

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 – 31st May 2026 THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

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

Humanity, created by God in all its grandeur, is today facing a pivotal choice: either to construct a new Tower of Babel or to build the city in which God and humanity dwell together. Each generation inherits the task of shaping its own era, of guiding history to become a place where the dignity of every person is safeguarded, justice is promoted and fraternity is made possible. Yet every era also runs the risk of creating an inhumane and more unjust world. Whenever humanity is in danger of marring its true identity, we Christians lift our eyes to the Incarnate God, knowing that it is “only in the mystery of the Word made flesh that the mystery of humanity truly becomes clear.” [1] In Jesus Christ, this humanity in its grandeur becomes the Way, the Truth and the Life, opening the path for each of us to grow toward fullness.

Founded on Christ, the living stone, we experience the powerful and mysterious action of the Holy Spirit, and we believe that every authentic human effort to cooperate with him for the good will be blessed by our heavenly Father, in whom we place our hope. For this reason, we can diligently contribute to every initiative that builds a more just world, and we can call others to collaborate in promoting the integral development of every human being. We wish to engage in dialogue with all men and women of our time, with whom we share in the events, questions and aspirations of humanity. [2] Together with them, we seek to identify new paths for the common good and for promoting a dignified life for all. Indeed, openness to dialogue is an integral part of the Church’s vocation because, constituted in Christ as “a sacrament... of communion with God and of the unity of the entire human race,” [3] she recognizes history as the place where the Gospel challenges and directs human experience.

An excerpt from the Introduction to Pope Leo’s Encyclical Letter ‘Magnifica Humanitas’

Feast Days

Monday, 1 st June	St. Justin M
Tuesday 2 nd June	Ss. Marcellinus and Peter MM
Wednesday, 3 rd June	Ss. Charles Lwanga and Companions MM
Friday, 5 th June	St. Boniface Bp, M
Saturday, 6 th June	St. Norbert Bp

Prayers – please keep in your prayers:



Mary Armstrong	Rose Simpson
Nigel Anthony Cunningham	Maureen Milsom
Josephine Lyons	Robin Humphrey
Tom Kimmit	Shirley Harrison
Mary Crilley	Marion Ridley
Sigrud Peyerimhoff	Sheila Wressell
Syd Inglis	

Anniversaries:



Marie Bradley	Vera Hannigan
Ronald Glaister	Sheila Patterson
Kristian Henranati	Simon Bewley
Michael Carter	Billy Malyan
Margaret Thompson	Helen Tumilty
Raymond Balmer	Anne Hearne
June Hann	

Forthcoming Funerals

The late Mary Ross whose Funeral Service will take place at **St. Joseph's** on **Tuesday, 2nd June** at 10.45am followed by burial in South Road Cemetery at 12.00pm.

The late Mary Carney whose Requiem Mass will take place at **St. Joseph's** on **Thursday, 4th June** at 10.45am followed by burial in Belmont Cemetery.

Requiescant in pace



Congratulations to Meghan McCarthy and Rory Woods who will celebrate their wedding at St. Godric's this **Saturday 30th May at 12.00pm**

We welcome into our parish community Lilian Tiplady-Smith, who will receive the Sacrament of Baptism after the 10.30am Mass at St. Joseph's this Sunday, **31st May**.



Lunch Club – please note that Lunch Club resumes this **Wednesday 3rd June**.



Youth Group - Saturday 30th May, 6pm. We look forward to welcoming the Gospel Choir to our session this weekend.

Children's Liturgy – There will not be Children's Liturgy at St. Joseph's this Sunday, **31st May**.

The next **International Lunch** will be taking place in the Jubilee room, St. Joseph's after **10:30 Mass on 7th June**. We would love you to join us for this happy celebration of the rich diversity of nationalities in our parish. If you are able to, please bring a traditional dish from your part of the world.

Holy Mother, The Church - women's faith group - will meet again on **Thursday 11th June** in the Jubilee Room at 7.30pm and on **25th June** in the Don Bosco Room at 7.30pm.

Ushaw - On Sunday 7th June, Ushaw will be hosting a Eucharistic Procession with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, starting at 3pm in St. Cuthbert's Chapel. Weather permitting, the procession will go through Ushaw's beautiful gardens, returning to the Chapel for Benediction.

The Corpus Christi procession in honour of the Blessed Sacrament is one of the highlights of the year at Ushaw. Everyone is invited to be a part of this important and enjoyable event. There is no charge for this event, but please sign up below to help Ushaw to estimate numbers. [Register here](#)

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Godric's has been cancelled on 7th June.

CAFOD - TACKLE THE GLOBAL DEBT CRISIS PETITION - Low-income countries are being pushed into a deepening debt crisis, forced to pay ever higher interest rates to wealthy lenders. Money that should be spent on healthcare and education is flowing out of countries that can least afford it.

Next year, the UK will chair the G20. This petition calls upon the government to use the UK's G20 presidency to bring governments together to fix the broken global debt system and guarantee fast, fair and effective debt relief for countries in crisis.

Petition forms are available to sign in both St. Godric's and St. Joseph's this weekend.



Summer Concert

Saturday 4th July, 7pm a Summer Concert at St Godric's, given by the St. Godric's Choir. See poster in the porch at the back of both churches

Durham Churches Together

Please note that the Annual General Meeting will take place at 7.30 pm Tuesday 23rd June 2026 at St Oswald's Institute.

St. Godric's Choir

The St. Godric's Choir is looking to recruit new members, especially female voices. Come and join our small friendly choir, with minimal commitment. We rehearse, briefly, before and after Mass each Sunday, with occasional longer rehearsals in the lead up to Easter, Christmas and concerts. Speak to any choir member if you would like to find out more. Thank you.

Volunteer Drivers

If you drive a vehicle to carry out church-related duties, you should check the level of cover provided by your insurance company and tell them that you are volunteering. In the vast majority of cases your insurance company will not charge an additional insurance premium for your volunteering work and will simply make a note on your policy. They may provide cover under your SDP policy or they could choose to add personal business cover. If they suggest that a payment is required, this may be waived if you tell them how little you drive for the church compared to your other activities.

Please complete the annual declaration (Form F8) downloadable via this link: <https://diocesehn.org.uk/services/health-safety/health-safety-manual/>

Submit the form to your parish health and safety representative johnwells2911@gmail.com or to the parish secretary. You do not need to provide documentation. Examples of church-related journeys include:

- those who use cars to take communion to the housebound
- driving to the bank with collection monies
- being part of a rota to collect members of (for example) a lunch club
- an organised or semi-organised arrangement where parishioners with cars pick up other parishioners to bring them to Mass.

Parish School News



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

On Wednesday 3rd June, Year 3 and 4 will be attending Mass in church at 10am. All families and friends are welcome to attend.

On Friday 5th June, the Mini Vinnies will be hosting our Frosty Fridays during morning breaktime. They will be selling ice cold treats to raise money for local charities.



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

We are looking forward to celebrating our First Holy Communion at the end of next week — **Saturday 6th**

June at 10 am.

We are so grateful to those who have kindly offered to be prayer sponsors; the children and the school truly appreciate your prayers.



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

Year 5 pupils will be taking part in a series of three sessions as part of a mini police project, delivered by

Durham Constabulary. Meanwhile, Years 5 and 6 will be embarking on an action-packed and memorable visit to London, including a tour of the Houses of Parliament.

We are also delighted to celebrate our Year 4 and Year 5 children who will be making their First Holy Communion on **Saturday 13th June** in **St. Joseph's Church** at 10.00am — an important and special milestone in their faith journey.

Our youngest pupils in Nursery and Reception will enjoy a lovely trip to Hall Hill Farm, which always proves to be a wonderful experience.

Year 6 pupils will also begin a range of transition activities as they prepare for the next step in their education and the move to secondary school. It promises to be another busy and rewarding half term at St Thomas More.

Ushaw Talk: Thomas Aquinas and the Corpus Christi Liturgies on Thursday 4th June at 6.30pm. As Ushaw prepares to host this year's Procession with the Blessed Sacrament, and on the traditional date for the Solemnity of Corpus Christi, Andy Doyle of Lay Dominicans North East will guide us through the 800 year history and the personalities involved in the feast. In particular, we will be brought into conversation with St Thomas Aquinas, the great 13th century Dominican philosopher, theologian and poet.

You can book for the talk on Ushaw's website, where the talk is listed under the heading "The Conversation Room", the name for a programme of inspiring talks at Ushaw.

There is no set cost for the event: pay as you wish.

Mass Intentions for the Week

31st May 2026

	St Godric's	St Joseph's
Saturday 30 May	NO MASS	5.00pm Vigil Mass Belle Blakey
Sunday 31 May HOLY TRINITY	9.00am Michael Scánlon (Illness) 3.00-4.00pm – Exposition	10.30am Fr. Colum Adamson and Brian O'Connor
Monday 1 June	NO MASS	9.15am Service of Word and Holy Communion
Tuesday 2 June	9.00am – Exposition 10.00am The sick of the Parish	10.45am Funeral Service of the late Mary Ross
Wednesday 3 June	NO MASS	9.30am - Exposition 10.00am -St.Joseph's School Yrs. 3 & 4 attending Dorothy and James Sweeney
Thursday 4 June	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am - Service of Word and Holy Communion	11.00am Requiem Mass of the late Mary Carney
Friday 5 June	11.00am Marriage Service of Lucia Vizcarra and Kevan Clark	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am Repose of the Soul of Angela Williams
Saturday 6 June	10.00am First Holy Communion Celebration	5.00pm Vigil Mass Margaret White
Sunday 7 June CORPUS CHRISTI	9.00am Deceased members of the Abraham and Alexander Families	10.30am Fr. Peter Smith

St. Cuthbert's

Sun 31	Mon 01 June	Tue 2	Wed 3	Thurs 4	Fri 5	Sat 6	Sun 7
10.00am and 6.30pm	NO MASS	NO MASS	7.00pm	12.15pm	12.15pm	9.15am	10.00am and 6.30pm