

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

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Office hours: Tuesday-Friday, 8.30am-4.00pm
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(Please telephone Fr. Paul if you have someone in hospital)

God's Great Creation

Excerpts from a poem on praise and forgiveness by Helen Kinnett

Creator God, we praise your great creation,
We marvel at the works of your hands,
You give us light,
Your light is our hope,
We praise your creation all of our days and nights,
You give us so much but we struggle to look after your amazing creation,
Creator God, forgive us.

God's great creation, when will we learn?
To take care of our planet, is our concern?
God's great creation,
Help us learn not to destroy our nation,
God's great creation,
This is our prayer for forgiveness.

You made plants to bear grain and fruits to feed us,
Lord, we are in awe of all you created,
You in your generosity, made enough for everyone,
But we are selfish and do not always share,
O, Lord, we are sorry for our greed,
Forgive us when we take more than we need,

God's great creation, when will we learn?
To take care of our each other, is our concern?
God, you made the stars,
We pollute the air with cars,
God's great creation,
This is our prayer for forgiveness.

Thank you God for creating the sun,
You made everything perfect, when the world was begun,
We praise you God for the moon in space,
Help us take care of this place,
We praise you for the infinite beauty of nature,
You give us so much but we struggle to look after your amazing creation,
Creator God, forgive us.

God's great creation, when will we learn?
To take care of our planet, is our concern?
Deforestation, if all the trees leave,
If we destroy natural habitats, how will we breathe?
God's great creation,
This is our prayer for forgiveness.

Creator God, we praise you for sea creatures,
For fish and rivers teeming with life,
We thank you for the birds and flowers,
For animals both domestic and wild, large and small,
We praise you God that you created them all.

God's great creation, when will we learn?
To take care of our each other, is our concern?
Help us to change our destructive ways,
To save our planet for future days,
God's great creation,
This is our prayer for forgiveness.

God's great creation, blessings for all of our days,
God's great creation, we sing our psalm of praise!

Feast Days

Monday, 4 th September	The Translation of St. Cuthbert
Tuesday, 5 th September	St. Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa) Rel
Friday, 8 th September	The Birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Saturday, 9 th September	St. Peter Claver P

Prayers – please keep in your prayers:



Meg Dixon	Yvonne Reid
Joe Watson	Jared Howarth
Sheila Owen	Francesca Camilerni
Ken Riddle	Nicola Dawson
Breda Gallagher	Ian Hamilton
Marjorie Carey	Mary Williams
Monica O'Connor	Anthony Farmer

Anniversaries

Ken Drane	Alex Morgan
Mary Morgan	John Atkinson



Funeral this week

The Requiem Mass of the late Bernard Reid will take place on Thursday, 7th September at 1.30pm in St. Joseph's, followed by burial in Belmont Cemetery.

Eucharistic Services – Eucharistic Services will commence at 9.15am on September 4th and every Monday and Wednesday in St. Bede's Chapel during the Autumn term.



Autumn Baptism Programme

The Autumn Baptism Programme will take place on Monday 9th October in the Jubilee Room at St. Joseph's from 6.00-9.00pm.

Families who were scheduled to attend the July programme, which was cancelled owing to Covid, don't need to re-apply. Please contact Marjorie if you would like to attend.

Parish Lunch Club - meets again on **Wednesday, 6th September**, in the Jubilee room at St. Joseph's church, and we look forward to volunteers and guests getting together for an enjoyable lunch and chat from 12noon to 1pm. If you would like to join us as a guest, helper, or to give lifts, then find out more from Kathleen Murray, 07759 130 837, or Pat Conway 07943 016 225.

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

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

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

Many thanks to all who are continuing to support our Church family around the world in this very worthwhile way.



Heritage Open Days at St. Godric's

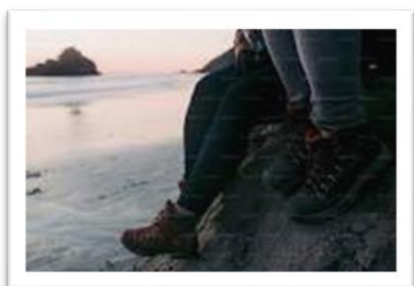
This year, we are planning to open our lovely church to visitors from 11.00am until 2.00pm on five days:

Friday 8th September, Saturday 9th, Thursday 14th, Friday 15th and Saturday 16th.

We will offer all who call a warm welcome and the opportunity to learn about our history with the help of live guides, information sheets, quiz sheets for young and old and of course, refreshments!

None of this will be possible without your help which has been so generously provided on past occasions and for which we are appealing yet again! Can you spare even half an hour, can you provide refreshments, or serve them? No offers refused!

If you can help at all, please sign up on the sheets at the back of church or contact Kathleen on 07759130 837. THANK YOU in advance for any help you can provide!



Durham Martyrs Walking Group – 16th September 2023

Our next walk will be at Seaham taking in Nose's Point, Hawthorn Dene and a small section of the Coastal Path. A combination of coast, woodland, flora and fauna and the option of fish and chips and rehydration if required at the end. This is a lovely walk!

The walk begins at the 'dancing' wooden sculpture at the front of Byron Place at 10.00am (Car Parking is available on opposite side of the road). The full walk is approximately 7.5 miles in total however for those who would like a shorter walk,

an option of approximately 5 miles is possible. Both routes can be shortened by a further 1.5 miles by parking at Nose's Point Car Park if desired.

If you would like to join this walk please let Marjorie know so we know who to expect and at which point you will be joining. (Walking Group members who have already responded to WhatsApp do not need to reply).

CAFOD action to Fix the Food System

CAFOD is organising a petition to help poor small-scale farmers world-wide by asking the World Bank to change its' laws on buying seeds. These laws mean that farmers have to buy all their seeds from commercial companies and are not allowed to use their own or local seed sources which would be cheaper.

Our Parish Justice and Peace group is supporting the petition, and after the Masses this weekend and next we will be asking parishioners to join with us by signing the petition in Church. You can also go online by looking up cafod.org.uk/food where you can find out more and complete your details to support the campaign on your phone or laptop.

Diocesan Job Vacancies

The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle has the following job vacancies:

Department for Education

Deputy Director of Education (Inspection) – Full-time, term-time.

Closing date: 18th September

Senior Administrator – Full-time, permanent. Closing date: 11th September

Vicariate for Faith & Mission – Administrator – full or part-time, maternity cover.

Closing date: 4th September.

All roles based in the Diocesan Offices in Newcastle. Please visit www.diocesehn.org.uk for full details or contact us on 0191 243 3301.

The Season of Creation: 1st September – 4th October 2023

The Season of Creation is the annual Christian celebration to listen and respond together to the cry of Creation: the ecumenical family around the world unites to pray and protect our common home.

The Season begins on 1st September, the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, and ends on 4th October, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of ecology beloved by many Christian denominations. Learn more from this [video](#).

Pope Francis' inspiring message for the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation can be viewed [here](#).

You can find out more information, view and download various resource and see suggestions on how you can take part by [clicking here](#).

Season of Creation: Rivers of Justice Webinar

The Diocesan Environment Group invites you to attend online event to mark the Season of Creation which will take place via Zoom at 10.00 – 12.00pm on Saturday **30th September 2023**. You will have the opportunity to hear from guest speakers about the Season of Creation.

We will be reflecting on the Season of Creation, progress made over the last few months, with updates from parishes and schools working towards the Live Simply Award also sharing their good practice, looking ahead, plus a Q&A session with members of the DEG.

Bishop Stephen has confirmed he is able to attend to give the opening address and participate in the event, including the Q&A session. [Click here](#) to download or view the event poster for more information.

Season of Creation Events at Ushaw

Two Ecumenical Events celebrating creation and calling us to act to save our common home:

Faith and the Environment Wednesday 13th September:

10am to 3.30pm A Day of Reflection, featuring the inspiring film “The Letter”, and including conversation, prayer and practical responses to the urgent call to care for the environment as our common home.

Come and join us for a day celebrating creation and calling us to action to save the environment. We will hear about “Laudato Si”, Pope Francis’ important letter calling for discussion and dialogue on the environment.

We’ll also hear about a range of initiatives – both local and international - to care for the planet which we all depend on.

Tickets: £5, which includes refreshments on arrival, parking and admission to Ushaw. Lunch can be bought in Welby’s Café, or bring a packed lunch. Book your ticket at <https://ushaw.org/whats-on-at-ushaw/> or by phone on 0191 373 8500.

An Ecumenical Prayer Service – Sunday, 1st October at 3.00pm

An ecumenical Prayer Service for the Season of Creation, when we re called on to commit to climate and ecological justice, and to speak out for those most affected by the climate and ecological emergency. The theme for 2023’s Season of Creation is “Let Justice and Peace flow....”

The service will be held in St. Cuthbert’s Chapel at Ushaw. Everyone is welcome to attend. No booking is required.

Rosary Rally

A Rosary procession will be held on Saturday 7th October 2023 from St. Joseph's Church, Gateshead to Northumberland Street, Newcastle followed by public Rosary in Northumberland Street.

The day will start with First Saturday Mass and devotions at 11.00am at St. Joseph's, High West Street, Gateshead (near to Gateshead Metro Station), then the Marian procession will start with a statue of Our Lady from the church at 12.30pm, walking over the Tyne Bridge before assembling in Northumberland Street to pray the Rosary starting at 1.15pm.

All are welcome and anyone can join at any stage of the event. *See poster.*

Change of Mass Time - St. Joseph's

Please note that the Friday morning Mass
on Friday, 8th September
has been moved to 9.00am

Mass Intentions for the Week

3rd September 2023

	St Godric's	St Joseph's
Saturday 2 September		5.00pm Vigil Mass Ken Drane and Lily Parry Birthday Remembrance
Sunday 3 September	9.00am Special Intention (BT, A)	11.00am Fr. Colum Adamson
Monday 4 September	NO MASS	9.15am Service of Word and Holy Communion
Tuesday 5 September	9.30am - Exposition 10.00am The sick of the Parish and Brigid Murray Anniversary	NO MASS
Wednesday 6 September	NO MASS	9.30am - Exposition 10.00am Marie Cryer Anniversary
Thursday 7 September	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am The McDermott Family	1.30pm Requiem Mass of the late Bernard Reid
Friday 8 September	NO MASS	9.00am Special Intention (BS)
Saturday 9 September	NO MASS	5.00pm Vigil Mass Michael Oliver and in thanksgiving for all at St. Bede's Chapel
Sunday 10 September	9.00am Peace in Ukraine	11.00am Ken Herbert

St. Cuthbert's

Sun 3	Mon 4	Tue 5	Wed 6	Thurs 7	Fri 8	Sat 9	Sun 10
10.00am and 6.30pm	NO MASS	NO MASS	NO MASS	NO MASS	NO MASS	NO MASS	10.00am and 6.30pm