



## Parish Newsletter 18<sup>th</sup> January 2025 – 25<sup>th</sup> January 2026 A DAY OF SPECIAL PRAYER FOR PEACE

**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

(Please telephone Fr. Paul if you have someone in hospital)

### Peace is...

Peace is the resulting action on an agreement to end a war.

Peace is the mutual laying down of weapons.

Peace is the worldwide cessation of armament production.

Peace is the reconciliation between adversaries.

Peace is the change of hearts and minds of people who wage war.

Peace is the smile of the refugee housed following exile from home.

Peace is the satisfaction in the face of a hungry child just fed.

Peace is the return to boyhood of a child soldier.

Peace is the respect for women and their equal rights as human beings.

Peace is the just, merciful and compassionate use of power by the powerful.

Peace is the empowerment of disadvantaged and marginalised people.

Peace is the healing arrived at through truth and reconciliation commissions.

Peace is the mutual respect of people of all faiths and none.

Help us, Lord, to continue to strive for peace in all of its forms.

Amen.

*Trevor Stockton/CAFOD*

## Feast Days

Monday, 19 <sup>th</sup> January	St. Wulstan Bp
Tuesday, 20 <sup>th</sup> January	St. Fabian P, M/St. Sebastian M
Wednesday, 21 <sup>st</sup> January	St. Agnes V, M
Thursday, 22 <sup>nd</sup> January	St. Vincent Deacon, M
Saturday, 24 <sup>th</sup> January	St. Francis de Sales Bp, D

## Prayers – please keep in your prayers:



Kitty Trainor	Emma Turnbull
Mary Armstrong	Ann Close
Sheila Owens	Rose Simpson
John Barrett	Veronica O'Reilly
Nigel Anthony Cunningham	Marek Earnshaw
Mary Wright	John Doyle
Mary Dennis	

## Anniversaries:

Alan McNamee	Colin Armstrong
Robert Hann	Mary Murphy
Patricia Finn	Teresa Harrison
Bede Murray	Lena Ambuster
Arthur Binks	Joyce Pearson
Joe Lyons	Joyce Hadfield



## Forthcoming Funerals

Margaret Nancarrow's Funeral Service will take place at St. Joseph's on Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> January at 1.00pm followed by burial in Shadforth.

The Requiem Mass of Dorothy Coggins will take place on Friday, 30<sup>th</sup> January in St. Josephs at 12.00pm, followed by cremation.

**Baptism** – we welcome into our parish community Amelie Elizabeth Peyton Ward, who will receive the Sacrament of Baptism this Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> January, after the 9.00am Mass at St. Godric's.



## Laudato Si' Group

7.30pm , this **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> January** in the Franciscan Friary. Every month we meet to discuss how we as a parish can better care for Creation, our common home. New members welcome.

**Journey in Faith** – will resume this **Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> January at 7.00pm**. The topic will be Catholic Social Teaching, All welcome.



## Lenten Charity Soup Lunches

Ash Wednesday falls on **18<sup>th</sup> February**, and I have already had one request for Lenten Soup Lunches. Dates will be: 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> February, and 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, and 27<sup>th</sup> March.

The slot on 20<sup>th</sup> February has been taken by the SVP. Please let me know if you or your group would like to book a slot.

**A note from the Justice and Peace Group** - There will be a **Holy Hour** with some prayers and readings for Peace, on **Peace Sunday, this Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> January**, 3-4 pm at St Godric's



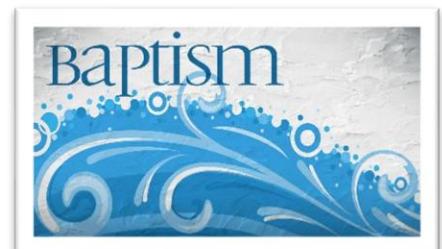
There will be a coffee morning on **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> January** in St. Bede's Room in St. Godric's School. It will take place immediately after the 9.15 Service of the Word and Holy Communion.

All proceeds are for Women in Need in India.

Everyone is very welcome.

## Baptism Programme

The Spring Baptism Programme will take place on **Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> March** at St. Joseph's from 6.00-9.00pm. Please contact the Parish Secretary for more information in the first instance.



## Northern Cross Celebrates 70 years

The January edition of the Northern Cross contains a copy of the first edition of the Diocesan newspaper dated January 1956. Our parish just gets a mention of the death of Canon Pippett who was Parish Priest of St. Godric's from 1937-1955 and is buried in St. Bede's Cemetery.

Copies on sale - price £1.50.



St Godric's Catholic Primary School  
<https://stgodricsdurham.bwet.com/>

Mass this Sunday for another First Holy communion and blessing preparation Mass. We were delighted to have a number of parents join with the Parish for Wednesday's Eucharistic Service.

Y4 will be joining the Parish next Wednesday at 9AM in St. Bede's Room. Parents/carers of Year 4 are very welcome to attend.

A busy week for year 4 as on Friday they are looking forward to visiting Segedunum and taking part in some workshops.



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School  
<https://stjosephsgilesgate.bwet.com/>

## Parish School News

A warm welcome to Year 4 children at 9am St. Godric's

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Y4 will be joining the Parish next Wednesday at 9AM in St. Bede's Room. Parents/carers of Year 4 are very welcome to attend.

A busy week for year 4 as on Friday they are looking forward to visiting Segedunum and taking part in some workshops.

On Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January, the children in Year 3 and 4 will be attending Mass in church

at 10am. All families and friends are welcome to attend.

Also on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January at 2.30pm in the school hall, the Mini Vinnies would like to invite friends and families to their 'Brew Day' event.

The Mini Vinnies are excited to share the plans they have been working on to help and support the local community and explain what the role of being a Mini Vinnie means to them. We really hope you can come along for a brew and a biscuit.

**Congratulations and well done! St. Joseph's is listed in the Ofsted Top Ten Primary Schools in County Durham**

The latest Department for Education (DfE) data has revealed the top 10 primary schools in County Durham, based on the percentage of pupils meeting the expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics.

The results reflect academic performance in the 2024–2025 school year, released as Ofsted continues to roll out major reforms to the school inspection framework.



St Leonard's Catholic Secondary School  
<https://stleonardsdurham.bwcet.com/>

**CLEAR OUT FOR A CAUSE –  
DONATE TO THE NORTH EAST  
AIR AMBULANCE!**

**TURN YOUR JANUARY  
CLEAR-OUT INTO  
LIFESAVING SUPPORT!**



**WHAT CAN YOU DONATE?**  
Clothes, shoes, books,  
household items, and more.

**WHY DONATE?**  
Your unwanted items  
can help fund the North  
East Air Ambulance,  
providing critical care  
when it's needed most.

**WHERE TO DROP OFF?**  
OLOH office or  
St Leonard's site office

**WHEN?**  
Throughout January – make  
your clear-out count!

**EVERY ITEM HELPS SAVE LIVES. Friday 26th January**  
**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**



We're looking forward to seeing everyone at our first session of 2026 on **Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> January after the 5pm Mass**. This time we're planning to have a campfire! Details will be confirmed as soon as possible. To allow us plan the session and to send you the details, could those planning to attend please send an email to [durhammartyrsparishyouthgroup@gmail.com](mailto:durhammartyrsparishyouthgroup@gmail.com)

**International lunch:** Looking forward to seeing everyone at our next international lunch planned for **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> February, after the 10:30 Mass at St Joseph's**. Let's celebrate together the richness our diverse community brings to our Parish.

## **Gift Aid**

I have recently received the annual Gift Aid statements from the Diocese and I am aiming to deliver them over the next few weeks. If you need your statement earlier please let me know and I will get it to you as soon as possible.

You can email me at [EstherRobson@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:EstherRobson@diocesehn.org.uk) or call me on my mobile 07969 528874.

## **Safety Alert - St. Godric's Church – Upcoming Maintenance Work**

### **St Godric's church upcoming maintenance work safety alert**

- **On Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> and Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January** the path along the north side of the church to and from the car park will be closed whilst scaffolding is being erected.

- The scaffolding will remain in place until scheduled dismantling on **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February**. On those two days the footpath will again be closed until the work is completed.
- **After Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January and before Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February** access along the path underneath scaffolding boards will be permitted even when investigative work is being carried out on the roof above, but please take extra care if using the path during that period for Tuesday and Thursday services.
- Car park users on any of the four days when the path is closed can access the church either by the rear door if keyholders or via the cobbled Back Tenter Terrace and the main door, but bear in mind that contractor vehicles may also be in the car park on those days and throughout the whole period of works so space may be limited.
- Access to the church via the main access path and the main door will be available as normal throughout the whole period, though it may be necessary at times during the working week for a contractor vehicle to be parked on the approach path.
- It is anticipated that the majority of attendees, particularly on the three Sundays, should not be inconvenienced but all are advised to take extra care.

### SVP Sudan Appeal

For a number of years we have appealed for your support in relieving the suffering of mothers and babies in a war torn country. Through the generosity of people like you, 700 children are fed nutritious meals each week at feeding stations. 2800 adults have been trained on our vocational training schemes over the past 5 years. In addition, 13000 people have received medical treatments provided by our medical centres a year.



St Vincent  
de Paul Society  
England and Wales  
Turning Concern into Action

If you would like to contribute to this worthy cause please make out a cheque payable to 'SVP Twinning' - put it in an envelope, with your name on the front, and give it to Chris Brennan or any other SVP member. To make a donation directly to the SVP please click the following link: <https://fundraising.svp.org.uk/page/134642/donate/1>

### 200 CLUB – RENEWAL OF SUBSCRIPTIONS

The subscriptions for January 2026 - December 2026 are now due, before the January draw. The annual cost is still £12 per number and cheques should be made payable to SVP 200 Club.

Could members please put subscriptions, cash or cheque, in an envelope with your name and address and place them in the box at the back of church. Thank you.

*All profits from this enterprise go to the SVP food bank in Newcastle so members not only have the opportunity of winning a prize in the monthly draw but, more importantly, will be helping to provide emergency food parcels for needy families and hot meals for the hundreds of homeless people who visit St Vincent's each week.*

Can I take this opportunity on behalf of The Tyne Central Council President and his Board, to thank you all for your past and hopefully future support for this very worthwhile cause. Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas, God Bless. Janet.



## TYNE CENTRAL COUNCIL 200 CLUB Results – January 2026

1 <sup>st</sup> (£50)	No. 134
SVP Conference	St. Joseph's, Sunderland
Mary Broadly	All Saints, Lanchester
2 <sup>nd</sup> (£25)	No. 173
P. Lake	Our Lady of Lourdes, Wallsend
Tom Collins	St. Joseph's, Birtley

Thank you for your continued support.

### Lourdes Pilgrimage – Youth Section Reminder

A reminder that bookings for the Youth Section of the Lourdes Pilgrimage will close on **31<sup>st</sup> January**. If you, or you know any young people in your parish that are interested in joining us, please get in touch as soon as possible to secure a place.

For more information or to register interest, please email: [evie.rea@ymt.org](mailto:evie.rea@ymt.org)

### Forthcoming Events at Ushaw

**Sung Vespers (Evening Prayer):** You are invited to join us for Vespers in St. Cuthbert's Chapel at 4pm **this Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> January**. Please note that this is not a concert performance, but an opportunity to pray together the Evening Prayer of the Church. All are welcome to join us for the service, and no ticket is required.

**Chapter & Verse** is Ushaw's new book group which welcomes all readers who are interested in reading and discussing books about faith and religion. The group meets monthly to read a mix of fiction and non-fiction with a religious theme or connection. The next meeting of the book group is on **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January** at 1.30pm.

**Christian Unity:** On **Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> January** at **2.30pm** there will be a **Service for Christian Unity** in St. Cuthbert's Chapel, Ushaw. The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is traditionally observed from the **18<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> January** – the octave before the Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul. The service is open to all. Please invite your friends from other Christian churches, so that together we can pray for unity.

### Wine Tasting at Ushaw:

Friends of Ushaw are holding a fundraising wine tasting evening at Ushaw Historic House, on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2026 at 7pm.

Tickets are £28pp for members of the Friends, £38pp standard ticket. Booking is via <https://ushaw.org/whatson/wine-tasting/>

Contact - email [meet@ushaw.org](mailto:meet@ushaw.org) , tel. Ushaw 0191 373 8500 .



18<sup>th</sup> January 2026

	St Godric's	St Joseph's
Saturday 17 January	NO MASS	5.00pm Vigil Mass Bede Murray Anniversary and Joanne Fryer
Sunday 18 January	9.00am Deceased Priests of the Diocese 3.00-4.00pm – Exposition	10.30am Arthur Binks Anniversary and Annie Whitehead
Monday 19 January	NO MASS	9.15am Service of Word and Holy Communion
Tuesday 20 January	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am Mary Cusack Anniversary	NO MASS
Wednesday 21 January	NO MASS	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am – Margaret Nancarrow St. Joseph's Yrs. 3 and 4 attending  1.00pm – Funeral Service of the late Margaret Nancarrow
Thursday 22 January	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am Peter & Catherine McLoughlin	NO MASS
Friday 23 January	NO MASS	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am Bob Collinson Birthday Remembrance
Saturday 24 January	NO MASS	5.00pm Vigil Mass Margaret Graham and Olga Kenna
Sunday 25 January	9.00am The sick of the Parish 3.00-4.00 – Exposition	10.30am Cassie Childs and David Elliot Birthday Remembrance

St. Cuthbert's

Sun 18	Mon 19	Tue 20	Wed 21	Thurs 22	Fri 23	Sat 24	Sun 25
10.00am and 6.30pm	NO MASS	9.15am	7.00pm	9.15am	12.15pm	9.15pm	10.00am and 6.30pm