

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



TELEPHONE: 07483 369 561
EMAIL: secretary.stjandstg@btconnect.com
WEBSITE: www.durhammartyrs.co.uk
Mill Lane, Gilesgate, Durham DH1 2JG

Parish Secretary: Mrs M. D. Towers

Parish Newsletter – 22nd January 2023 3rd Sunday of the Year

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)

‘Church Going’ – A poem by Philip Larkin

Once I am sure there's nothing going on
I step inside, letting the door thud shut.
Another church: matting, seats, and stone,
And little books; sprawlings of flowers, cut
For Sunday, brownish now; some brass and stuff
Up at the holy end; the small neat organ;
And a tense, musty, unignorable silence,
Brewed God knows how long. Hatless, I take off
My cycle-clips in awkward reverence.

Move forward, run my hand around the font.
From where I stand, the roof looks almost new-
Cleaned or restored? Someone would know: I don't.
Mounting the lectern, I peruse a few
Hectoring large-scale verses, and pronounce
"Here endeth" much more loudly than I'd meant.
The echoes snigger briefly. Back at the door
I sign the book, donate an Irish sixpence,
Reflect the place was not worth stopping for.

Yet stop I did: in fact I often do,
And always end much at a loss like this,
Wondering what to look for; wondering, too,
When churches fall completely out of use
What we shall turn them into, if we shall keep

A few cathedrals chronically on show,
Their parchment, plate, and pyx in locked cases,
And let the rest rent-free to rain and sheep.
Shall we avoid them as unlucky places?

Or, after dark, will dubious women come
To make their children touch a particular stone;
Pick simples for a cancer; or on some
Advised night see walking a dead one?
Power of some sort or other will go on
In games, in riddles, seemingly at random;
But superstition, like belief, must die,
And what remains when disbelief has gone?
Grass, weedy pavement, brambles, buttress, sky,

A shape less recognizable each week,
A purpose more obscure. I wonder who
Will be the last, the very last, to seek
This place for what it was; one of the crew
That tap and jot and know what rood-lofts were?
Some ruin-bibber, randy for antique,
Or Christmas-addict, counting on a whiff
Of gown-and-bands and organ-pipes and myrrh?
Or will he be my representative.

Bored, uninformed, knowing the ghostly silt
Dispersed, yet tending to this cross of ground
Through suburb scrub because it held unspilt
So long and equably what since is found
Only in separation – marriage, and birth,
And death, and thoughts of these – for whom was built
This special shell? For, though I've no idea
What this accoutred frowsty barn is worth,
It pleases me to stand in silence here;

A serious house on serious earth it is,
In whose blent air all our compulsions meet,
Are recognised, and robed as destinies.
And that much never can be obsolete,
Since someone will forever be surprising
A hunger in himself to be more serious,
And gravitating with it to this ground,
Which, he once heard, was proper to grow wise in,
If only that so many dead lie round.

Feast Days

Tuesday, 24 th January	St. Francis de Sales Bp, D
Wednesday, 25 th January	The Conversion of St. Paul, Apostle
Thursday, 26 th January	Ss. Timothy and Titus Bps
Friday, 27 th January	St. Angela Merici V
Saturday, 28 th January	St. Thomas Aquinas P, D

Prayers – please keep in your prayers:



Meg Dixon	George Parry
Ken Riddle	Jared Howarth
Liz Murray	Francesca Cannilerni
Lynn Hammill	Mary Crilley
John McMahon	Bernard and Yvonne Reid

Anniversaries:

Joyce Hadfield	Ethel Craggs
Harry Eccles	Esther Newcombe
Eric Smith	Veronica Pareira



Sympathy – we extend our sympathy to the family and friends of the late Kieron Shaw, whose Funeral Service will take place at St. Godric's on Tuesday, 14th February at 12.00 noon followed by burial in South Road Cemetery. *Requiescat in pace.*

Forthcoming funerals:

The late John Boyes, whose Funeral Service will take place at St. Joseph's on **Monday, 23rd January** at 12.00 noon, followed by cremation at Durham Crematorium.

The late Margaret Madden, whose Requiem Mass will take place at St. Joseph's on **Friday, 27th January** at 10.00am, followed by burial in Belmont Cemetery.

George Armatage, whose Requiem Mass will take place at St. Joseph's on **Wednesday, 1st February** at 10.00am

Lily Parry, whose Requiem Mass will take place at St. Joseph's on **Friday, 3rd February** at 10.00am, followed by cremation at Durham Crematorium.

Parish Mobile – Change of Number

Please note that the parish mobile number is now **07483 369 561**.



I would like to express my thanks to the SVP members and their helpers who organised our excellent Christmas Party on Saturday afternoon. The food, service, quiz, bingo and presents were all first class.

As for the entertainers, their music and banter had us all in stitches – and even some of the guests were up dancing! What a lovely afternoon, so another big “thank you” from me. *Margaret Nancarrow.*

Warm Space at St. Joseph’s - All are welcome to pop 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). Copies of the ‘Gilesgate Warm Spaces Calendar of Events’ for January can be found at the back of church.

Parking at St. Joseph’s – vehicle drivers using St. Joseph’s car park are reminded that the designated bays are for those with mobility issues only and should not be used by the able-bodied.

Pilgrimage to Lourdes and French Shrines: *Tuesday 25th July - Friday 4th August 2023*

Pilgrimage to Lisieux, Nevers and Lourdes, led by Fr. Marc Lyden-Smith, leaving from Seaham on a luxury coach. After visiting Lisieux and reflecting of St. Therese for two nights, we move to visit the Shrine of St. Bernadette in Nevers for one night.

We then join the Hexham and Newcastle Diocesan Pilgrimage in Lourdes. For a booking form email: st.michaels@sky.com

You are asked to please be quick, as this is a very popular pilgrimage, and we only have 13 places remaining. Two coaches are travelling.

CAFOD - Fix the Food System

St. Joseph’s Jubilee Room, 7.00 – 8.00 pm, Thursday, 2nd February

The world produces enough food to feed everyone. So why do some people go hungry? What’s wrong with the way the world produces food?

Mark Maughan, Community Participation Coordinator at CAFOD, will be joining us to lead a talk and discussion about why we need an alternative food system that puts people first.

Please come and find out how the imbalance of power in the world’s food system is impacting farmers, their communities and all of us as members of one human family.

From the Diocesan Priestly Vocations Team

Is God calling you to be a priest?

The Diocesan Vocations Team have organised an overnight retreat for men aged 18+ to discern whether God is calling them to the Priesthood.

Date: Friday 3rd March 5.00pm to Saturday 4th March (after lunch)

Place: Emmaus Youth Village Pemberton Rd, Allensford, Consett DH8 9BA. Cost £50 (including all meals and ensuite accommodation). Spaces are limited.

Please contact Fr. Shaun Purdy to book a place or for more information: Email: vocationspromoter@diocesehn.org.uk Telephone 01670 812 200. Bookings to be made by Thursday 16th February.

Discernment Evenings

We invite men aged 18+ who might be experiencing the call from God to discern priesthood to join the Vocations Team in finding out more. Discernment Evenings for 2023 are planned for the following Tuesdays: 14th February, 4th April, 27th June, 3rd October and 5th December. The meetings will take place in the Cloister Café at St. Mary's Cathedral, Clayton Street West, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 5HH, from 6.00pm-8.00pm.

There will be a time of Prayer, talk/discussion followed by a meal together.

If you would like to attend, or for more information, please contact the Vocations Promoter, Fr. Shaun Purdy by email: vocationspromoter@diocesehn.org.uk or by phone: 01670 812 200.

Note from the Centre for Catholic Studies

Tuesday 24th January – CCS Book Launch, 5.30pm GMT, online

An online celebration of the publication of: *Receptive Ecumenism as Transformative Ecclesial Learning: Walking the Way to a Church Re-formed*, edited by Paul D. Murray, Gregory Ryan, and Paul Lakeland. Paul and Greg will be joined by Linda Hogan (Trinity College Dublin) and Gabrielle Thomas (Candler School of Theology) to discuss the work. All are welcome to this online event. Please register for your free place on Eventbrite via <https://centreforcatholicstudies.eventbrite.com>

You may also be interested in the forthcoming annual **Blackfriars Cambridge Aquinas Lecture**. The lecture will take place in person and on Zoom at 6 pm on **Friday 27th January**, at Blackfriars, Buckingham Rd, Cambridge CB3 0DD. The speaker is **Dr. Anna Abram**, Principal of the Margaret Beaufort Institute of Theology, Cambridge. Her lecture is entitled “**Truth Matters**” and will explore the question of what it means to live in the Truth. No prebooking required for in person, but if you wish to join us by Zoom, please email the Prior, Fr. Nicholas Crowe, at prior.cambridge@english.op.org for the link to the meeting.

Mass Intentions for the Week

22nd January 2023

	St Godric's	St Joseph's
Saturday 21 January	NO MASS	5.00pm Vigil Mass Gareth McKenna
Sunday 22 January	9.00am David Elliot Birthday Remembrance	11.00am Bob Collinson Birthday Remembrance
Monday 23 January	NO MASS	12.00pm Funeral Service of John Boyes
Tuesday 24 January	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am Peter and Catherine McLoughlin	NO MASS
Wednesday 25 January	NO MASS	9.30am - Exposition 10.00am Cassie Childs Birthday Remembrance
Thursday 26 January	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am Susannah Michiels	NO MASS
Friday 27 January	NO MASS	10.00am Requiem Mass of Margaret Madden
Saturday 28 January	NO MASS	5.00pm Vigil Mass Thomas and Audrey Loughlin and Gerald and Mary Lennon
Sunday 29 January	9.00am Mary Cusack	11.00am Eric Smith

St. Cuthbert's

Sun 22	Mon 23	Tue 24	Wed 25	Thurs 26	Fri 27	Sat 28	Sun 29
10.00am and 6.30pm	12.15pm	12.15pm	7.00pm	12.15pm	12.15pm	9.15am	10.00am and 6.30pm