

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, 5th March 2023 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 818 544/0191 3332183
(Please telephone Fr. Paul if you have someone in hospital)

Our season of Lent began with our parish retreat in the beautiful surroundings of Keswick. I think many of us reflected on what a spiritually uplifting gathering it was. Thanks to all retreatants for their full participation. Thanks also to Katie Flood and her young Team for their welcome and participation.

Br. John continues his much appreciated talks on prayer on Monday evenings. Thanks John.

On Tuesday next week (7th March) we will show the first of our Lenten films. Each film will have a theme of courage in extreme adversity. This first film will be very diverse in its journey of four pilgrims to Compostela by sea. Do join us at 7.00pm in the Jubilee Room at St. Joseph's. Time allowing, we will reflect on each film and its relevance to our own journey in Faith.

Congratulations to Rita Harrison on her landmark birthday recently. Happy 90th Rita. Congratulations also to Barbara and Ian Robertshaw on their Golden Wedding Anniversary.

As our church numbers are still not what they were pre-Covid, we will celebrate Easter in our two churches instead of St. Leonard's. This will no doubt please some but disappoint others, me in particular. Easter and Christmas were always occasions for us to come together as a parish family. Just this week a parishioner spoke of his meeting his fellow school friend at a Christmas Mass in St. Leonard's for the first time since primary school days at St. Godric's nearly 80 years ago.

Continued over/....

Many young families also engaged with each other for the first time in years – because they had the space to do so! These positives must be held on to and built on.

The times of this Easter’s service are now inside the bulletin.

John Greenleaf Whittier
‘Forgiveness’

My heart was heavy, for its trust had been
 Abused, its kindness answered with foul wrong;
 So, turning gloomily from my fellowmen,
 One summer Sabbath day I strolled among
 the green mounds of the village burial place;
 Where, pondering how all human love and hate
 Find one sad level; and how, soon or late,
 Wronged and wrong-doer, each with meekened face,
 And cold hands folded over a still heart,
 Pass the green threshold of our common grave,
 Whither all footsteps tend, whence none depart,
 Awed for myself, and pitying my race,
 Our common sorrow, like a mighty wave,
 Swept all my pride away, and trembling I forgave!

Feast Days

Saturday, 4 th March	St. Casimir
Tuesday, 7 th March	Ss. Perpetua and Felicity MM
Wednesday, 8 th March	St. John of God Rel
Thursday, 9 th March	St. Frances of Rome Rel

Prayers – please keep in your prayers:



Meg Dixon	Bernard and Yvonne Reid
Ken Riddle	Jared Howarth
Liz Murray	Francesca Camilerni
Lorraine Scullion	John McMahon
Sheila Owen	

Anniversaries:

Philip Grainger	John Blake
Sharon Minns	Thomas Reid
Aiden Bryden	



Sympathy – we extend our sympathy to the families and friends of the following parishioners:

Lawrence George Homshaw, whose Requiem Mass will take place at St. Joseph's on **Thursday, 9th March at 12.45pm** followed by burial in Crook.

Patrick Killian, whose Funeral Service will take place at St. Joseph's on **Friday, 10th March at 11.30am** followed by burial in South Road Cemetery.

Sheila Marie Wilkinson, whose Requiem Mass will take place at St. Joseph's on **Thursday, 23rd March at 10.00am** followed by cremation in Durham.
Requiescant in pace.

*The
Season
of
Lent*



Lenten Meetings at St. Francis Friary. DH1 4RD

The second of the Lenten Meetings, takes place on Monday, 6th March at 7.00pm. The theme for the series is: 'Prayer in our daily lives'. The sessions will comprise reflections and sharings on various aspects of Christian Prayer along with a friendly cup of tea. All are welcome.

Eucharistic Services during Lent – there will be a Eucharistic Service every Monday at 9.15am in **St. Joseph's** and also at **St. Bede's Chapel in St. Godric's School** at 9.15am until Monday 27th March.

Stations of the Cross - The Stations have been shared between our two churches – details below. They will commence at 7.00pm each Friday evening.

Date	Group	Church
3 rd March	Pat Conway/Kathleen	St. Joseph's
10 th March	Inclusive Group (Memory Café)	St. Godric's
17 th March	SVP	St. Joseph's
24 th March	The Parish Council	St. Godric's

31 st March	Justice and Peace	St. Joseph's
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Lenten Soup Lunches, St. Joseph's - The dates below are now booked and the remaining date available is 24th March.

3rd March – Joanna Pallister

10th March – Justice and Peace

17th March – SVP

31st March – Homelessness/Sanctuary 21

Easter Services/Masses

Thursday, 6 th April	Mass of the Lord's Supper	St. Godric's, 7.00pm
Friday, 7 th April	The Passion of the Lord	St. Joseph's, 3.00pm
Saturday, 8 th April	Holy Saturday Easter Vigil	St. Joseph's, 7.00pm
Sunday, 9 th April	Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord	St. Godric's, 9.00am and St. Joseph's, 11.00am

Readers will be contacted over the coming weeks regarding availability.

Easter Competition - All children at our three Primary Schools are invited to enter our Easter Competition by designing a poster all about Easter and what it means to them. The posters have to be delivered to either St. Godric's or St. Joseph's churches by **12th March** to be passed on to the panel of judges.

Prizes will be awarded after our 11.00am Mass on **Sunday, 19th March**, and the winning posters will be displayed at the back of church.

Volunteer Registration Forms and References - We have been informed by the Diocesan Safeguarding Department that all **NEW** volunteers in the parish have to complete a Volunteer Registration Form and have references taken up, before they can start volunteering. This applies whether or not the role is such that a full DBS check will then be required.

Further information from Kathleen Murray or Dennis Bradley.

Drop-In Centre at St. Joseph's - All are welcome to drop in on **Wednesdays** from **2.00pm to 4.00pm** in and share some warmth and company, with refreshments provided. Access is through the small gate near the presbytery not the main church door. (Pat Conway 07943016225).

Wednesday Lunch Club – If you would like to join the club for hot meal and good company, or to join the rota of helpers to serve or give lifts, then please contact Pat Conway 0794 3016225.



Missio APF/Mill Hill collections for the month of March Ss. Godric and Bede

Red mission boxes for **St. Bede's** will be collected and emptied by sponsors in the usual way during March.

Please bring those for **St. Godric's** to Sunday Mass **before the end of March**.

A big thank you to all for your continued generosity and support.

Missio at St. Joseph's

We are looking for a much needed volunteer to be the contact person for the Red Boxes here at St Joseph's. Please let Fr. Colm or Marjorie know if you are able to help.

Spectacles

Barbara Robertshaw would like to thank all who left spectacles at the back of St. Joseph's church. They will be washed, measured and each pair put in a bag and sent to charitable organisations in Sri Lanka, Kenya and Ghana, who have the expertise to fit them correctly. Keep up the good work.

Job Vacancy

The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle has the following vacancy:

Administrator, Vicariate for Faith and Mission (maternity cover) – full-time. Closing date: 15th March 2023. Please visit www.diocesehn.org.uk for full details or contact us on 0191 243 3301

Mass Time Change – St. Joseph's

Please note that the Friday morning Mass at
St. Joseph's on 10th March
has been moved to the earlier time of 9.00am

Mass Intentions for the Week

5th March 2023

	St Godric's	St Joseph's
Saturday 4 March	NO MASS	5.00pm Vigil Mass David Adams
Sunday 5 March 2 nd Sunday of Lent	9.00am Brian O'Connor	11.00am Deceased members of the Barrett and Conway Families
Monday 6 March	NO MASS	9.15am Service of Word and Holy Communion
Tuesday 7 March	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am The Michiels and Condron Families	NO MASS
Wednesday 8 March	NO MASS	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am Mary Hayden Birthday Remembrance
Thursday 9 March	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am Special Intention (B & D)	12.45pm Requiem Mass of Lawrence Homshaw
Friday 10 March	NO MASS	9.00am George Sutton 11.30am – Funeral Service of the late Patrick Killian
Saturday 11 March	NO MASS	5.00pm Vigil Mass David Adams
Sunday 12 March	9.00am Rose Carr Birthday Remembrance	11.00am Herbert and Sigrid Dreeskamp

St. Cuthbert's

Sun 5	Mon 6	Tue 7	Wed 8	Thurs 9	Fri 10	Sat 11	Sun 12
10.00am and 6.30pm	12.15	12.15pm	7.00pm	No Mass	12.15pm	9.15am and 11.00am (Old Rite Mass)	10.00am and 6.30pm