

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: 24th March 2024 – Palm Sunday and Holy Week



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

What a marvellous evening of music and song we had on Thursday night at the St. Leonard's concert in St. Joseph's. From Jazz to Classical, each musical turn was ably introduced by one of the students. Well done to Mr. Grehan-Bradley and the music department. What added to the evening was that this was achieved in such difficult circumstances with the music department being particularly hit because of RAAC.

“Whilst many parents are familiar with the mood-enhancing benefits of music, they may not know that music has developmental benefits. According to Don Campbell, internationally known educator and author of *The Mozart Effect for Children*, music enhances intelligence, co-ordination, emotional expression, creativity and socialisation skills. Studies have suggested that music and movement affect all areas of development. Music can bolster listening skills, improve motor skills, assist with problem-solving and promote better reasoning. Many others say that music can calm and focus the mind, which is why it is so often used by therapists. In addition, singing sharpens children's ability to communicate. Learning a piece of information attached to a tune will reinforce it to the memory cells of the brain.”

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Thank you to all the various groups in the parish for their Lenten contributions for the Friday soups and Stations of the Cross. All excellent.

Holy Week has very special significance this year because of the daily horrors unfolding in the Land of Jesus. It's appalling, and there are no two ways about this. It should and must be stopped. Sadly, too many seem to be washing their hands of the Palestinian plight? (Matthew 27:24).

Our prayers are with the people of Palestine, especially our besieged fellow Christians at this perilous time. 80,000 Catholics in Jerusalem and Palestinian lands. One Catholic Parish in Gaza has been heavily targeted by the IDF. And on it goes.

“If I Must Die”

By Refaat Alareer

If I must die,
you must live
to tell my story
to sell my things
to buy a piece of cloth
and some strings
(make it white with a long tail)
so that a child, somewhere in Gaza
while looking heaven in the eye
awaiting his dad who left in a blaze
and bid no-one farewell
not even to his flesh
not even to himself –
sees the kite, my kite you made,
flying up above
and thinks for a moment an angel is there
bringing back love.
If I must die
let it bring hope
let it be a tale.

More than 20,000 Palestinians have been slain in just over two months. One of them is writer and professor Refaat Alareer, who was killed in an airstrike by the Israeli military on 6th December, along with his brother, his brother's son, his sister and her three children.

Refaat shared countless narratives about the horrors of the Israeli occupation and system of apartheid, and he mentored so many Palestinian writers, including Yousef Aljamal, whose essay about Gaza appears in a forthcoming issue of “In These Times.” Yousef describes his friend as “the giant of the Palestinian narrative coming out of Gaza.”

Refaat's poem "If I Must Die" has been shared widely since he was killed. On social media, an impromptu effort translated it into dozens of languages: Spanish, Italian, Tamil, Tagalog, Greek, Japanese, Yiddish and more. Here, we offer it in English and Arabic. Ari Bloomekatz

Feast Days

Monday, 8 th April	The Annunciation of the Lord
Thursday, 11 th April	St. Stanislaus Bp, M
Saturday, 13 th April	St. Martin I Pp M

Prayers – please keep in your prayers:



Sean Casey	Nicola Dawson
Brian Harland	Halusia Good
Bridget Grehan-Bradley	Tony Twomey
Kitty Trainor	Margaret Graham
Betty Eccles	Helen Tumelty
Cud Hall	Margaret Robinson

Anniversaries (24th March - 12th April)

Julia McElwain	Margaret Pallister
Melinda Adey	John Haggerty
Ray Elliot	Vincent Reid
Katherine Harrington	Mary Horsman
Jenny Clough	Peggy Thompson
Jim Harrison	John McMahan
Gloria Webb	Julia Ridley
Mary Lennon	



Forthcoming Funerals

St. Godric's, Tuesday, 26th March at 1.30pm – the late Ken Riddle

St. Godric's – Tuesday, 9th April at 10.30am – the late Bill Harris



The parish office will be closed from Thursday 28th March at 12.30pm until Thursday, 4th April at 8.30am. The next parish bulletin will be over the weekend of 13th/14th April.

Baptism – we welcome into our parish community Wren Roddam-Hyams, who will receive the Sacrament of Baptism on 7th April after the 10.30am Mass at St. Joseph's.

Eucharistic Services in St. Bede's Chapel

There will be no service during Easter week. Services will restart on Monday 8th April at 9:15am.

Easter Mass/Services

Day	Date	Time	Church
Holy Thursday	28 th March	7.00pm	St. Godric's
Good Friday	29 th March	3.00pm	St. Joseph's
Holy Saturday	30 th March	7.00pm	St. Joseph's
Easter Sunday	31 st March	9.00am 10.30am	St. Godric's St. Joseph's

Celebration of the Mini Triduum – a celebration of the Mini Triduum for the sick and housebound has been organised for the Wednesday of Holy Week – 27th March. This will take place at 2.00pm in St. Joseph's Church, followed by a 'Celebratory Tea' in the Jubilee Room provided by the SVP. If transport is required, please complete form at the back of both churches or contact Kathleen or Marjorie.

Durham Churches Together Good Friday Witness

The Durham Churches Together Annual Good Friday Act of Witness will start inside St Nic's Church in Durham Market Place at 11.45am on Good Friday.

At noon we will process from the Market Place around the High Street behind the Cross, ending in the Market Place where we will pray and sing hymns.

Please let's have lots of people to witness to what Jesus has done for humanity!

More information from Matt Pallister on 07929 796 599.

Note From the Bereavement Group



Over the past year, our group has kept in contact with bereaved families by way of visits, phone calls, Christmas Cards, prayer leaflets and once again this year, Easter cards.

On Easter Sunday, we will also light a parish candle in our churches to represent our prayers for those who have suffered any kind of grief and loss during the year since March 2023. Our annual 'Celebration of Lives' Mass will take place on 25th May at 10.00am in St. Joseph's. No invitation needed - all are welcome.



Durham Martyrs Walking Group – April 2024

Our next walk will be the popular 'Bluebell Walk' through Houghall Woods on **Saturday 20th April**.

The varied walk will take us through attractive woodland (hopefully filled with bluebells!), open areas and riverbank.

The route is a distance of 3.1 miles, all well walked, but some of the paths in the woods are uneven with a number of steps.

The walk starts at **10.15 am** at the end of Houghall Lane (small parking area or parking available amongst trees at The Pump House).

For those who would like a longer walk meet at St Joseph's car park at 9.30am and we will walk down to Houghall via Old Durham and Maiden Castle. (this would add approximately another 3 miles to the walk).

It would be very helpful if you could let Marjorie know if you plan to join us so that we know who to expect and where you are joining the walk.

From the Diocese

North East Catholic History Society

The North East Catholic History Society is 50 years old this year. It was founded to encourage and promote the very rich Catholic History of our region. They meet five times a year for lectures, and have the excellent magazine "Northern Catholic History" published yearly. Excursions to places of interest are organised for members.

The Society is looking to attract new members. Currently, they meet on Wednesday afternoons at Joseph's Centre, Gateshead, directly opposite the Metro and bus interchange. We welcome visitors too.

After many years of excellent service, their Programme Secretary is retiring and they are looking for a replacement to organise talks. In recent years, they have established great contact with Ushaw and their fine group of researchers.

You can read about The Society on the diocesan website, or contact Margaret Henderson margaret@coopuk.com

Mass Intentions for the Week

24th March 2024
Holy Week

	St Godric's	St Joseph's
Saturday 23 March	10.00am NO MASS OR PRIVATE PRAYER	5.00pm Vigil Mass Jack and John Turnbull
Sunday 24 March	9.00am PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD	10.30am PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD
Monday 25 March	NO MASS OR PRIVATE PRAYER	9.15am Service of Word and Holy Communion
Tuesday 26 March	1.30pm Requiem Mass of the late Ken Riddle	NO MASS OR PRIVATE PRAYER
Wednesday 27 March	2.00pm - Mini Triduum St. Joseph's Church	
Thursday 28 March HOLY THURSDAY	7.00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper at St. Godric's	
Friday 29 March GOOD FRIDAY	3.00pm The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ at St. Joseph's	
Saturday 30 March HOLY SATURDAY	7.00pm Easter Vigil Mass at St. Joseph's	
Sunday 31 March EASTER SUNDAY	9.00am St. Godric's	10.30am St. Joseph's

St. Cuthbert's

Sun 24	Mon 25	Tue 26	Wed 27	Thurs 28 Holy Thursday	Fri 29 Good Friday	Sat 30 Easter Vigil	Sun 31 Easter Sunday
10.00am and 6.30pm	No Mass	12.15pm	7.00pm	7.00p.m Mass of the Lord's Supper	3.00pm Commemoration of The Passion	8.00pm Easter Vigil	10.00am (No evening Mass)

Mass Intentions for the Week

1st April 2022

	St Godric's	St Joseph's
Monday 1 April	NO MASS	
Tuesday 2 April	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am Special Intention (RT)	NO MASS
Wednesday 3 April	NO MASS	9.30am - Exposition 10.00am Deceased members of the Harington, Lennon and March Families
Thursday 4 April	9.30am- Exposition 10.00am Greer Parker	NO MASS
Friday 5 April	NO MASS	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am Allison McManus
Saturday 6 April	NO MASS	5.00pm Vigil Mass John Quinn Birthday Remembrance Ray Elliot Anniversary Belle Blakey
Sunday 7 April	9.00am Marie Cryer Peter Murphy Isabella Jose	10.30am Tom and Olga Oliver (SVP)

St. Cuthbert's

Mon 1	Tue 2	Wed 3	Thurs 4	Fri 5	Sat 6	Sun 7
No Mass	12.15pm	7.00pm	12.15pm	9.15am	9.15am	10.00am and 6.30pm

Mass Intentions for the Week

8th April 2024

	St Godric's	St Joseph's
Monday 8 April	NO MASS	
Tuesday 9 April	10.30am Requiem Mass of the late Bill Harris	NO MASS
Wednesday 10 April	NO MASS	9.30am - Exposition 10.00am Annie Whitehead and Arthur Binks Birthday Remembrances
Thursday 11 April	9.30am- Exposition 10.00am Colin and Estelle Wild	NO MASS
Friday 12 April	NO MASS	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am World Peace
Saturday 13 April	NO MASS	5.00pm Vigil Mass Les and Norah Finlay
Sunday 14 April	9.00am Pauline Chatterjee	10.30am Henry Allott

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