

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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Parish Newsletter – 16th February 2025 6th 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)

LOVE

IS PATIENT

IS KIND

DOES NOT ENVY

DOES NOT BOAST

IS NOT PROUD

IS NOT RUDE

IS NOT SELF-SEEKING

IS NOT EASILY ANGERED

KEEPS NO RECORD OF WRONGS

DOES NOT DELIGHT IN EVIL

REJOICES WITH THE TRUTH

ALWAYS PROTECTS

ALWAYS TRUSTS

ALWAYS HOPES

ALWAYS PERSEVERES

LOVE NEVER FAILS

1 CORINTHIANS 13:1-8

Feast Days

Monday, 17 February	Seven Founders of the Servite Order Rel
Friday, 21 February	St. Peter Damian Bp, D
Saturday, 22 February	The Chair of St. Peter, Apostle

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
Ann Childs	Jean Smith

Anniversaries

Norman Wright	Catherine & Edward Shaw
Mina Buchanan	Marianne Mortemore
Catherine Hannigan	



Forthcoming Funerals

Robert Hann, whose funeral will take place at Durham Crematorium on Thursday, 20th February at 12.00pm.

John McDonough, whose Requiem Mass will take place at St. Joseph's on Wednesday, 26th February, at 10.00am followed by cremation in Durham at 11.30am.

There will be a parish coffee morning on Monday 17th 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, 20th February, at 2.30pm.

Laudato Si' - Care of Creation

The next meeting of the Laudato Si' group will be at 7.30pm on Monday 10th 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, 24th June at 6.30pm** in St. Joseph's.

Bishop Stephen will be the chief celebrant.



Parish Ceilidh 15th March St. Joseph's School Hall

Tickets available after Masses next weekend (22nd/23rd February) - £5 Adults, £2.50 Children
Spot Prizes - Raffle - Quiz - Shared Table
Brilliant Ceilidh Band 'North by North East'

It will be a wonderful Parish celebration. All welcome!

Parish Council

Please note that the next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Tuesday, 25th 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 17th 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.



Results – February 2025

1 st (£50)	No. 128
M. Nesbitt	Our Lady of Lourdes, Wallsend
Brenda Dawes	St. Mary & St. Wilfred, Bishop Auckland
2 nd (£25)	No. 173
Tony Smare	Our Lady Queen of Peace, Penshaw
Bill Squires	Durham Martyrs – St. Joseph's

With many thanks for your continued support



The Wednesday Lunch Club

Do you enjoy cheerful company, good conversation, a chance to catch-up with old friends and make new ones? The Wednesday Club is the group for you!

We meet in St. Joseph's each week from 12 noon till 1.00 p.m.

Thanks to our generous parishioners, we can usually provide transport if this would be a problem and then you will be generously fed - food and gossip in a lovely, warm atmosphere while our hidden workers slave over the washing up, serving up and clearing up! Not sure if this is for you? Come and try it- a warm welcome awaits!

Contact Pat(Conway) - 07943016225/ 0191 3868216 or Kathleen (Murray) 07759130837/ 0191 3867733

On Sunday 9th March we'll be having our first **International Lunch of 2025**. You are all welcome to attend it at **St. Joseph's** after the **10:30 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>

THE UPPER ROOM - THE LAST SUPPER

Multimedia presentation on the Last Supper St. Godric's Church 7.00pm Tuesday 11th March 2025. Tickets £5 on sale now at both churches, or pay at the door.

Contact Joe Hughes:
joe.hughes2017@hotmail.com



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.

Vespers (Evening Prayer) at Ushaw: This Sunday 16th February at 4pm, please join us for Sung Vespers in St. Cuthbert's Chapel at Ushaw. This is an opportunity to pray together the Evening Prayer of the Church. All are very welcome to join us for the service.

Diocesan Vision Discussion: 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 meeting at St. Cuthbert's, Old Elvet, Durham about the second of those commitments *'To Grow as One Diocesan Family - Rebuilding Relationships'*. We would love to hear from as many people as possible, so please do come along on **Sunday 2nd March at 2.00pm.**

Job Vacancy

The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle is looking to appoint to the following vacancy:
HR Adviser, Diocesan Offices, Newcastle – 30 hours a week. Closing date: 27th February.

Please visit www.diocesehn.org.uk/job-vacancies for full details or contact us on 0191 243 3301.

Holy Island SVP Vinnies Camp- Volunteering is a Work of Heart

Holy Island Children's Camp is looking for new volunteers to help in their Holiday Centre on Holy Island. They are in need of young adults to help the children have a great week's holiday on the island in Summer 2025. Full training and support will be given and would suit someone wanting to give back to the Community by helping 9–12-year-olds have fun for a week. They are also keen to attract people who would like to help by volunteering in the Kitchen/Dining room and with caretaking.

Term Time Camps need lots of volunteers if they are to survive. If you could find a few days in term time to help out with serving meals, prepping salads and washing dishes they would be truly grateful. By running term time camps, Summer Vinnies Holidays for children can be sustained.

Further information can be found at <https://svp.org.uk/microsite/ozanam-camp> or if you'd like to chat about the role please email BarbaraT@svp.org.uk

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.

Tyneside Circle of the Newman Association

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 11th March in the church hall of Holy Name, Jesmond: a talk by **Tony Flannery** on **The Bible, history or myth? Why it is important to know**. The talk will be given twice, first at 2.30 pm, then again at 7.30pm. Everyone is welcome.

Climate Action Durham – A Sustainable Food System?

Thursday, 6th March, Old Elvet Methodist Church Hall, 7.00-9.00pm

- Can the earth produce enough food for its current human population?
- What sort of diet would this be?
- How can we move towards a food system that helps people to eat sustainably?
- What is already happening and how can we build on it?

We start with a short input from two speakers, then **refreshments, questions and discussion from the floor**. The speakers are:

Alan Warde Professorial Fellow in the Sustainable Consumption Institute, University of Manchester; and

Sarah Wakefield Executive Director of Eating Better <https://www.eating-better.org/>

Please book your seat using eventbrite: <https://tinyurl.com/4czeyc85>

See poster at the back of church.

Mass Intentions for the Week

16th February 2025

	St Godric's	St Joseph's
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 3.00pm-4.00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	10.30am Norman Wright, deceased members of the Conway & Barrett Families, and Maureen Coulthard Birthday Remembrance
Monday 17 February	NO MASS	9.15am Service of Word and Holy Communion
Tuesday 18 February	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am Helen Willis (SVP)	NO MASS
Wednesday 19 February	NO MASS	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am Marianne Mortemore (SVP)
Thursday 20 February	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am Special Intention (MT)	NO MASS
Friday 21 February	NO MASS	9.30am - Exposition 10.00am Claire Louise McCann (6th Anniversary)
Saturday 22 February	NO MASS	5.00pm Vigil Mass Peter and Catherine McLoughlin
Sunday 23 February	9.00am Vince McPartlin 3.00-4.00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	10.30am Anniversaries of Alf Carr, and Doreen Power, and Birthday Remembrances of Austin Flynn and Anne-Marie Melvin

St. Cuthbert's

Sun 16	Mon 17	Tue 18	Wed 19	Thurs 20	Fri 21	Sat 22	Sun 23
10.00am And 6.30pm	NO MASS	9.15am	7.00pm	12.15pm	12.15pm	9.15am	10.00am and 6.30pm