and strife,
For theirs is the promise of eternal life.

Feast Days

Monday, 2nd November	The Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed
Tuesday, 3rd November	St. Winifride V/St. Martin de Porres Rel
Wednesday, 4th November	St. Charles Borromeo
Saturday, 7th November	St. Willibrord Bp



Prayers – please keep in your prayers:

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

Anniversaries:

Annie Shaw	Mary Morland
Harry Graver	Brian Harland
John Ward Davison	Harriet Morris
Phil Casey	Marjorie Carey
James Noble	Mary Hill
Annie Whitehead	Bernard McGoay
Bill Hannigan	Betty Carroll
Philip Gibson	Joe Shaw



Forthcoming Funeral - **Yvonne Reid** - her Requiem Mass will be held at **St. Joseph's** on **Friday, 13th November, at 10.00am**. *Requiescat in pace*

Mass on Monday, 2nd November
Please note that All Souls Mass (Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed) will be celebrated at **St. Joseph's on Monday, 2nd November at 10.00am.**

Northern Cross – the November edition is now on sale in both churches. £2/copy.



The next parish coffee morning will take place on **Monday 9th November**. 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 Nagpur, India. Everyone is very welcome.

Reminder - 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.

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 - Resumes this Wednesday, 4th November.

Durham Martyrs Inclusive Church Group-Memory Café -Volunteers Required

Our Memory Café, for those effected by dementia, runs on the second Tuesday of every month (1-3pm) in the Jubilee Room at St Joseph's.

During the Café as well as enjoying cake and refreshments, we do craft activities, games and have sing -a-longs and even dancing in a friendly and relaxed environment.

We need more volunteers to help with providing refreshments as well as assisting with craft activities and games. If you can spare a couple of hours, once a month, we would be delighted to have your support.

If you have any queries or would first just like to come along and see what happens, please contact
Graham Donachie 07867503946

Durham Churches Together Monthly Vigil for People and Planet

Durham Churches Together Committee invites everyone to join us in a Vigil for People and Planet. This will be held at **11 am each 3rd Monday morning in the Parish Room at St Cuthbert's Catholic Church, Old Elvet,** by kind permission of Fr. Andrew Downie.

We are responding in hope to wide-spread concerns about the increasing consequences of climate change across the world, including in the UK, and to fears of escalating war. The first vigil, on 16th November, will seek God's blessing on Climate Change COP 31.

Go through the gate to the front of the church, then follow the path round the side of the church to the door to the Parish Room. The 30 minute silent vigil will commence with a short prayer and end with saying the Grace together. We hope that you will stay for conversation and a cup of tea/coffee. Please bring an early packed lunch if it fits your arrangements. For more information please contact Charles Jolly, DCT Chair: charles.jolly13@btinternet.com

SPUC – New Branch in Durham

Are you concerned about the increasing threats to our sisters and brothers at the beginning and end of life, the inexorable rise in abortion access and the recent decriminalisation of abortion up to birth by the UK Parliament.

If so, you are invited to attend the inaugural meeting of a new Durham branch of the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children at **St. Cuthberts RC Church**, Old Elvet, Durham, DH1 3HL **at 6:30pm** on **Monday 2nd November 2026**. Please do come along to help support pregnant mothers, be a voice for the voiceless and to help make abortion unthinkable.

Ushaw Remembrance Service with Sung Vespers

To mark Remembrance Sunday, a special Remembrance Service with Sung Vespers will be held in **St. Cuthbert's Chapel on Sunday 8th November at 4pm**. Everyone is invited to attend, as with prayer and music we pay our respects to those who lost their lives in the two World Wars of the 20th century, and in all conflicts since.

We gather to lay wreaths at Ushaw's War Memorial Chapel, before processing through to St. Cuthbert's Chapel for Vespers. We will be joined for the service by the Hexham & Newcastle Diocesan choir. All are welcome.

CAFOD WORLD GIFTS

This Christmas share the joy of Christmas with a CAFOD World Gift from safe water to school meals! A meaningful way to bless loved ones whilst putting your faith into action in solidarity with families around the world.

Last year, **Water for a family** and **The goat that gives** were amongst our most popular gifts. In Peru, World Gift helped communities campaign for safer and fairer access to water. In Zimbabwe, goats helped Mufudzi support his family and are now helping him share opportunities with others in his community.

Collect a catalogue from the back of church, or call 0300 777 0030.

Mass Intentions for the Week

25th October 2026

	St Godric's	St Joseph's
Saturday 31 October	NO MASS	5.00pm Vigil Mass In thanksgkiving for Prayers answered
Sunday 1 November	9.00am Stephen Coyne 70th Birthday Remembrance, and Frank and Bernard McGoay 3.00-4.00pm – Exposition	10.30am Brian Harland 2nd Anniversary, Ken Herbert Birthday Remembrance, and Joyce Pearson Birthday Remembrance
Monday 2 November	NO MASS	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am All Souls Mass
Tuesday 3 November	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am Colin and Estelle Wild	NO MASS
Wednesday 4 November	NO MASS	9.30am - Exposition 10.00am Lily and Luke Dodds, and The Taylor Family
Thursday 5 November	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am Fr. David Condon and the Holy Souls in Purgatory	NO MASS
Friday 6 November	NO MASS	9.30am - Exposition 10.00am The sick of the parish
Saturday 7 November	NO MASS	5.00pm Vigil Mass In thanksgiving (SF/AF), and Michael Brennan RIP
Sunday 8 November	9.00am Vince McPartlin Birthday Remembrance, and the McGinley Family 3.00-4.00pm – Exposition	10.30am Annie Whitehead Anniversary, the Deceased Binks and Thompson Families, and Julie Miller Illness

St. Cuthbert's

Sun 1	Mon 2	Tue 3	Wed 4	Thurs 5	Fri 6	Sat 7	Sun 8
10.00am and 6.30pm	9.15am	12.15pm	7.00pm	12.15pm	12.15pm	11.00am Mass for Deceased Members of the Catenian Association	10.00am and 6.30pm