

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 Secretary: Mrs M. D. Towers



Parish Newsletter – Sunday, 6th March 2022

Parish Secretary: Mrs. M. D. Towers

Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday, 8.30am-4.00pm

Hospital Chaplain: Fr. Paul Tully – 01388 818 544

(Please telephone Fr. Paul if you have someone in hospital)

The Ukraine is the focus of all our thoughts and prayers now. Perhaps this was part of the reason for such high attendances at our Ash Wednesday Masses at which St. Godric's School joined the parish. Thanks Barbara and team for organising. There was also something special about Wednesday evening at St. Joseph's. Many had returned after two years of Covid limbo. Great to see you back! Roger's poignant organ accompaniment touched the right notes too. Indeed we are blessed with such musical talents in Roger, Matt and Paul.

Our sense of empathy for the people of Ukraine was also very evident at our vigil last Saturday night at St. Joseph's. Thank you all.

We continue our prayerful efforts at St. Godric's on Sunday with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 3.00pm.

There was great parish presence at the URC church in Waddington Street last Sunday for the Church Action on Poverty Meeting. The main speakers were passionate and inspiring. We were left with no doubt about the challenge ahead in the fight against poverty. A deeper question was asked regarding the legality of depriving the poor of what is their right. There were some excellent presentations all round, followed by some very informative group discussions. Continued over/ ...

I attended Fr. Jim O’Keefe’s 50th anniversary of priesthood last Sunday. Well done Jim.

Our sincere condolences to Audrey Lane on the death of her daughter Cassie. Audrey is one of our dedicated church stewards in these difficult times. An example being ground maintenance. The recent storms hammered our fencing, which has now been repaired, but general windswept litter strewn around all our grounds can be a challenge.

Do keep an eye and help with picking it up would be most appreciated. Tony Twomey’s vigilance a miss.

Our schools are doing great despite the traumatic times they, and students in particular, have been through, and let me be clear that the after-effects of lockdown continue to take their toll. Some children have really struggled. Our schools’ staff have responded brilliantly. Thank you all and well done to them for their dedication.

As you will see in other parts of the bulletin, we need names for rotas, especially at St. Godric’s for opening and closing the church during the week. How often do I have to use this platform to hammer home the problems inherent in letting one person do everything, and this is right across the board.

Feast Days

Monday, 7 th March	Ss. Perpetua and Felicity MM
Tuesday, 8 th March	St. John of God Rel
Wednesday, 9 th March	St. Frances of Rome Rel

Parish Contact

The parish secretary can be contacted by email – secretary.stjandstg@btconnect.com and mobile on all parish matters. The number is 07391 529 827. Please do not ring the parish landline as the office is not manned full time at present.

Prayers – please keep in your prayers:



Nellie Stoker	Tony Twomey
Tony Collinson	Meg Dixon
Irene Jack	Margaret Charlton
George Sutton	Ian Hamilton
Betty McGurk	Ken Riddle
Colin Wild	

Anniversaries

John Blake	Sharon Minns
Thomas Reid	Aidan Bryden
Helen Avery	



Sympathy – we extend our sympathy to Audrey Lane and family on the death of her daughter Cassie. Her Requiem Mass will take place at St. Joseph's on Wednesday, 23rd March at 10.00am. *Requiescat in pace.*

Funeral this week

The Requiem Mass of the late Hannah Mary Drane will take place at St. Joseph's on Wednesday 9th March at 10.00am, followed by burial in Belmont Cemetery. *Requiescat in pace.*

Baptism – we welcome into our parish community Gwendolyn Harding, who will be Baptised after the 9.00am Mass at St. Godric's, this Sunday, 6th March.



Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

There will be Exposition at 3.00pm on Sunday 6th March at St. Godric's in response to Pope Francis' request for prayers for Ukraine.

St. Godric's Church

As the pandemic wanes we will have less need for stewards in our churches. However, there is still a need for individuals to open the churches and where appropriate set up for Exposition. The pandemic has also highlighted the importance of everyone entering our churches to receive a welcome.

Whilst many of the stewards will continue as volunteers, we would welcome more volunteers, particularly for Tuesday and Thursday morning Masses, to open the church, set up for exposition and welcome parishioners.

If you would like to volunteer, please let Marjorie know and we will be able to compile a rota. Thank you



Erica and the Smith family would like to thank everyone for their Mass offerings, prayers, cards, flowers, donations to the Little Sisters and for their kindness and support.

We know that Eric would have been overwhelmed with your care, love and generosity



The Season of Lent

Stations of the Cross – please let Marjorie know if you or your group would like to host a Friday evening. Dates chosen so far are:

Date	Group	Location
18 th March, 7.00pm	SVP	St. Joseph's
25 th March, 7.00pm	"A Conversation with Jesus" Stations	St. Godric's
1 st April, 7.00pm	Justice & Peace	St. Godric's

There won't be any Stations of the Cross on Friday 4th March.
Remaining dates 11th March and 8th April.

Friday Liturgical Prayer at St. Thomas More School

Mr. Hunt would like to extend an invitation to any parishioners who would like to join our Friday Liturgical Prayer every week at 2:45pm. It would be wonderful to welcome any new or returning faces into our school.

Re-opening of Parish Piety Shops

We are pleased to announce that we can re-open both the Piety Shop at St. Joseph's and the one at St. Godric's with effect from this weekend, 5th/6th March.

New Rotas for Ministers and Readers

We are in the process of setting up new rotas for Ministers of Word and Communion. Can those who were on the rotas in the past please let us know if you are available to return. Also, can you help in bringing Communion to the sick? Please let Marjorie know if you are willing to help.

News from Cafod

Family Fast Day – Friday 11th March – for more information please follow this link, [Family Fast Day](#)

Family Fast Day Envelopes – available at the back of our churches over this weekend of 5th/6th March. You can also donate online.

Community Walk Against Hunger – Sign up to Walk Against Hunger this Lent and you'll help communities thrive in even the most difficult environments. Follow this link for more information. [Walk Against Hunger](#)

From the Centre for Catholic Studies

You may be interested in an online event being hosting this evening, **Friday 4th March**, 8.00pm-9.15pm GMT, by the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley: “The War in Ukraine and its Religious Roots”. Speakers will be:

- [Thomas Cattoi](#), a lay theologian who teaches at the Jesuit school of Theology and works in the field of Patristics and comparative religion;
- [John Klentos](#), an associate professor at the Eastern Orthodox Institute at the GTU; and
- Vitaliy Osmolovskyy, SJ, a Ukrainian Jesuit who is helping organizing outreach to Ukrainian refugees in Poland.

Full information is available [here](#), and you can join the Zoom meeting [here](#) .

Churches Together Forthcoming Events in March at Durham Cathedral

We are looking forward to celebrating St. Cuthbert in style again at Durham Cathedral as we gradually emerge from the difficulties of the last two years. We will sing a big special service of Evensong with a Procession to the Shrine on **Friday 18th March at 6.00 p.m.** The service is sung by Durham Cathedral Choir and the Preacher is the Reverend Canon Angela Tilby, Writer and Broadcaster and Canon Emerita of Christchurch Cathedral, Oxford. You are invited to robe and process and you may bring guests with you. Please let us know if you wish to robe and process and, if you are bringing guests, how many you will bring with you.

All congregational seating is unreserved. If you are robing and processing, please be present in the Chapter House by 5.30 p.m. in choir habit (or equivalent). The service will last about one hour and there are drinks and nibbles in the Cloisters afterwards. **Please reply by Monday 7th March.**

On Saturday 19th March, you are welcome to join a Pilgrimage Walk from Finchale Priory to Durham Cathedral.

You should arrive at Finchale at 1.00 p.m. ready to leave at 1.30 p.m. – arriving at the Cathedral at 3.30 p.m. in time for a celebration of the Eucharist at 4.00 p.m. (see below). For more information, please contact: charlie.allen@durhamcathedral.co.uk

During the day there will be family activities in the Cathedral on the theme of St. Cuthbert. And, at 4.00 p.m., there will be a celebration of the Eucharist in honour of St. Cuthbert sung by Durham Cathedral Choir and Newcastle Cathedral Choir. You are welcome to attend and sit in the congregation. Seats are free for all and you don't need to tell us if you are coming. **Please check that you are covid-free before attending events at the Cathedral and please continue to wear a face covering unless you are exempt.**

Mass Intentions for the Week

6th March 2022

	St Godric's	St Joseph's
Saturday 5 March	NO MASS OR PRIVATE PRAYER	5.00pm Vigil Mass John and Olive Doyle
Sunday 6 March	9.00am The Michiels and Condon Family 3.00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	11.00am Hugh and Sibby Conway and Eric Smith
Monday 7 March	NO MASS OR PRIVATE PRAYER	NO MASS OR PRIVATE PRAYER
Tuesday 8 March	9.30am - Exposition 10.00am Alan McNamee	6.00pm Reception of the late Hannah Mary Drane
Wednesday 9 March	NO MASS OR PRIVATE PRAYER	10.00am Requiem Mass of Hannah Mary Drane
Thursday 10 March	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am Bernard McGoay Birthday Remembrance	NO MASS OR PRIVATE PRAYER
Friday 11 March	NO MASS OR PRIVATE PRAYER	9.30am 10.00am Michael Oliver (Illness)
Saturday 12 March	NO MASS OR PRIVATE PRAYER	5.00pm Vigil Mass William and Mary Hayden
Sunday 13 March	9.00am The people of Ukraine	11.00am Rose Carr Birthday Remembrance and Deceased members of the Conway and Barrett Families

St. Cuthbert's

Sun 6	Mon 7	Tue 8	Wed 9	Thurs 10	Fri 11	Sat 12	Sun 13
10.00am and 6.30pm (Pre booked attendance required for both Masses)	12.15pm	12.15pm	7.00pm	12.15pm	12.15pm	9.15am	10.00am and 6.30pm (Pre booked attendance required for both Masses)