

**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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Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2024  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the Year  
Parish Newsletter

**Parish Priest** Fr. Colm Hayden  
**Parish Secretary:** Mrs. M, D. Towers  
**Office hours:** Tuesday-Friday, 8.30am-4.00pm  
**Hospital Chaplain** Fr. Paul Tully-01388 818544/01913332183

Mass time changes: I'm not on Facebook but gather some feel disappointed at 'lack of consultation' regarding changes to the Mass times on Sunday at St. Joseph's. I'm happy to facilitate a meeting to listen to any opinions or suggestions. I will be available in the Jubilee Room immediately after the 11.00am Mass this Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup> January, to listen to any opinions, suggestions etc., on Mass times, or indeed to any comments you might have on any of our services, be it baptism, marriages, confessions etc. Please feel free to join me – you will be more than welcome. Thanks.

Our week of prayer for Christian Unity is now upon us, and your continued prayers are asked. In a time when witness is so important, perhaps a model witness is the excellent work at an ecumenical level is being done at Sanctuary 21 by the combined efforts of the Salvation Army and members of our parish. May they continue to be blessed in alleviating the growing plight of homelessness.

“On the journey of ecclesial communion, and in the dialogue with other Churches and Christian communities, something that has always made me think I what Patriarch Athenagoras said, somewhat light-heartedly, to Paul VI: let us put the theologians on an island and we will journey together. Certainly, theologians are necessary: they need to study, to speak, to discuss; but in the meantime, let us carry on, praying together and with works of charity. For me, this is the path that does not disappoint,” Pope Francis.

Journey in Faith – we realise that a different approach is needed and to this end we are going to re-appraise the format for the Autumn.

*The Hill We Climb*

*Amanda Gorman*

When day comes we ask ourselves,  
where can we find light in this never-ending shade?  
The loss we carry,  
a sea we must wade  
We've braved the belly of the beast  
We've learned that quiet isn't always peace  
And the norms and notions  
of what just is  
Isn't always just-ice  
And yet the dawn is ours  
before we knew it  
Somehow we do it  
Somehow we've weathered and witnessed  
a nation that isn't broken  
but simply unfinished  
We the successors of a country and a time  
Where a skinny Black girl  
descended from slaves and raised by a single mother  
can dream of becoming president  
only to find herself reciting for one  
And yes we are far from polished  
far from pristine  
but that doesn't mean we are  
striving to form a union that is perfect  
We are striving to forge a union with purpose  
To compose a country committed to all cultures, colors, characters and  
conditions of man  
And so we lift our gazes not to what stands between us  
but what stands before us  
We close the divide because we know, to put our future first,  
we must first put our differences aside  
We lay down our arms  
so we can reach out our arms  
to one another  
We seek harm to none and harmony for all  
Let the globe, if nothing else, say this is true:  
That even as we grieved, we grew  
That even as we hurt, we hoped  
That even as we tired, we tried  
That we'll forever be tied together, victorious  
Not because we will never again know defeat  
but because we will never again sow division  
Scripture tells us to envision  
that everyone shall sit under their own vine and fig tree  
And no one shall make them afraid  
If we're to live up to our own time

Then victory won't lie in the blade  
But in all the bridges we've made  
That is the promised glade  
The hill we climb  
If only we dare  
It's because being American is more than a pride we inherit,  
it's the past we step into  
and how we repair it  
We've seen a force that would shatter our nation  
rather than share it  
Would destroy our country if it meant delaying democracy  
And this effort very nearly succeeded  
But while democracy can be periodically delayed  
it can never be permanently defeated  
In this truth  
in this faith we trust  
For while we have our eyes on the future  
history has its eyes on us  
This is the era of just redemption  
We feared at its inception  
We did not feel prepared to be the heirs  
of such a terrifying hour  
but within it we found the power  
to author a new chapter  
To offer hope and laughter to ourselves  
So while once we asked,  
how could we possibly prevail over catastrophe?  
Now we assert  
How could catastrophe possibly prevail over us?  
We will not march back to what was  
but move to what shall be  
A country that is bruised but whole,  
benevolent but bold,  
fierce and free  
We will not be turned around  
or interrupted by intimidation  
because we know our inaction and inertia  
will be the inheritance of the next generation  
Our blunders become their burdens  
But one thing is certain:  
If we merge mercy with might,  
and might with right,  
then love becomes our legacy  
and change our children's birthright  
So let us leave behind a country  
better than the one we were left with  
Every breath from my bronze-pounded chest,  
we will raise this wounded world into a wondrous one  
We will rise from the gold-limbed hills of the west,

we will rise from the windswept northeast  
 where our forefathers first realized revolution  
 We will rise from the lake-rimmed cities of the midwestern states,  
 we will rise from the sunbaked south  
 We will rebuild, reconcile and recover  
 and every known nook of our nation and  
 every corner called our country,  
 our people diverse and beautiful will emerge,  
 battered and beautiful  
 When day comes we step out of the shade,  
 aflame and unafraid  
 The new dawn blooms as we free it  
 For there is always light,  
 if only we're brave enough to see it  
 If only we're brave enough to be it.

## Feast Days

Monday, 22 <sup>nd</sup> January	St. Vincent
Wednesday, 24 <sup>th</sup> January	St. Francis de Sales Bp, D
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> January	The Conversion of St. Paul, Apostle
Friday, 26 <sup>th</sup> January	Ss. Timothy and Titus Bps
Saturday, 27 <sup>th</sup> January	St. Angela Merici V

Prayers – please keep in your prayers:



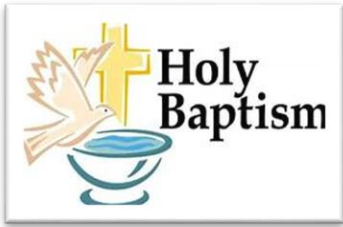
Meg Dixon	Yvonne Reid
Sheila Owen	Jared Howarth
Ken Riddle	Francesca Camilerni
Breda Gallagher	Nicola Dawson
Sean Casey	Ian Hamilton
Brian Harland	Betty Eccles
Halusia Good	Helen Tumelty

## Anniversaries

Arthur Binks	Joe Lyons
Joyce Hadfield	Harry Eccles
Esther Newcombe	Fiona Hunter
Bede Murray	



**Sympathy** – we extend our sympathy to the family and friends of the late Joe Watson. His Funeral Service will take place at St. Joseph's on **Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> February** at 10.15am followed by cremation in Durham.



We welcome into our parish community, Mason You-An McCaffery, who will receive the Sacrament of Baptism after the 11.00am Mass at St. Joseph's this Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup> January.

There will be a coffee morning on **Monday 29th January** in St Bede's Room in St Godric's School. It will take place straight after the 9.15 Service of the Word and Holy Communion.



All proceeds are for Women in Need in India. Everyone is very welcome.



### Durham Martyrs Walking Group – 27<sup>th</sup> January

Our next walk will be the 4 to 5 mile stretch of the Lanchester Railway Path that had to postpone in November. This is a relatively short and gentle walk and has the advantage of being on flat well surfaced footpaths. There will be an opportunity to visit Knitsley Farm Shop and/or have lunch at Knitsley Mill afterwards.

Parking is available on the road opposite the Farm Shop entrance where walkers should meet at 10am. (Postcode for the shop is DH8 9EW)

Please let Marjorie know if you intend to join the walk so we know who to expect. Gillian Macarthur has kindly agreed to lead this walk. Thank you, Gillian.



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

## TYNE CENTRAL COUNCIL – 200 CLUB RESULTS – January 2024

<b>1<sup>st</sup> (£50)</b>	<b>No. 124</b>
<b>V. Robson</b>	<b>Our Lady of Lourdes, Wallsend</b>
<b>John Stewart</b>	<b>St. Joseph's, Birtley</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> (£25)</b>	<b>No. 5</b>
<b>Frances Armstrong</b>	<b>Parish of the Durham Martyrs</b>
<b>E. Hickey</b>	<b>St. Edwards, Whitley Bay</b>

Thank you for your continued support.

## Finchale Partnership Synod Meeting: Formation

We're planning a series of meetings to talk about some of the issues raised in the summary document from the Synod Assembly in Rome last October. The first meeting will be next **Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup> January at 2.30pm**, at St. Cuthbert's, Old Elvet, Durham, and the subject will be 'Formation'. Please come along and share your ideas on the following questions:

Many people have said that they have not had the chance to learn more about their faith since they left school. The Synod Assembly suggested more formation in subjects from Vatican 2 to the church's teaching on social issues and relationships. But what should be our priority locally? And how should we go about this formation?

## Ecumenical Service at Ushaw for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Today, Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January, an ecumenical service will be held in the chapels at Ushaw, in which we come together for prayer, scripture readings and hymns, responding to Jesus' own prayer that we may all be one. All are very welcome to attend, and we look forward to celebrating together our common Christian faith. The service starts at 3pm and will be followed by refreshments in the parlour.

No ticket is required for this event.

To celebrate the **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**, Durham Churches Together invite you to a free "Prayer Lunch" in St Nic's Church in Durham Market Place tomorrow, 22<sup>nd</sup> January at 12.30-1.30pm,

It's a simple lunch of bread and cheese with a short talk and prayers. Details from Matt Pallister on 07929-796599.

**Newman Tyneside Circle** invites you to come and hear about **Root & Branch** - an exciting new forum for reform, working for 'a safe, just and inclusive Roman Catholic Church'.

The meeting will be at Holy Name parish hall, Jesmond, Newcastle [*nb new venue*], on Thursday, 25 January at 7.30pm. For more information about Root & Branch, see [www.rootandbranchsynod.org](http://www.rootandbranchsynod.org).

Please note :  
The Wednesday morning Mass  
scheduled at St. Joseph's on 24<sup>th</sup> January  
has been replaced with a Service of Word and Holy Communion  
and  
the Friday morning Mass on 26<sup>th</sup> January  
has been moved to the earlier time of 9.00am

# Mass Intentions for the Week



21<sup>st</sup> January 2024

	St Godric's	St Joseph's
Saturday 20 January		5.00pm Vigil Mass Greer Parker and Peter and Catherine McLoughlin
Sunday 21 January	9.00am World Peace 3.00-4.00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	11.00am Arthur Binks and David Elliot Birthday Remembrance
Monday 22 January	NO MASS	9.15am Service of Word and Holy Communion
Tuesday 23 January	9.30am - Exposition 10.00am Birthday Remembrances – Bob Collinson & Margaret Murray	NO MASS
Wednesday 24 January	NO MASS	10.00am Service of Word and Holy Communion
Thursday 25 January	9.30am - Exposition 10.00am Susannah Michiels	NO MASS
Friday 26 January	NO MASS	9.00am Fiona Hunter
Saturday 27 January	NO MASS	5.00pm Vigil Mass Thomas and Audrey Loughlin Gerald and Mary Lennon and Mary Cusack
Sunday 28 January	9.00am The sick of the parish	11.00am Cassie Childs Birthday Remembrance

## St. Cuthbert's

Sun 21	Mon 22	Tue 23	Wed 24	Thurs 25	Fri 26	Sat 27	Sun 28
10.00am and 6.30pm	NO MASS	12.15pm	7.00pm	NO MASS	12.15pm	12.15pm	10.00am and 6.30pm