On 24th July we celebrate the Feast of the Martyrs of our Diocese. We give especial thanks for twenty-six whom we consider as martyrs of the North.

Blessed Thomas Plumtree
Blessed Edward Waterson
Blessed William Patenson
Saint Henry Morse
Blessed Christopher Bales
Venerable George Gervase
Venerable Richard Hill
Venerable John Hogg
Venerable Richard Holiday
Venerable Edmund Duke
Blessed Richard Thirkeld
Blessed John Fenwick
Saint John Boste
Blessed John Ingram
Blessed George Swallowell
Venerable Joseph Lambton
Venerable Thomas Palliser
Venerable John Norton
Venerable John Talbot
Blessed Thomas Percy
Blessed Richard Kirkham
Blessed Ralph Corby
Blessed John Duckett
Venerable Edward Burden
Venerable Hugh Taylor
Venerable George Errington

We recognise the courage and commitment of many women and men and women from the North-east of England who endured legal sanction, imprisonment and death rather than relinquish their Catholic Faith. We pray that in our day there may be better understanding and unity among all those who bear the name of Christian.

It is part of the calling of every disciple of Jesus to witness to his Gospel of love and we ask the Lord to give us courage and eloquence in doing this.

God, all-powerful Father,
the blessed martyrs of our Diocese
remained faithful in the face of danger and death.
Strength en our faith and take away our weakness.
Let the prayers and example of the martyrs
help us share in the passion and resurrection of Christ
and bring us to eternal joy in your saints.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.
Amen.
There is a petition seeking the canonisation of one of our local martyrs, Blessed John Ingram. He was a young priest who secretly served Catholics on either side of the Scottish border.

He was arrested and taken to London where he was brutally tortured. Sentenced to death at Durham assizes in 1594. He was then executed at Gateshead on 26 July. He was only twenty-nine years old.

If you would like to read more about him please [click here](#).

If you would like to sign the petition it can be found [here](#).

Please do join in the prayer for his canonisation

O God,
you gave us Blessed John Ingram
to inspire and encourage us.
Grant that we may know the benefit of his prayers
so that we, your Church, can give witness to his sanctity.
We make our prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
Amen.