

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 Newsletter
20th July – 3rd August 2025
16th Sunday of the Year

Priest: Fr. Colm Hayden

Parish Secretary: Marjorie Towers 07483 369 561

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

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

Holidays await our tired teachers.

One looks back with appreciation to the brilliant teachers, but with gratitude to those who touched our human feelings. The curriculum is so much necessary raw material, but warmth is the vital element for the growing plant and for the soul of the child. *Carl Jung*

A special good luck and big thank you to Matthew Grehan-Bradley on his retirement (Matt, let's hope St Leonard's loss will be this parish's gain- tickets now available for the parish choir concert in September). Our best wishes to Sharon Daley as she leaves St Joseph's for new pastures. Thanks to both Matthew and Sharon for their many years of service to the education of our children.

How disappointing to hear that Climate Change and Renewable Energy is not going to be a priority with our new Durham Council especially as the prediction is that the unusually dry weather we are experiencing of late will be a more common feature in the future.

“One can see from space how the human race has changed the Earth. Nearly all of the available land has been cleared of forest and is now used for agriculture or urban development. The polar icecaps are shrinking and the desert areas are increasing. At night, the Earth is no longer dark, but large areas are lit up. All of this is evidence that human exploitation of the planet is reaching a critical limit. But human demands and expectations are ever-increasing. We cannot continue to pollute the atmosphere, poison the ocean and exhaust the land. There isn't any more available.” *Stephen Hawking, Physicist & Author*

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“We need to strengthen the conviction that we are one single human family.”

Pope Francis.

ENCYCLICAL LETTER LAUDATO SI' ON CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME

The Summer break means most church activities will take a breather. Our marvellous groups of helpers also need a breather. Thanks to everyone for their continued support and we look forward to a return to action in September with our Parish Pilgrimage to Holy Island.

“Leave me alone with God
As much as may be.
As the tide draws the waters
Close in upon the shore,
Make me an island, set apart.
Alone with you, Oh God,
Holy to You.

Then, with the turning of the tide,
Prepare me to carry your presence
To the busy world beyond.
The world that rushes in on me.
Til the waters come again,
And take me back to You.
St. Aidan of Lindisfarne.

A Chorus, by Elizabeth Jennings

Over the surging tides and the mountain kingdoms,
Over the pastoral valleys and the meadows,
Over the cities with their factory darkness,
Over the lands where peace is still a power,
Over all these and all this planet carries
A power broods, invisible monarch, a stranger
To some, but by many trusted. Man's a believer
Until corrupted. This huge trusted power
Is spirit. He moves in the muscle of the world,
In continual creation. He burns the tides, he shines
From the matchless skies. He is the day's surrender.
Recognize him in the eye of the angry tiger,
In the sign of a child stepping at last into sleep,
In whatever touches, graces and confesses,
In hopes fulfilled or forgotten, in promises

Kept, in the resignation of old men -
This spirit, this power, this holder together of space
Is about, is aware, is working in your breathing.
But most he is the need that shows in hunger
And in the tears shed in the lonely fastness.
And in sorrow after anger.

Feast Days

Monday, 21 July	St. Lawrence of Brindisi P, D
Tuesday, 22 July	St. Mary Magdalene
Wednesday, 23 July	St. Bridget of Sweden, Rel., Patron of Europe
Thursday, 24 July	The Martyrs of the Diocese
Friday, 25 July	St. James, Apostle
Saturday, 26 July	Ss. Joachim & Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Tuesday, 29 July	Ss. Martha, Mary and Lazarus
Wednesday, 30 July	St. Peter Chrysologus Bp, D
Thursday, 31 July	St. Ignatius of Loyola P
Friday, 1 August	St. Alphonsus Mary Liguori Bp, D
Saturday, 2 August	Ss Eusebius of Vercelli P/St. Peter Julian Eymard Bp
Monday, 4 August	St. John Vianney P
Tuesday, 5 August	Dedication of St. Mary Major Basilica
Wednesday, 6 August	The Transfiguration of the Lord
Thursday, 7 August	St. Sixtus II Pp, and Companions MM/St. Cajetan P
Friday, 8 August	St. Dominic P

Prayers – please keep in your prayers:



Kitty Trainor	Ann Close
Ann Childs	Syd Inglis
Mary Armstrong	Liz Murray
Sheila Owens	Margaret Graham
Margaret Nancarrow	Veronica O'Reilly
Freda March	Marek Earnshaw
Danny McCann	

Anniversaries (19th July – 8th August)

Mary Patterson	Mary Lyons
Jack Makepeace	Moiria Birney
John Newcombe	John Turnbull
Olga Oliver	Peter Francis Keelin
Catherine McLoughlin	Eve Sutherland
Anthony & Monica Malyan	Terrie Riddle
Yolanda Cammiss	Paul Harrison
Grace Vallance	Freda Balmer
Gillian Kenny	Ian George Henderson
Gareth Hughes	Bernadette Nolan
Doris Metcalfe	Carol Wheatley
Yvonne Jenkins	Doris Heseltine
Fr. Jim Saunders	



Sympathy – we extend our sympathy to the family and friends of Elizabeth (Betty) Clark who died recently. Requiescat in pace.

Forthcoming Funerals

Tuesday, 29th July – the Funeral Service of the late Lawrie Heslop, 2.00pm at St. Joseph's.

Wednesday, 6th August – the Requiem Mass of the late Vera Finn, 10.00am at St. Joseph's. She will be received into church on Tuesday, 5th August at 3.00pm.



The parish office will be closed from Wednesday 23 July at 12.30pm until Tuesday, 5th August at 8.30am. The next parish bulletin will be over the weekend of 9th/10th August.

Congratulations to Alicia Burrows and Owen Hall who celebrate their marriage at St. Joseph's this Saturday, 19th July at 1.00pm.



Eucharistic Services St Bede's Chapel - Eucharistic Services will be held on Monday July 21st and Wednesday July 23rd at 9:15. There will be **no further services until August 25th & 27th.**

St. Bede's Cemetery

Many may not be aware that there is a Cemetery in Redhill's Lane dedicated to Catholic burials. It was opened in 1867 and the last burial which was in a family plot was in 1996. The cemetery is sadly overgrown and although efforts were made prior to lockdown to clear the growth from the headstones it has since deteriorated.

There is a list of burials held in the County Archives along with other information regarding the cemetery. Recently a list of headstones and their inscriptions was found in St Bede's presbytery it contains a number of familiar Durham names and priests and people from the surrounding parishes.

This along with other information regarding the cemetery can be found on <https://www.durhammartyrs.co.uk/st-bede-s-cemetery> If you wish to search for a particular grave it is suggested you take a pair of secateurs with you and clear some of the growth around the headstone.

Diocesan Job Vacancy

The Education Department at St. Cuthbert's House are looking for an Education Operations Manager to support the Director and Deputy Director of Education in current and future educational needs through the development, engagement, and preserving of our Catholic education. The successful candidate will be the interface to ensure our Education Department is proficient and productive and that resources are allocated effectively to enable us to support the delivery of a high-quality Catholic education.

If you are interested in finding out more, please email annie.leaver@diocesehn.org.uk for an Applicant Pack.

Thank you from St. Joseph's School

As part of our Jubilee Year Pledge, every Friday the children sold ice lollies in school to raise money for charities chosen by our Mini Vinnies. This pledge involves a long-term commitment to living out Catholic Social Teaching and building a fairer world for everyone. The children understand that by making the Jubilee Pledge, our school community has been encouraged to be agents of change and contribute to building a more just and fairer world.

The children have raised over £200 and some of the charities which have received donations from our school are The Cheesy Waffles Project, St. Cuthberts Care and Choose Love. We would like to say a huge thank you to the parishioners who have made donations to support our fundraising efforts.

News from St. Godric's School

Thank you!

As we come to the end of another academic year, we just want to take this opportunity to thank all our parishioners for their continuous support across the year including helping us celebrate St. Godric's day Mass and in your role as parish sponsors for our Year 4 children. We are truly blessed to have such a wonderful school and parish relationship, and we look forward to this continuing next year.

St. Godric's School Open Days

If you or anyone you know, has a child due to start school or Nursery, we will be holding two open mornings for anyone who would like to come along and see our lovely school and Nursery. The first is **Saturday 20th September 10-11am** and the second is **Wednesday 1st October 10-11am**. Please save the date and spread the word!

Journey in Faith - Our Journey in Faith Programme will begin again in the Autumn, from 7.00-8.30pm on Thursday evenings. All are welcome. Please contact Marjorie in the parish office if you are interested.

Diocesan Vision Discussions: During 2024, Bishop Stephen invited us to pray and discern how the Holy Spirit is inviting us to grow in mission in our parishes and communities. He asked that we have discussions locally about a draft Diocesan vision. The Diocesan Vision includes 4 commitments, and there will be a discussion about the third of those commitments '*Forming and Developing People for Mission*' at St. Cuthbert's, Old Elvet on **Sunday 27th July at 2.00pm**. We would love to hear from as many people as possible, and people from across the Partnership are very welcome, so please do come along.

Cancel the Debt Petition (CAFOD)

In this Jubilee year CAFOD has invited parishes to join the global Church petition calling on world leaders to cancel the debt of those countries hit hardest by poverty and the climate crisis.

Many thanks to the 195 parishioners who signed the paper version of this petition and to the others who have signed on-line. The global financial system pushes poor countries into borrowing money at extortionate rates.



PARISH PILGRIMAGE

Lindisfarne

Saturday 13 September 2025

Itinerary

8.40am Leave St Joseph's Church, Gilesgate
(Option to make your own way to the island)

10.45am Arrive Beal

Pilgrimage walk across the causeway- 3 miles, on wet sand (Optional)

1pm Picnic lunch in the shadow of Lindisfarne Castle (Optional)

Opportunity to explore the island across the afternoon

3pm Mass at St Aidan's Church (Optional)

4pm Coach leaves island

4.40pm Arrive at Seahouses (Option to purchase fish and chips/tea)

6pm Leave Seahouses

7.30pm Coach arrives at St Joseph's Church, Gilesgate

Coach cost: **£10 per adult, £5 per child**

To book a place on the bus, please put cash in an envelope,
clearly marked with your name and required number of seats,
and post through the parish office door, St Joseph's Presbytery.
All payments must be made by Friday 29 August.



Pilgrims of hope

A fundraising candlelit concert

St Godric's Choir

Saturday 6th September

7pm

St Godric's Church

Durham

DH1 4RD



Tickets £10, U19 £5, both including wine, available via the QR code

Mass Intentions for the Week

20th July 2025

	St Godric's	St Joseph's
Saturday 19 July	NO MASS	1.00pm Marriage Service of Alicia Burrows and Owen Hall 5.00pm Vigil Mass David Elliot Anniversary, Moira Birney, and Charles Harrison
Sunday 20 July	9.00am Deceased priests of the Diocese	10.30am Mary Murphy
Monday 21 July	NO MASS OR PRIVATE PRAYER	9.15am Service of Word and Holy Communion
Tuesday 22 July	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am Ethel Condon	NO MASS
Wednesday 23 July	NO MASS	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am Special Intention (RJS)
Thursday 24 July	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am The sick of the parish	NO MASS
Friday 25 July	NO MASS	9.30am 10.00am Peace in the world
Saturday 26 July		5.00pm Vigil Mass Pauline Inglis, Belle Blakey and Kevin Royal Birthday Remembrance
Sunday 27 July	9.00am In thanksgiving for all the parish groups 3.00-4.00pm - Exposition	10.30am Victims of War and Conflict

St. Cuthbert's

Sun 20	Mon 21	Tue 22	Wed 23	Thurs 24	Fri 25	Sat 26	Sun 27
10.00am and 6.30pm	No Mass	6.30pm	7.00pm	12.15pm	10.00am Requiem Mass of the late Jennifer Morgan	9.15am 12.00pm Wedding Service Rebecca McIntyre and Benjamin Jones	10.00am and 6.30pm

Mass Intentions for the Week



27th July 2025

	St Godric's	St Joseph's
Sunday 27 July	9.00am In thanksgiving for all the parish groups 3.00-4.00pm - Exposition	10.30am Victims of War and Conflict
Monday 28 July	NO MASS	9.15am Service of Word and Holy Communion
Tuesday 29 July	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am Peter and Catherine McLoughlin	2.00pm Funeral Service of the late Lawrie Heslop
Wednesday 30 July	NO MASS	9.30am - Exposition 10.00am Holy Souls
Thursday 31 July	9.30am- Exposition 10.00am World Peace	NO MASS
Friday 1 August	NO MASS	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am Vocations to the Priesthood
Saturday 2 August	NO MASS	5.00pm Vigil Mass Paul Harrison
Sunday 3 August	9.00am Susannah and George Michiels 3.00-4.00pm - Exposition	10.30am Claire Aylett Birthday Remembrance

St. Cuthbert's

Sun 27	Mon 28	Tue 29	Wed 30	Thurs 31	Fri 1 Aug	Sat 2	Sun 3
10.00am and 6.30pm	No Mass	12.15pm	7.00pm	12.15pm	12.15pm	9.15am	10.00am and 6.30pm

Mass Intentions for the Week

3rd–8th August 2025

	St Godric's	St Joseph's
Sunday 3 August	9.00am Susannah and George Michiels 3.0-4.00pm – Exposition	10.30am Claire Aylett Birthday Remembrance
Monday 4 August	NO MASS	NO MASS
Tuesday 5 August	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am Colin and Estelle Wild	3.00pm Reception of the late Vera Finn
Wednesday 6 August	NO MASS	9.30am - Exposition 10.00am Requiem Mass of the late Vera Finn
Thursday 7 August	9.30am- Exposition 10.00am Victims of War and Conflict	NO MASS
Friday 8 August	NO MASS	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am Doris Heseltine Anniversary, Bill Hannigan 100th Birthday Remembrance, and Sheila Collinson Birthday Remembrance
Saturday 9 August	NO MASS	5.00pm Vigil Mass William Birney and Ernest Layton Birthday Remembrance
Sunday 10 August	9.00am Deceased Priests of the Parish	10.30am Deceased members of the Binks and Thompson Families, and Anne-Marie Melvin Birthday Remembrance

St. Cuthbert's – see website for current Mass times this week