

*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 Secretary: Mrs. M. D. Towers*

## **Parish Newsletter - Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year (Year A, part 2)**

**Priest:**

Fr. Colm Hayden

**Parish Secretary**

Marjorie Towers 07391 529 827

(Tuesday-Friday, 8.30am- 4.00pm)

**Hospital Chaplain**

Fr. Paul Tully - 01388 818544

(Please telephone the Chaplain if you have someone in hospital who would like a visit)

SVP Confidential number 07596 821 0

For bereavement support, please contact the Parish Secretary

As you will see from this week's bulletin, a very important appointment has been made to our Federated schools of St. Thomas More and St Joseph's. And I wish to add my voice to welcome Barbara Reilly-O'Donnell as the new Interim Head Teacher for the next academic year. The note of welcome speaks for itself, but on a personal level, can I thank Barbara for taking on this role. She has been a tremendously supportive presence in our parish over the years. These are challenging times for all of us in the Parish of the Durham Martyrs, and not only for our schools.

We begin the careful reopening of our churches over the next two weeks. Covid-19 will affect many changes in society. We hope on a positive level too. As church, we will also find a changed landscape. Again, let's hope this will be positive. I'd like to thank the Buildings and Health and Safety group in our parish, and the Parish Council, for the tireless efforts they are putting into facilitating a safe environment for us to return, firstly to prayer, then to Mass.

No stone has gone unturned in an effort to ensure a safe environment for you to worship in. Yes, the webcam has been a success, but I'm sure we all agree that there is no substitute for the real life coming together as a community.

Can I ask that those of you who have any health issues to please wait. Do not put either yourselves, or others, at risk. I can't emphasise this enough. Thanks.

## Feast Days

Monday, 20 <sup>th</sup> July	St. Apollinaris Bp, M
Tuesday, 21 <sup>st</sup> July	St. Lawrence of Brindisi P, D
Wednesday, 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	St. Mary Magdalene
Thursday, 23 <sup>rd</sup> July	St. Bridget of Sweden, Rel (Patron of Europe)
Friday, 24 <sup>th</sup> July	The Martyrs of the Diocese
Saturday, 25 <sup>th</sup> July	St. James, Apostle

## Parish Buildings

The Parish Office, Presbyteries and all church buildings continue to be officially closed to all visitors and the parish secretary can be contacted by email - [secretary.stjandstg@btconnect.com](mailto:secretary.stjandstg@btconnect.com) and mobile on all parish matters. The number is 07391 529 827.

## Mass Intentions this week

Saturday, 18 <sup>th</sup> July	Intentions of Fr. Colm and family
Sunday, 19 <sup>th</sup> July	David Elliot Anniversary & Catherine Hannigan Birthday Remembrance
Monday, 20 <sup>th</sup> July	Priest's Intention
Tuesday, 21 <sup>st</sup> July	Bede Murray and In Thanksgiving (PT)
Wed'sday, 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	Joan Humble and In Thanksgiving (I & BR)
Thursday, 23 <sup>rd</sup> July	Pam and Katherine Harrington
Friday, 24 <sup>th</sup> July	Mary and Gerald Lennon
Saturday, 25 <sup>th</sup> July	Cara Armstrong McKay

Please contact Marjorie if you would like to put a Mass in for someone.

**Prayer Requests** - please keep in your prayers:

Julie Thompson	Nellie Stoker
Rita Robson	Edward Newcombe
Tom and Olga Oliver	

**Hospital visits:** The University Hospital of North Durham has suspended visiting of patients, with limited exceptions for children's wards, maternity wards and end-of-life patients. However, the Catholic Chaplain is still able to visit patients, and to bring them Holy Communion and the Sacrament of the Sick.

If you know of a patient who wishes for a visit from the Catholic Hospital Chaplain, please inform Fr. Paul Tully on 01388 818544 or [frpaultully@outlook.com](mailto:frpaultully@outlook.com)

**Good news!** After so many months our churches are opening, in the first instance for personal prayer quickly followed by Mass. The dates and times are listed below:

Date	St Godric's	Max no	St Joseph's	Max no
Mon 20 July	14:00 to 15:00 Private Prayer	34		
Tue 21 July				
Wed 22 July	14:00 to 15:00 Private Prayer	34		
Thu 23 July				
Fri 24 July				
Sat 25 July	<b>Closed - no private prayer</b>			
Sun 26 July	9:00 Mass	88		
Mon 27 July	14:00 to 15:00 Private Prayer	34		
Tue 28 July	10:00 Mass	88	14:00 to 15:00 Private Prayer	48
Wed 29 July	14:00 to 15:00 Private Prayer	34	10:00 Mass	111
Thu 30 July	10:00 Mass	88	14:00 to 15:00 Private Prayer	48
Fri 31 July			10:00 Mass	111
Sat 1 Aug			17:00 Mass	111
Sun 2 Aug	9:00 Mass	88		
Mon 3 Aug	14:00 to 15:00 Private Prayer	34		
Tue 4 Aug	10:00 Mass	88	14:00 to 15:00 Private Prayer	48
Wed 5 Aug	14:00 to 15:00 Private Prayer	34	10:00 Mass	111
Thu 6 Aug	10:00 Mass	88	14:00 to 15:00 Private Prayer	48
Fri 7 Aug			10:00 Mass	111
Sat 8 Aug			17:00 Mass	111
Sun 9 Aug	9:00 Mass	88	11:00 Mass	111

During the first few months you will notice a number of differences when attending church. The experience, although welcomed, will certainly not be what we have enjoyed for many years. Please bear with us during this period.

For example: Face masks are to be worn at all services in St. Godric's and St. Joseph's.

Social distancing determines that the number attending any service is restricted.

To accommodate the maximum number of worshippers it will be necessary to contact Marjorie, our parish secretary, either by telephone 07391 529 827 or email [secretary.stjandstg@btconnect.com](mailto:secretary.stjandstg@btconnect.com) requesting a place. She will need your name and a contact number. For Mass the capacity of our churches is limited to about 30% of the norm. The deadline for requesting a place at Mass is **Friday** for Saturday, Sunday, Monday and Tuesday Masses. For Masses on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, you can make your request **up to the day before**.

If you are unable to get a place at a weekend Mass, remember there is Mass during the week. Our obligation to attend Sunday mass is waived at present.

Every effort will be made to ensure that all who ask to go to either the vigil at St. Joseph's or Sunday morning mass at St. Godric's will be accommodated as soon as possible.

May we take this opportunity of asking those who are vulnerable not to come to mass at present.

The reception of Holy Communion will by necessity have to be controlled and our volunteer stewards will guide you. In order to reduce the risk of Covid 19 following the reception of the Blessed Sacrament, which will be received only in the hand, you will be expected to leave the church immediately. Whilst many will not have seen their friends and fellow parishioners for a number of months, you will be encouraged to leave the church surrounds immediately.

**Cleaning Team - St. Godric's** - we are looking for new members to join our team of cleaners at St. Godric's. If you would like to help, or for more information, please contact Mary Earnshaw.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENT OF INTERIM HEAD TEACHER: St Joseph's & St Thomas More Primary Schools**

The Governing Body is delighted to announce that Mrs Barbara Reilly-O'Donnell has been seconded to the federation as Interim Head Teacher for the next academic year. Mrs Reilly-O'Donnell will be a familiar face in the parish and is well-known by many of you. She has been a parishioner of the Durham Martyrs' Parish for over 20 years and previously worked as Deputy Head Teacher at St Thomas More Primary School until 2008.

From 2008 until 2010 Barbara was the Durham LA Quality Assurance Officer in the local authority's School Improvement Team and led the regional team for two of the Department for Education's National Strategies. In 2010 she was appointed as Head Teacher of St Mary's Primary School in Newton Aycliffe, before being appointed to the position of Head Teacher at Our Lady Queen of Peace, Penshaw in 2013. During her time there, she also acted as Executive Head Teacher at St. Mary's Primary School in Sunderland in the academic year 2018-2019. She has recently been appointed as part of the Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust's Central Team in the role of Director of Ethos. Barbara also supports the diocese through her work as a Section 48 Inspector and a Recruitment Advisor.

Nick Hurn, Chief Executive Officer of the Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust said:

*"Mrs. Reilly-O'Donnell is an excellent Head Teacher and the Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust is delighted to be able to support the Federation of St Joseph's and St. Thomas More by enabling her to act as Interim Head Teacher for the next 12 months. It is important that our schools continue to work collaboratively and support each other."*

Mrs. Reilly-O'Donnell will take up her post on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2020.

### Hardship Fund

I would, like to say "Thank you" to all of you who have felt able to continue to support the Parish with your donations during this time when our churches are closed. It has been much appreciated with the bills still coming in.

Over the last few weeks, I have been aware that the lockdown has prevented people from working and some of our parishioners have been struggling on reduced incomes as a result. The Parish has tried to help in a small way where we can. The Government's furlough scheme has to some extent, protected many people by guaranteeing the major part of their income in the hope that they will be able to return to their jobs when the crisis is over. However, it looks likely that when people return to work, the shrinking economy will mean that some employers will not be able to support the same level of employment that they supported previously. Jobs will be lost and more of our parishioners are likely to struggle to meet their commitments. Fr Colm would like to be in a position to help support these hard-pressed parishioners as much as possible.

To this end at Fr. Colm's request, I am establishing a parish Hardship Fund. It will be a restricted fund ring fenced only for use in helping the most hard-pressed of our parishioners. I am inviting you on Fr Colm's behalf to contribute what you can afford to this fund knowing that your contribution will go straight to the people most in need of your help. This is an opportunity to make a real difference to peoples' lives. I know you will be as generous as you can be. Please make your contribution by bank transfer to our bank quoting the following details, and any donations should bear a reference of "Hardship Fund".

Sort Code 40-34-45      A/C No 51179306  
A/C Name DHN Durham The Durham Martyrs OR

by cheque, payable to 'The Durham Martyrs' to Fred Haywood, Parish Treasurer, The Beeches, Grove House Drive, Gilesgate, Durham, DH1 1UP. Please also put note in your envelope referencing the Hardship Fund. Many thanks, Fred Haywood



St Vincent  
de Paul Society  
England and Wales  
Turning Concern into Action

## TYNE CENTRAL COUNCIL 200 CLUB

### July 2020 Results

1 <sup>st</sup> - £50	No. 133	2 <sup>nd</sup> - £25	No. 72
Pat Andrews	St. Mary's, Blackhill	Tricia Spence	St. Mary & St Joseph, Newton Aycliffe
Catherine Trick	St. Cuthbert's, Kenton	D. Henry	St. Bernadette's, Wallsend

## Vacancies

The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle has the following vacancies:

- **Property Surveyor** based in Newcastle with extensive travel throughout the Diocese. Full-time. Two year fixed term contract.
- **Justice and Peace Refugee Project Co-ordinator** based in Newcastle. 18 hours per week. 12 month fixed term contract.
- **Department for Education, Administrator** (maternity cover) - full-time

For further information and details of how to apply please visit our website [www.rcdhn.org.uk](http://www.rcdhn.org.uk) or contact us on 0191 243 3301

## New Apostolic Nuncio to Great Britain

The Holy Father, Pope Francis, has appointed Archbishop Claudio Gugerotti, until now Apostolic Nuncio in the Ukraine, as the Apostolic Nuncio to Great Britain. Bishop Byrne will write to welcome the New Nuncio to Great Britain, and invite him to visit the Diocese.

## Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network

The Holy Father has asked the Jesuits across the world to promote a network of prayer as a new initiative from the former Apostolate of Prayer.



Each province has a national contact for this work, ours being Fr. David Stewart SJ.

Each month the Holy Father will have a main prayer intention for people to use as part of their daily prayer, and he will also announce an "urgent intention" for people's prayer. A short video based on the main intention published each month and known as 'The Pope Video'.

Fr. Stewart publishes a webpage each month with prayer reflections based on the main intention. Bookmark this page and revisit monthly for the latest intentions.

Further information through the [Pathways to God](#) and [Click to Pray](#) websites.