

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 11th February 2024
6th Sunday of the Year
World Day of Prayer for the Sick
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 818544/01913332183
(Please telephone Fr. Paul if you have someone in hospital)

There are still a few places left for our Parish Retreat in Keswick.

Our parish meeting next Saturday takes on more importance as we get nearer the time. I'll mention it in more detail at each Mass this weekend.

The Mass for the families of this year's first communicants was well attended. Thanks to all who came, and to our schools especially.

'Ash Wednesday Unshowered' by Anya Krugovoy Silver
My hair's pulled back to disguise the grime,
though maybe it's well that I'm unclean,
since *from dust you came, to dust you will return*,
the priest recites, smearing my forehead.-
Once, twice, and I'm marked, a lintel in plague years.
I'm invited to kneel and read the fifty-first Psalm,
recalling how David watched Bathsheba bathe.
*Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean;
wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.*
Merciful one, save me from slight repentance.
I pierced the center of the white orchid, Lord,
and it was mud, blood's cry, my body's blighted tender.

Feast Days

Sunday, 11th February

Our Lady of Lourdes

Prayers – please keep in your prayers:



Meg Dixon	Yvonne Reid
Sheila Owen	Jared Howarth
Ken Riddle	Francesca Camilerni
Breda Gallagher	Nicola Dawson
Sean Casey	Betty Eccles
Brian Harland	Helen Tumelty
Halusia Good	Sheila Wressell
Bill Harris	Margaret Robinson
Tony Twomey	Cud Hall

Anniversaries

John Hirst	John Power
Noel Reid	Betty Larmour
Joseph Correa	John Carroll
David Scott	Hannah Mary Drane
Sharon Henderson	Lawrence Homshaw
Norman Wright	



Sympathy – we extend our sympathy to the family and friends of the late Mary Theresa Milbourne, whose Funeral Service will be held at St. Joseph's on Thursday, 22nd February, at 2.30pm, followed by cremation.
Requiescat in pace.

The
Season
of
Lent



Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, 14th February.
A day of Holy Obligation with fasting and abstinence

Our Parish Masses will be: **10.00am** at St. Joseph's and **6.00pm** at St. Godric's.

Eucharistic Services – St. Bede's Chapel

Please note that there will not be any Eucharistic services in St Bede's chapel next week. Services will recommence on Monday 19th February.

Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross will begin on Friday, 16th February – the first Friday of Lent. They will commence at 7.00pm and will alternate between St. Godric's and St. Joseph's. If you or your parish group would like to lead Stations one evening, please contact Kathleen Murray on 07759 130 837.

Date	Church
16 th February	St. Godric's
23 rd February	St. Joseph's
1 st March	St. Godric's
8 th March	St. Joseph's
15 th March	St. Godric's
22 nd March	St. Joseph's

Lenten Charity Soup Lunches

Please contact Marjorie if you or your parish group would like to host a lunch. Five of the dates below have been booked.

Date	Group
16 February	Sanctuary 21
23 February	St. Joseph's School
1 March	Justice & Peace
8 March	
15 March	SVP
22 March	Bereavement Support Group

Parish Meeting

Before Christmas, two, open invitation, parish meetings were held to discuss the possible future developments of our parish and approximately twenty people attended each discussion. The first meeting was facilitated by Father John O'Brien and focused on sharing current feelings about parish life and about living in the here and now, to create the best of times.

The second meeting was led by Father Colm and developed a range of themes around how we can move forward.

The parish council would like to build on this foundation. This is an open invitation to all parish members, to come along to a meeting **next Saturday 17th February, 10:00am-12:00 noon**, in the Jubilee Room, at St. Josephs. Father John O'Brien will join us again and we hope to move the discussions forward to decide what we will do. Please do come along to both listen and contribute. It is important that we gather the wide range of views and ideas that exist in our parish. You are all very welcome.

Parish Film Night - Thursday 22nd February 7pm Jubilee Room

Our next screening will be 'The Old Oak', directed by Ken Loach. It is a deeply moving drama about fragility and hope set in an east Durham former mining village when Syrian refugees are placed in the community without any notice. Everyone welcome. Wine, Coffee, Tea and nibbles will be served.

Br. John's Lenten Faith Sharing Meetings for Easter at the Friary

These will take place on three Monday evenings from 7.00-8.30pm

26th February 'The Human Condition'

4th March 'Our Personal Vocation'

11th March 'God's People in the Making'

From the Diocese

Diocesan Lenten Reflection Booklets

As promised, the Vicariate for Faith and Mission are producing booklets of Daily Lenten Reflections which will be available for viewing, downloading and printing from the Diocesan website, using this weblink: <https://bit.ly/DHNLentReflections>. The weblink will go live in time for Ash Wednesday (Wednesday 14 February).

Sycamore - Online Sessions for Lent 2024

Take some time out with God during this Lenten season and join us online (via Zoom) for a series of Sycamore sessions as we explore how we can live out our 'Ministry of Love'.

The sessions will take place on Thursdays throughout Lent from 7.00pm to 8.15pm.

- 15 February "The Existence of God"
- 22 February "Who is Jesus?"
- 29 February "The Holy Spirit and the Church"
- 7 March "The Gift of Faith"
- 14 March "Finding True Freedom"
- 21 March "The Meaning of Love"
-

All are welcome! Each session can stand alone so there is no obligation to attend all if you can't commit to every week. Some of you may have had experience of Sycamore previously, so we'll be using an alternative set of questions which will give you more opportunities to reflect on your own experiences of faith.

Please register your interest to receive the Zoom link. You can do this by completing the [online form](#) or by calling the admin team on 0191 243 3316.

Diocesan "Life in the Spirit" Seminars to be held at St Mary's Parish Centre, Bridge Street, Sunderland SR1 1TQ. **Wednesdays 7pm-8.30pm.**

February: 21st, 28th. **March:** 6th, 13th, 20th. April 24th, with final evening on 8th May, led by **Bishop Stephen Wright**. Details on posters on porch notice board.

From Durham Churches Together

Lent Vigil for Climate Justice in Waddington Street URC Church, 10am to 4pm Wednesdays of Lent starting 21st February. The church will be **unheated**, so dress warmly. People could volunteer for an hour. Details from Kirsty Thomas or Charles Jolly: charles.jolly13@btopenworld.com. or phone 07484 243885.

World Day of Prayer

The service will be held at **North Road Methodist Church** at 10.30am on **Friday 1st March**. This year the service has been prepared by Palestinian Christian women. It seems appropriate that we should be learning about and praying with them at this time. All are welcome.

Durham Martyrs Walking Group – February 2024

Our next walk will take place on **24th February** and not 17th as originally published due to clash with Parish Meeting. The walk will be based on The Saints of Durham Churches Walking Trails produced by Durham Churches Together. There is the option of doing 2.5 or 5 miles depending whether you wish to do one or both of the trails.

Trail one takes in St. Nicholas; St. Margaret of Antioch; St. John; St. Cuthbert and St. Godric.

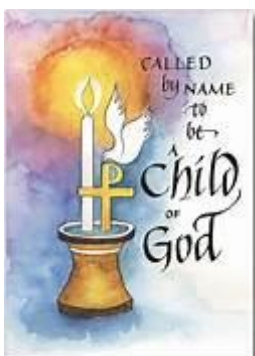
Trail two takes in The Eastern Orthodox Church of St Cuthbert and St. Bede; St. Antony; St. Giles; St. Cuthbert (RC); St. Oswald; St. Mary the Less and the Cathedral.

Both trails are on good footpaths and start and end at 'The Journey' Statue in Millenium Place commencing at 10am.



Lunch Club – Appeal for Volunteers

We are short of volunteers to help with our weekly Wednesday Lunch Club. There is a rota for helpers and duties consist of helping to set up the room and dining tables, serving lunch and clearing and washing up but most importantly to interact with the guests who are the elderly and housebound of the parish. If you can spare a couple of hours once or twice a month, please contact Pat Conway 07943 016 225 or Kathleen Murray 07759 130 837 Thank you.



Parish Spring Baptism Programme

The Spring Baptism Programme will take place on Monday, 4th March at St. Joseph's from 6-9pm. All parents wishing to have their child/children Baptised in the parish must attend one of our Programmes. If you would like to enrol, please contact Marjorie,

Note from St. Godric's Primary School



The **Live Simply Award** is a scheme for communities and schools who can show how they have been living: simply, sustainably with creation and in solidarity with people living in poverty.

The award celebrates the contributions we have already made and inspires us to do more. It helps our community live, not just simply, but more fully.

St. Godric's Primary School, inspired by *Laudato Si*, are taking part in the 'Big Battery Hunt' www.bigbatteryhunt.co.uk.

A box for the collection of batteries will be accessible to our parish community in St. Bede's Chapel on a Monday and a Wednesday morning when the Eucharistic Service takes place.

Please do join in our ongoing challenge to take care of our planet. Thank you.

"What kind of world do we want to leave to those who come after us, to children who are now growing up?" *Pope Francis*

CAFOD Family Fast Day – Lent Appeal - Friday 23rd February

Donating envelopes will be available at the back of each church next over next weekend, 17th/18th February, for return over the weekend of 24th/25th February.

You can also donate online by visiting www.cafod.org.uk/lent

SVP Membership Support Officer (MSO)

The St. Vincent de Paul Society is a Catholic lay organisation whose members seek out and help those in need in the community. It would like to recruit an MSO for the Hexham and Newcastle diocese to support member recruitment and development, provide general support for members and be the link between groups and National Office.

This is a part time, home-based role (22.5 hours per week – 3 days equivalent) working as part of the SVP Membership Team. It would suit someone comfortable giving presentations to large audiences as well working on a personal level with individuals and small groups.

It requires the ability to travel around the diocese to make recruitment appeals, work with existing groups, attend meetings and meet with interested parties where appropriate.

Having your own transport is essential. Travel expenses are paid. For further information and details how to apply contact Lance Philpott, Head of Membership at lancep@svp.org.uk Closing date for applications is Sunday 7th April

Mass Intentions for the Week

11th February 2024

	St Godric's	St Joseph's
Saturday 10 February		5.00pm Vigil Mass Judith McPhillips and Anthony Farmer
Sunday 11 February	9.00am Nicholas Mascarhenas and Margaret Robinson 3.00-4.00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	10.30am George Sutton First Anniversary
Monday 12 February	NO MASS	9.15 am Service of Word ad Holy Communion
Tuesday 13 February	9.30am - Exposition 10.00am In thanksgiving to the Holy Family	NO MASS
Wednesday 14 February	6.00pm ASH WEDNESDAY MASS	10.00am ASH WEDNEDSAY MASS
Thursday 15 February	9.30am - Exposition 10.00am Peter and Catherine McLoughlin	NO MASS
Friday 16 February	NO MASS	9.30am - Exposition 10.00am Veronica and Richard Champley
Saturday 17 February	NO MASS	5.00pm Vigil Mass Deceased members of the Hennessy Family and Jim and Mary Bygroves
Sunday 18 February	9.00am Colin and Stella Wild	10.30am Veronica and Eric Smith and Norman Wright Anniversary

St. Cuthbert's

Sun 11	Mon 12	Tue 13	Wed 14	Thurs 15	Fri 16	Sat 17	Sun 18
10.00am and 6.30pm	12.15pm Service of Word & Holy Communion	12.15pm	12.15pm and 7.00pm	12.15pm	12.15pm	12.15pm	10.00am and 6.30pm