

*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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Mill Lane, Gilesgate, Durham DH1 2JG

*Parish Secretary: Mrs. M. D. Towers*

## **Parish Newsletter - Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June - The Most Holy Trinity**

**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



So many events have had to be cancelled because of Coronavirus. Weddings have been postponed. Funerals have restricted numbers, and this weekend we would have hosted the first of the two First Holy Communion Days. At St. Joseph's this weekend, followed by St. Godric's next week. These have always been occasions of great celebration for the parish. High points of the parish year. We are so sorry to all for not being able to host these two great days.

The irony is that none of us have been able to receive Holy Communion for some time now, so we are all on the same journey.

We hope to set up a Crisis Fund for those who are struggling financially with lockdown. We are especially conscious of those made redundant, or may be so in the future. The situation will probably get more critical in the coming weeks and months, and so in our efforts to address this growing need we will be creating a special Parish Covid Crisis Fund. There will be more details of how we plan to do this soon.

Thank you for your continued financial support to the general upkeep of the parish.

## Feast Days

Monday, 8 <sup>th</sup> June	St. William of York Bp
Tuesday, 9 <sup>th</sup> June	St. Columba Ab
Thursday, 11 <sup>th</sup> June	St. Barnabas, Apostle
Saturday, 13 <sup>th</sup> June	St. Anthony of Padua Bp, D
Sunday, 14 <sup>th</sup> June	The Body and Blood of Christ

## 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 new number is 07391 529 827.

If you would like to join the **Parish Contact Team** as a volunteer, or if you know of - or you are - a vulnerable person who needs assistance, please ring **Katie on 07483 369 561**.



There are no funerals to report this week, but we keep all bereaved parishioners in our prayers.

*Requiescant in pace.*

## Mass Intentions this week

Sunday, 7 <sup>th</sup> June	Bill Ince
Monday, 8 <sup>th</sup> June	Priest's Intention
Tuesday, 9 <sup>th</sup> June	Valerie Ann Hamilton (Birthday Remembrance) and Anne Foong
Wednesday, 10 <sup>th</sup> June	Those isolated at home
Thursday, 11 <sup>th</sup> June	Felicity Lowry
Friday, 12 <sup>th</sup> June	Those bereaved by the Coronavirus Pandemic
Saturday, 13 <sup>th</sup> June	David Adams

There are quite a lot of Mass Intention slots available throughout the second half of June, July and beyond. Please contact Marjorie if you would like to put a Mass in for someone.

## News from the Partnership

The latest Finchale Partnership newsletter for June 2020 is now available. A copy will be included in the next delivery of packs in our parish. The newsletter is also available on the Partnership webpages hosted on St. Cuthbert's website, at <https://www.stcuthberts-durham.org.uk/archives/12054>

**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)

**Parish Finances During Lockdown** - If you wish to make a payment by **bank transfer**, please contact your bank and ask them to make a bank transfer of the amount you wish to donate to the following account:

Bank: HSBC

Sort code: 40-34-45

Account Number: 51179306

Account Name: DHN Durham The Durham Martyrs

**By cheque or cash** (please make cheques payable to 'Parish of the Durham Martyrs')

Send your donation to our Parish Treasurer, Mr. Fred Haywood at:

The Beeches, Grove House Drive, Gilesgate, Durham, DH1 1UP.

Thank you, Fred Haywood.

## **News from the Diocese**

**Diocesan Day of Scripture on 19<sup>th</sup> June 2020.** All of the aspects of the day can be accessed via the diocesan website and social media account. It is a great opportunity for people to increase their knowledge, understanding and experience of Scripture in this Year of the Word. The day starts at 10.00am, ending at 7.00pm. Subject covered include Lectio Divina, Scripture for Children, Unlocking the Mysteries of the Bible and the Lindisfarne Gospels.

**Partnership News** - the June edition of the Finchale Partnership Newsletter is now available. You can access it on our parish website, and also on the Partnership webpages hosted on St. Cuthbert's website, at <https://www.stcuthberts-durham.org.uk/archives/12054> A copy will also be printed and put in the parish packs.

## **Mass and prayer available online**

<http://walsingham.org.uk/live-stream> - Live Mass at 12 noon every day

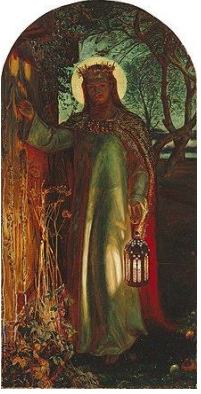
<https://mass-online.org/daily-holy-mass-live-online/> - Live Masses throughout the day from around the world

<https://www.churchservices.tv> - Mass, Rosary and prayer throughout the day

There will also be the following available on our social media and YouTube channel:

Live Rosary every Weekday - 10:30am. Live Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament every weekday. Also, Fr. Colm will be saying Mass privately at 10.00am on Sunday mornings, so please join him in prayer.

## Closed Doors/Open Doors



Recently, many of us have been living behind closed doors, and some of us still are, thanks to COVID19. We can feel safe and protected, but after a while it can be very restricting, and we can feel cut off and lonely.

There is a famous painting by Holman Hunt of a closed door, and Jesus, with a lantern standing outside knocking, usually known as “The Light of the World”. Hunt printed three of these, almost identical, but on the frame of the one in St. Paul’s Cathedral is a written quotation from Revelation 3, verse 20: ‘Behold, I stand at the door and knock.’ A closer look at the painting shows that there is no handle on the outside door.

We must conclude that the handle is on the inside, on our side, my side of the door. Look at this door, or any other closed door with which you might be familiar, or a closed door in your imagination. What does it say to you? How do you feel when you look at it for a while? It might be the closed door of your church - all of them are closed at this time. How does that make you feel? Drew Leder, in a book called “Sparks of the Divine” wrote: *“A door is a truly amazing thing. Closed it is an agent of separation ... BUT swing it open and it becomes an invitation, uniting what before was separate.”*

Again, during this pandemic, these words have particular significance, especially for many of us who are unable to swing open the doors at present. Jesus declared in St. John’s Gospel Chapter 10 that he is the gate/door keeper. In Luke Chapter 11, we hear, “Knock and the door will be opened to you.” This is an invitation to open the door of our hearts, or to heed the knock that Jesus is making.

- Are you being asked to open the door of your heart?
- Is God inviting you to a deeper intimacy with Him?
- Are you being invited to receive some special grace and blessing?

Spend some time in quiet and stillness pondering these questions, maybe even summoning the courage to open the door of your heart, as Joyce Rupp suggests in her prayer:

*“Great door of Love, assure me of your protective presence  
as I wander about the landscape of my life.*

*When I become lost, clear a path for hope.*

*May every seeking footstep of mine take me through the doorway of your love.*

*Be my passageway today. I open the door of my heart.”*

When we truly open our hearts to God there are unimaginable blessings awaiting us, and invitations. Again, Joyce Rupp expresses this:

*“Heart of Hope you draw me to the world’s heartache.*

*You strengthen me when I feel frail. You encourage me when I am downhearted.*

*I go now to share what you daily give to me.*

*Thank you that I can be a channel of hope. Once again I open the door of my heart to you. I open the door.”*

**A. McCarthy**