

***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*

## Parish Newsletter – 9<sup>th</sup> February 2025 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year

**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)

As you know, we have a new translation for the Sunday and weekday readings.

New Mass books may be a necessity. They don't come cheap (£5 each approximately, three volumes for the churches liturgical cycle). Donations, sponsorships more than welcome.

More involvement of young people in our Sunday Masses are being planned. Essential. Confirmation group is great. Thanks to Sarah and Ciaran for their great leadership.

Journey in Faith goes very well too. Great input followed by excellent discussion.

Thanks to our schools and catechists for last Sunday's Mass for those receiving First Communion in the Summer. Indispensable link between schools and parish obvious, but we can't take for granted anymore.

## Feast Days

Monday, 10 February	St. Scholastica
Tuesday, 11 February	Our Lady of Lourdes
Friday, 14 February	Ss. Cyril, Monk & Methodius Bp – Patrons of Europe

Prayers – please keep in your prayers:



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

## Anniversaries

Matt Hirst	Stephen Coyne
Patrick Killian	John Hirst
John Power	Noel Reid
Betty Armour	Joseph Correa
George Sutton	John Carroll
David Scott	Hannah Mary Drane
Sharon Henderson	Brian Bowes
Margaret Mary Smith	Lawrence Holmshaw



**Sympathy** – we extend our sympathy to the family and friends of the late Robert Hann, whose funeral will take place at Durham Crematorium on Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> February at 12.00pm.

... and also to the family and friends of the late John McDonough, whose Requiem Mass will take place at St. Joseph's on Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> February, at 10.00am followed by cremation in Durham at 11.30am.

There will be a parish coffee morning on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February 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.



## Journey in Faith

The next meeting of the Journey in Faith will take place at St. Joseph's on Thursday, 13<sup>th</sup> February, at 2.30pm.

## Laudato Si' - Care of Creation

The next meeting of the Laudato Si' group will be at 7.30pm on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March, in St. Francis Friary.



## Confirmation 2025 – Change of Date

Please note the change of date for our Confirmation Ceremony. It will now take place on **Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> June at 6.30pm** in St. Joseph's.

Bishop Stephen will be the chief celebrant.

## St Godric's Cleaning Day

The next cleaning time for St. Godric's church will be on 11<sup>th</sup> February after 10am Mass (2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month). We have noticed that there is some chewing gum which has been dropped onto the carpet and which is extremely hard to clear. Could we please ask that no chewing gum is brought into church.

All are welcome and even the smallest task is very helpful. Thanks to Maria's prayer group who took over and gave us a break in January.

## Mornings of Reflection for Ministers of the Eucharist and Readers

The session for Readers will take place on **Saturday, 15<sup>th</sup> February**, at 10.00am in the Jubilee Room at St. Joseph's



**Save the Date – Parish St. Patrick's Ceilidh**  
**Saturday evening, 15<sup>th</sup> March in St Joseph's School.**  
More information to follow.

## Parish Council

Please note that the next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Tuesday, 25<sup>th</sup> February, at 7.00pm in the Don Bosco Room at St. Joseph's. If anyone has an item they would like to be discussed, please email Marjorie **before 17<sup>th</sup> February**.

## Volunteer Drivers

Please check your insurance to ensure they are covered should an accident occur when undertaking church-related journeys. Many motor insurance policies include such cover, or can be upgraded without cost, but some do not.

The Diocese ask volunteer drivers to sign an annual volunteer driver's form to confirm they have suitable motor insurance for church-related activities.. Those who have signed the form previously are asked to renew their declaration. However, if you are a new volunteer driver please contact the Parish Secretary who will arrange for a form to be provided. Alternatively the form may be downloaded from the parish website, completed and then returned to the parish secretary. Examples of church activities include:

- those who use cars to take communion to the housebound
- driving to the bank with collection monies,
- being part of a rota If in doubt, you are strongly advised, for your own sake, to contact your insurance company as there can be grey areas. Many thanks

**Save the Date (i)**

**THE UPPER ROOM-THE LAST SUPPER**

**St. Godric's Church 7.00pm Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

Christian Stejskal narrates the chapters 13-7 from the Gospel of John. Storyteller, photographer and violin player Christian Stejskal has walked in the footsteps of Jesus Christ and photographed the cultural landscape in Israel and Egypt in search of biblical visual symbols and metaphors, illustrating the “Upper Room” – the Passover meal Jesus celebrated with His 12 disciples before going to the Cross.



Experience the faithful memorisation of the Gospel of John (chapters 13-17) whilst listening to original solo violin pieces and viewing black-and-white photographs from the Middle East on a screen. The performance will last 75 minutes and tickets are £5. Contact Joe Hughes: [joe.hughes2017@hotmail.com](mailto:joe.hughes2017@hotmail.com) Tickets will be available from next weekend, 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> February. See poster at the back of church.



**Save the Date (ii)**

**The spring Parish Baptism Programme date is :**

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April, 6pm - 9 pm, St Joseph's Church / Jubilee Room**

This programme is for parents and those wishing to attend will be very welcome to gain understanding of the signs, symbols and importance of the Sacrament of Baptism and the Catholic Rite of Baptism. Please contact Mrs Marjorie Towers, Parish Secretary in the first instance for further information.

## Flowers at St. Joseph's

We are looking for new team members for the Flower Team at St. Joseph's. If you have experience of flower arranging and could spare some time every couple of months, we would be delighted to meet you.



Please contact Marjorie in the first instance with your contact details.

## Durham Martyrs Walking Group – February 25



Our next walk will be Shincliffe Bridge Circular Walk on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> February, meeting at St Joseph's car park and setting off at 10am.

We will walk from the church down to Old Durham and along well surfaced pathways and riverside footpaths to Shincliffe Bridge with potential for a refreshment stop at Poplar Tree Café in Shincliffe Village or the Rosetree then

returning via Maiden Castle along the opposite side of the river then Gilesgate bank back to the start.

Estimated distance 5-6miles. Please note that this walk will be cancelled in the event of very icy conditions so it is advisable to let Marjorie know if you plan to attend so that we can contact you in this event.



February Edition now on sale - £1.50

## From the Diocese

**A Liturgical Day of Reflection for Liturgical Leaders for Celebrations of the Word and Holy Communion**

**Date: Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

**Times: 10.30am-3.00pm** - arrivals, registration and refreshments from 10.00am

**Location: St Hilda's Diocesan Resource Centre, West Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE15 7PY.**

**Cost: £15.00 per person**

**Catering:** Please bring a packed lunch, tea and coffee will be provided.

This Day of Reflection may be self-funded or funded by your parish. You can indicate your payment preference on the online booking form. An invoice will be sent to the payee following the event. Payments can be made by bank transfer or cheque.

**Booking Deadline: Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2025.** **Booking:** please book your place by accessing the online form at [bit.ly/LiturgyCoursesAndEvents](https://bit.ly/LiturgyCoursesAndEvents) or via the parish office sign-up sheet. Marjorie can make your booking on the parish office sheet. For further information please email: [adminfaith.mission@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:adminfaith.mission@diocesehn.org.uk).

**The Diocesan Church Music Association** would like to make you aware of a workshop they are running that may be of interest to anyone who reads or sings the Psalms.

### **Sing the Psalm in the new translation**

The Diocesan Church Music Association invite you to a workshop focussing on using the Abbey psalms at Mass. It will be held on Saturday 1st March, 2-4pm at St Michael's Houghton-le-Spring. There is no charge for the workshop.

The workshop will be led by Steven Maxson, Director of Music for Middlesbrough Diocese and is open to all who are interested. It will be of particular relevance to those involved in music for the liturgy in our parishes and schools, whether you currently sing the psalm or not.

For further details and booking please go to [https://bit.ly/DCMA\\_Psalms](https://bit.ly/DCMA_Psalms) or email [DCMA@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:DCMA@diocesehn.org.uk)

### **Catholic Herald**

The February edition of the Catholic Herald Magazine is on sale at the back of church. Price £5.

### **Youth2000 Leeds Retreat**

**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> February from 9am-10.30pm**

Held at Leeds Trinity University, Brownberrie Lane, Leeds, LS18 5HD

Registration is essential, using the following Link

<https://youth2000.churchsuite.com/events/td7cjfox>

### **Durham Churches Together**

**World Day of Prayer – Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March, 1.30pm Carville Methodist Church**

All are welcome to come and share in this global ecumenical service written by the women of the Cook Islands and to join us for refreshments in the hall after the service. See poster.

### **Could you be a Charity Trustee?**

**St. Margaret's Centre** in Durham City is a registered charity and has been successfully empowering people with mental health issues to regain confidence and learn new skills to improve their lives since 1991.

Due to impending retirements from the Trustee Board we are looking for new trustees with a passion for supporting mental wellbeing, ideally with some experience of mental health services but this is not essential.

If you think you would be interested in this voluntary role then please see the notice at the back of each church for more information.

# Mass Intentions for the Week

9<sup>th</sup> February 2025

	St Godric's	St Joseph's
Saturday 8 February	NO MASS	5.00pm Vigil Mass Bernard Robson
Sunday 9 February	9.00am Patrick Frobisher 3.00pm-4.00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	10.30am Brian O'Connor, and John Power and Betty Larmour
Monday 10 February	NO MASS	9.15am Service of Word and Holy Communion
Tuesday 11 February	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am Mary Ellen and Joseph Ward	NO MASS
Wednesday 12 February	NO MASS	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am The sick of the Parish
Thursday 13 February	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am Special Intention (MT)	NO MASS
Friday 14 February	NO MASS	9.30am - Exposition 10.00am Ann Gibbon (SVP)
Saturday 15 February	NO MASS	5.00pm Vigil Mass Deceased members of the Hennessy Family and Jim & Mary Bygroves
Sunday 16 February	9.00am Deceased Priests of the Diocese 3.00-4.00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	10.30am Norman Wright, deceased members of the Conway & Barrett Families, and Maureen Coulthard Birthday Remembrance

## 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	12.15pm	6.30pm (Chaplaincy Mass in Durham Cathedral)	12.15pm	12.15pm	12.15pm	10.00am and 6.30pm