

The Parish of the Durham Martyrs
*Incorporating the Churches of Our Lady of Mercy
& St. Godric, St. Joseph and St. Bede*

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Sunday, 29th October 2023 – 30th Sunday of the Year Parish Newsletter

Parish Priest Fr. Colm Hayden

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Office hours: Tuesday-Friday, 8.30am-4.00pm

Hospital Chaplain Fr. Paul Tully-01388 818 544/0191 3332183

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

A number of you commented on Fr. John O'Brien's encouraging words at my 40th Anniversary of Ordination celebration. John has agreed to follow up on that occasion by speaking to the Parish next Thursday, 2nd November at 7.00pm in the Jubilee Room. Do join us.

We have our International Meal this coming Sunday after the 11.00am Mass.

Well done to our Lunch Club Team, who have been nominated for a local Community Award.

I am planning refresher sessions for Readers and Ministers of the Eucharist. Please do come when dates are sorted. Saturday mornings seem best. If you have better suggestions for times, do let me know.

Dates for the next Journey in Faith sessions will also be published soon, but in the meantime, should you wish to become a full member of the Faith, or wish to enrich it, you are very welcome.

Continued over/....

**Three Poems from Palestine by Najwan Darwish
Translated by Kareem James Abu-Zeid**

I Write the Land

I want to write the land,
I want the words
to be the land itself.
But I'm just a statue the Romans carved
and the Arabs forgot.
Colonizers stole my severed hand
and stuck it in a museum.
No matter. I still want to write it –
the land.
My words are everywhere
and silence is my story.

The Shelling Ended

No one will know you tomorrow.
The shelling ended
only to start again within you.
The buildings fell, the horizon burned,
only for flames to rage inside you,
flames that will devour even stone.

The murdered are sunk in sleep,
but sleep will never find you –
awake forever,
awake until they crumble, these massive rocks
said to be the tears of retired gods.

Forgiveness has ended,
and mercy is bleeding outside of time.
No one knows you now,
and no one will know you tomorrow.
You, like the trees,
were planted in place while the shells were falling.

Barely Breathing

Sorrow pours from the rooms
while I, like a ghost, enter your abandoned homes,
holding my end in my hand,
sleeping and waking with my ruin.
It's dispiriting to become acquainted
with my own desolation,
to keep step with it to this extent.
They weigh on me – these abandoned houses,
this desertion that fills your homes.
I enter their hollowed hearts, and can barely breathe . . .

Neither Arabs nor Persians nor Byzantines can feel me now.
Didn't I ever have a history?
And how did I lose them along the way –
poems that were the world unfurling, in a moment?
And how were you lost, all of you?
You took my share of loss
and left abandonment behind,
a planet with no ribs –
you left it for me, you left it
to burden me.

If I said I was leaving
there would still be no one here
but abandonment,
with its hoarse voice that's swallowing my own.

Translations from the Arabic.

Feast Days

Monday, 30 th October	The Martyrs of Douai College
Wednesday, 1 st November	All Saints' Day
Thursday, 2 nd November	The Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed
Friday, 3 rd November	St. Winefride V/St. Martin de Porres Rel
Saturday, 4 th November	St. Charles Borromeo Bp

Prayers – please keep in your prayers:



Meg Dixon	Yvonne Reid
Joe Watson	Jared Howarth
Sheila Owen	Francesca Camilerni
Ken Riddle	Nicola Dawson
Breda Gallagher	Ian Hamilton
Marjorie Carey	Brian Harland
Tom Oliver	

Anniversaries

Pat Hodgson	Dennis Cummings
Austin Dobbie	Annie Shaw
Harry Graver	John Ward Davison
Mary Morland	



Holy Day of Obligation

Wednesday, 1st November is the Feast of All Saints, and Masses will be held in St. Joseph's at 10.00am and in St. Godric's at 7.00pm.

Presentation by Fr. John O'Brien, Spiritan

There will be a presentation entitled 'Best of Times/Worst of Times' on **Thursday, 2nd November**, in the Jubilee Room at St. Joseph's at 7.00pm. All welcome.



International Lunch

This Sunday 29th October we'll be having our second International Lunch of 2023. You are all welcome to attend it at St. Joseph's after the 11 am Mass.

Feel free to bring some food to share and be ready to enjoy it with our lovely parish community. For more information feel free to join the WhatsApp group <https://chat.whatsapp.com/CQvZ7yZUI8N2BaSggdft7W>

Found – if you lost some money in St. Joseph's Car Park on Sunday morning last week, please contact Marjorie.



Maureen, Cynthia and the family of beloved Thomas Coulthard would like to thank our parish family for all the cards and prayers that were offered.

To Fr. Colm for a beautiful service. Thanks Fr. Words can't express how grateful we all are.

To Marjorie for her help and support. To Joanna and Vasanti for reading with such heart.

To the stewards, Audrey, Bridget for checking all was in place and to Paul, Matt and Evanna for the music.

We have a fantastic family community, and we are so grateful to be part of it.

Note from Cafod - Fix the Food System – Seeds for All

70,000 parishioners from 762 parishes supported this petition calling on the World Bank to protect farmers' rights to freely access their traditional seeds. This fundamental right has increasingly come under threat from restrictive seed laws pushed by the World Bank. The petition was presented by Cafod to the World Bank's annual meeting in Morocco where it was delivered directly into the hands of the Director of Global Food Practice.

The outcome is that the World Bank has agreed to meet with Cafod representatives in both London and Morocco to look at the issue. This is an important step forward and Cafod wishes to pass on their thanks to all who have supported this campaign.



'A Winter's Night'

Saturday, 9th December at 7.30pm in St. Godric's Church

The Durham Singers will be giving a pre-Christmas concert entitled 'A Winter's Night – the Birth of Christ'.

There will also be audience carols, so come to listen, to experience this beautiful church, and sing along with us! More information to follow in the coming weeks.

The Durham Singers

From the Centre for Catholic Studies

Webinar with Timothy Radcliffe OP and Myriam Wijlens on the Synod

- November 3, 2023

As the Church marks the much-anticipated [General Assembly of the Synod on Synodality](#), you may be wondering what is currently happening with this process and where the Catholic Church may be headed next.

Join us for an insightful conversation with Dr. Myriam Wijlens and Fr. Timothy Radcliffe, OP, both appointed by Pope Francis to central roles at the Synod on Synodality, moderated by Dr. Kristin Colberg. Only a few days after the close of the October Assembly, be among the first to hear what they experienced during the meetings and their immediate insights.

Our hope is that this webinar will be an informative opportunity to reflect upon where the Church will go from here. This promises to be an exciting conversation that you won't want to miss!

[REGISTER](#)

All registered attendees will receive an exclusive sitewide discount on their next purchase at litpress.org.



Don't forget to put your clocks back one hour at 2.00am this Sunday morning.

Change of Mass Time – St. Joseph's

Please note that the 10.00am Friday morning Mass at St. Joseph's scheduled for Friday 3rd November has now been moved to the earlier time of 9.00am

Mass Intentions for the Week

29th October 2023

	St Godric's	St Joseph's
Saturday 28 October		5.00pm Vigil Mass Martin Ince RIP and Bill Ince Birthday Remembrance
Sunday 29 October	9.00am Susan Michiels Birthday Remembrance 3.00-4.00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	11.00am The Baird Family and Austin Dobbie Anniversary
Monday 30 October	NO MASS	9.15am Service of Word and Holy Communion
Tuesday 31 October	9.30am - Exposition 10.00am Colin and Estelle Wild	NO MASS
Wednesday 1 November	7.00pm ALL SAINTS MASS	9.30am - Exposition 10.00am ALL SAINTS MASS
Thursday 2 November	9.30am - Exposition 10.00am Stephen Coyne Birthday Remembrance	NO MASS
Friday 3 November	NO MASS	9.00am Ken Herbert Birthday Remembrance
Saturday 4 November	NO MASS	5.00pm Vigil Mass Philip Gibson Anniversary
Sunday 5 November	9.00am In thanksgiving for Monica O'Connor's recovery	11.00am Annie Whitehead and Bill Hannigan

St. Cuthbert's

Sun 29	Mon 30	Tue 31	Wed 1 Nov	Thurs 2	Fri 3	Sat 4	Sun 5
10.00am and 6.30pm	NO MASS	12.15pm	7.00pm	12.15pm	12.15pm	9.15am	10.00am and 6.30pm