



# **Catalogue of the Durham St Cuthbert's Parish Archives and Manuscripts**

**Date range of material: [?17th century] - 1991**

Ushaw College Library  
September 2023

## Contents

Preface .....	iii
Introduction .....	1
Catalogue of material:	
1. Manuscript Volumes.....	3
Other Papers.....	9

## Preface

### Contact details

Ushaw College Library  
Ushaw College  
Durham  
DH7 9RH  
[ark:/32150/s1vt150j33b/PDF](https://nbn-resolving.org/urn:nbn:uk:32150/s1vt150j33b/PDF)



## Introduction

*Collection title:* Durham St Cuthbert's Parish Archives and Manuscripts

*Reference code:* GB-0034-UC/P52

*Dates of creation:* [?17th century] - 1991

*Extent:* 1.5 metres

*Repository:* Ushaw College Library

*Creator:* Durham, St Cuthbert's Parish

*Language of material:* English and Latin

## Contents

Archives and manuscripts from the library of St Cuthbert's, Elvet, Durham, comprising mostly of manuscript volumes with extracts from printed sources on various theological subjects, including hagiography, apologetic works, and devotional literature, as well as miscellaneous parish papers and ephemera.

## History of the Parish and Library

Although the church of St. Cuthbert's, Elvet, Durham was built in 1827, only slightly predating the Catholic Emancipation Act of 1829, there is a tradition of Catholic recusancy in Elvet dating back to the sixteenth century, earning the area the name "Popish Elvet". Despite oppression under the reign of Elizabeth I, Catholics continued to worship in secret. They were served by missionary priests trained abroad at seminarian colleges on the Continent, such as the English College of Douai. The 1585 Act Against Jesuits and Seminarists made it a capital offence to be a Catholic priest in England, and many priests serving the Durham Catholic community, and the lay people helping them, were put to death. By the 1650s, a chapel with secular priests was in place at 33 Elvet. In 1717 Jesuits moved to 44-45 Elvet and set up a private chapel bringing their congregation with them, their previous chapel having been destroyed by a mob in 1688, during the revolution against the Catholic James II. In addition, Catholic gentry families occupied much of the property along Old Elvet.

There is little information on the formation, acquisitions, and readership of the library itself, although there are tantalising glimpses into the Catholic networks throughout Durham in the provenance information found within the books. There had at some point been donations from the Northern Catholic gentry families of Clavering and Maire, as the books bear several provenance inscriptions of members from both families. Robert and Grace Maire were allegedly present at the execution of four seminarian priests, later known as the Dryburne martyrs, at Durham in May 1590. This experience is said to have converted them to the Catholic faith. From the 1660s to the 1740s the Maire family were also benefactors of another Jesuit mission in nearby Gilesgate.

## Accession details

The material was deposited in the mid to late twentieth century by St. Cuthbert's Catholic Parish. There is no known existing loan agreement, correspondence or other archival material that detail the collection's transfer to Ushaw College. The collection is understood to be on permanent loan, however, this has yet to be confirmed.

## Previous custodial history

Formerly part of the Durham St Cuthbert's Parish Library collection and transferred to the archive during the Ushaw cataloguing project in 2021

## Arrangement

1. Manuscript Volumes
2. Papers

## Conditions of access

Open for consultation.

## Copyright and copying

Permission to make any published use of material from the collection must be sought in advance from [pg.library@durham.ac.uk](mailto:pg.library@durham.ac.uk) and, where appropriate, from the copyright owner. The Library will assist where possible with identifying copyright owners, but responsibility for ensuring copyright clearance rests with the user of the material

## Accruals

No further accruals are expected.

## Form of citation

The form of citation should use the code GB-0034-UC/P52, or the collection name Durham St Cuthbert's Parish Archives and Manuscripts, followed by the *reference number*. To order items in the searchroom, use the collection reference code(s), derived by removing the repository code (GB-0034-), followed by the reference number. Citing the section of the finding aid is useful.

## Bibliography

<https://www.stcuthberts-durham.org.uk/about-us/history>

<https://taking-stock.org.uk/building/durham-st-cuthbert/>

*A catalogue of the books in the library of St. Cuthbert's chapel, Durham; together with the rules and regulations.* (Hartlepool: Ord & Rutherford, 1840)

Page, William ed., *A History of the County of Durham: Volume 3* (London: Victoria County History, 1928.)

## Related material - here

Lancaster Catholic Parish Archives and Manuscripts

Weldbank Parish Archives and Manuscripts

Claughton Parish Archives and Manuscripts

Middlesbrough Diocese Parish Library

Claughton Parish Library

Durham St Cuthbert's Parish Library

Lancaster Diocese Parish Library

Dodding Green Parish Library

Moriarty Library

Poor Clares, Darlington, Collection  
Weld Bank Parish Library

## 1. Manuscript Volumes

UC/P52/1/1 1657

"Sancta Sophia or Directions for the Prayers of Contemplation. Extracted out of more than 10 Treatises written by the late venerable Father Augustine Baker. A monk of the English congregation of the holy order of St. Benedict & methodically digested by the Reverend father Seuenus Cuessey of the same order & congregation. And Printed at the Charges of his Conuent of S. Gregories in Doway. Vol. 2. At Doway. By John Latte & Thomas Fleuet, Anno. Dom. 1659. W. C."

Provenance: on the front pastedown ink bookstamp "Ushaw College Lib." and pencil inscription St. Cuthbert's. On the recto of the front endpaper inscription "Ex lib Bib Sti. Cuthberti Durham" previous shelfmark (β CRE). At the head of the title page inscription "Ex libris Jac. Gerard"

On the verso of the front endpaper pencil inscription "Possibly D[?] Winifred Constable of Cambrai, professed 1656, d.1660"

*Language:* English

*Size:* 110 x 170 mm

Pages 1-281

UC/P52/1/2 [?1670 x 1674]

"Auspice Christo controuersiarum inter Euangelicas et Pontificias breuis et Succincta delineateo secundum methodum Roberti Bellarmini"

The second half of the volume contains copious shorthand notes

Date on the rear pastedown: 13 May 1670

Attestation dated 1674 by "H. M." on his/her sinful nature and willingness to submit to God

Provenance: on the front pastedown circular bookstamp "Ushaw College Lib." . Inscription on recto of the stub of the front endpaper "Richard Clegg" (possibly vicar of Kirkham, -1720)

*Language:* Latin

*Size:* 105 x 150 mm

1 volume (unpaginated)

UC/P52/1/3 [?17th century]

"Contractio contractionis S. Bernardi di Abbatis Clairvae. Pars secunda"

Provenance: on the front pastedown circular bookstamp "Ushaw College Library". On the recto of the front endpaper previous shelfmark (α BER)

*Language:* Latin

*Size:* 55 x 85 mm

Folios 1-20, 1-14, 1-17, 1-15, 1-16, 1-10, 1-22, 1-14, 1-15, 1-16, 1-20

UC/P52/1/4 [?17th century]

"Incrnao conc. & [?] Tract de Incarnaoe":

(1) "Tractatus de incanaoe"

(2) "Disputao de Scrp. Sacra de Canoe Scrp. Sa."

(3) "Appendix de 6 prioribus 5 [?] qualibus Sac. Sa."

Provenance: on the front pastedown inscription "St Cuthbert's Old Elvet" and circular bookstamp "Ushaw College Lib."

*Language:* Latin

*Size:* 110 x 170 mm

1 volume (mostly unpaginated)



UC/P52/1/5 [?17th century]

Manuscript commentary on Luke 2

Provenance: on the front pastedown circular bookstamp "Ushaw College Lib." . On the recto of the front endpaper inscription "November 23 - Received of Mr Willia Stephenson twenty shillings , as the [?dissident[ of the [?foud] Anno 89/"

*Language:* Latin and English

*Size:* 120 x 185 mm

6 unnumbered folios

UC/P52/1/6 [?18th century]

Manuscript notes and commentaries on various theological subjects

Provenance: on the front pastedown circular bookstamp "Ushaw College Lib." .

*Language:* English

*Size:* 120 x 190 mm

1 volume (unpaginated)

UC/P52/1/7 [?late 18th century] - October 1974

"A catalogue of the books at Hessop"

Also includes papers relating to the sale of the library in October 1970, now in separate envelope

Provenance: on the front pastedown pencil inscription "This book belongs to the presbytery St Cuthbert's Catholic Church, Old Elvet, Durham City. On permanent loan to Ushaw " .

*Language:* English

*Size:* 165 x 200 mm

1 volume (unpaginated)

UC/P52/1/8 [1815]

Manuscript volume including writings on the lives of Epictetus, Eupherie (virgin), St Mary of Egypt (penitent), the latter written by Sophonius patriarch of Jerusalem

First, second, third, fourth & fifth parts. Histories from Rosweid

Dated from internal evidence

Includes index at the end of volum

Provenance: on the front pastedown circular bookstamp "Ushaw College Lib." . On the recto of the front endpaper inscription "George Witham. Wm Croskell" and previous shelfmark:  $\beta$  WIT

*Language:* English

*Size:* 190 x 260 mm

Pages 1-7; folios 8-130, [5]

UC/P52/1/9 [1818]

"The life of St Posthumius father of five thousand monks. By an unknown author"

Dated from internal evidence

Includes index at the end of volume

Provenance: on the front pastedown circular bookstamp "Ushaw College Lib." . On the recto of the front endpaper inscriptions "George Witham. Wm Croskell" and "Ex lib. Bib. Sti Cutberti Durham" and previous shelfmark:  $\beta$  WIT

*Language:* English

*Size:* 190 x 260 mm

Folios 1-186

UC/P52/1/10 [1818]

Manuscript volume including extracts and writings on the lives of various saints:

“The Life of St Paul the first Hermit written by St Jerome”

“Life of St Anthony Patriarch of Monks by St Athanasius”

“Life of St Basil”

“Life of St Ephrem the Syrian”

“Life of St John the Almoner B. of Alexandria”

“Life of Pelagia Penitent”

“Life of Onuphrius Hermit”

“Life of Eugenia Origin and Martyr”

“Life of Macarius the Roman”

“Some extracts from Dialogues Christienne”

“Extracts from Le Nain”

“Two French Penitents”

Dated from internal evidence

Includes index at the end of volume

Provenance: on the front pastedown circular bookstamp “Ushaw College Lib.”. On the recto of the first flyleaf inscriptions “George Witham. Wm Croskell” .

*Language:* English

*Size:* 190 x 260 mm

Folios 1-171, 1-38, [7]

UC/P52/1/11 1 January 1820

“Anadcotes Chretiennes Published at Lyon 1801”

Probably extracts from Reyre, Joseph, *Anecdotes chrétiennes, ou recueil de traits d'histoire choisis; auxquels on a ajouté les grands exemples de vertu qu'ont donné les catholiques français pendant la révolution. Pour servir à l'éducation de la jeunesse et à l'édification de tous les fidèles* (Lyon: Girard, 1801)

Dated from preface

Includes index at the end of volume

Provenance: on the front pastedown circular bookstamp “Ushaw College Lib.”. On the recto of the front endpaper inscriptions “George Witham. Wm Croskell”, “Ex lib. Bib. Sti Cuthberti Durham” and previous shelfmark β WIT.

*Language:* English

*Size:* 190 x 260 mm

Folios 1-215. [3]

UC/P52/1/12 8 April 1819

“Theodoret's Lives and Spirtual Meadows by John Moschos”

Dated from the verso of f. 139

Includes index at the end of volume

Provenance: on the front pastedown circular bookstamp “Ushaw College Lib.”. On the recto of the front endpaper inscriptions “George Witham. Wm Croskell”, “Ex lib. Bib. Sti Cuthberti Durham” and previous shelfmark β WIT.

*Language:* English

*Size:* 190 x 260 mm

Folios 1-139, [5]

UC/P52/1/13 [?1819]

Untitled manuscript volume, mostly accounts of lives of saints

Includes index at the end of volume

Provenance: on the front pastedown circular bookstamp "Ushaw College Lib.". On the recto of the front endpaper inscriptions "George Witham. Wm Croskell" and previous shelfmark β WIT.

*Language:* English

*Size:* 190 x 260 mm

Folios 1-108, [3]

UC/P52/1/14 1 March 1821

"The wonderful Life and Revelations of Sister Mary Agnes of Jesus alias [?Ferioa]

Religious of the Third Order of St Francis at Rome written by the Revd Joseph Marconi Translated in English"

On Page 328: "Finished March 1 1821 in little more than a month by the Rev George Witham"

Includes index at the end of volume

Provenance: on the recto of the front pastedown circular bookstamp "Ushaw College Lib.", inscriptions "George Witham. Wm Croskell", "Ex lib. Bib. Sti Cuthberti Durham" and previous shelfmark β WIT.

*Language:* English

*Size:* 210 x 320 mm

Pages 1-328, [13]

UC/P52/1/15 28 January 1823

"God unknown by Henry Mary Boudon D.D. Archdeacon of Everaux"

On folio 146: "Jan 28 1823. Durham"

Includes index at the end of volume

Provenance: on the front pastedown circular bookstamp "Ushaw College Lib.". On the recto of the front endpaper inscriptions "George Witham. Wm Croskell", "Ex lib. Bib. Sti Cuthberti Durham" and previous shelfmark β WIT.

*Language:* English

*Size:* 210 x 320 mm

Folios 1-146, [2]

UC/P52/1/16 10 November 1823

"The life of the Venerable Sister Mary (canonized) of the Incarnation and Lay Sister of the Carmelites, Foundress of the Carmelites of France by l'Abbé de Montis Jan. 1822 called in the world Madame [?Acasie]"

On the verso of folio 178: "Nov. 10 1823 Burnhall"

Includes index at the end of volume

Provenance: on the front pastedown circular bookstamp "Ushaw College Lib.". On the recto of the front endpaper inscriptions "George Witham. Wm Croskell", "Ex lib. Bib. Sti Cuthberti Durham" and previous shelfmark β WIT.

*Language:* English

*Size:* 210 x 320 mm

Folios 1-178, [3]

UC/P52/1/17 10 December 1823

"The Lives of St Baslaam Hermit and St Josephet an Indian King wrote by St John Damascene translted by Jacobus Billius [?Prunceus]. Feb 28 1823, into English"

On the verso of folio 157: "Durham Decem 10. 1823"

Provenance: on the front pastedown circular bookstamp "Ushaw College Lib.". On the recto of the front endpaper inscriptions "George Witham. Wm Croskell", "Ex lib. Bib. Sti Cuthberti Durham" and previous shelfmark β WIT.

*Language:* English

*Size:* 210 x 320 mm

Folios 1-157, [8]

UC/P52/1/18 13 October 1824

"The Spirit of St Vincent de Paul by M. Andre Joseph Ansart Durham Decem 16. 1823"

Includes index at the end of volume

On the verso of folio 237: "Oct 13 1824 Durham"

Provenance: on the front pastedown circular bookstamp "Ushaw College Lib.". On the recto of the front endpaper inscriptions "George Witham. Wm Croskell", "Ex lib. Bib. Sti Cuthberti Durham" and previous shelfmark β WIT.

*Language:* English

*Size:* 210 x 320 mm

Folios 1-237, [2]

UC/P52/1/19 10 June 1825

Folios 1-49: "Of the Love of our Lord Jesus Christ and the Motives how to acquire it. By Father Francis [?Nepvere]"

Folios 238-357: "Life of the Venerable Louise de Marillac, Widow of M. le Gras Curate of St Laurence. Revised by M. Collet D.D. Paris 1769. Nov 10. 1823 Barnhall finished Decem 2 1824"

The second item is likely to be a continuation of UC/P52/1/18

Includes index at the end of volume

On the verso of folio 249: "10 June 1825"

Provenance: on the front pastedown circular bookstamp "Ushaw College Lib.". On the recto of the front endpaper inscriptions "George Witham. Wm Croskell", "Ex lib. Bib. Sti Cuthberti Durham" and previous shelfmark β WIT.

*Language:* English

*Size:* 210 x 320 mm

Folios 1-49, [6], 238-357

UC/P52/1/20 1864 - 1868

Chemistry notebook

Provenance: on the front pastedown manuscript inscription "Names of Posterity to whom this book was handed down by the author: Wilfrid Grehan L.L.D. 1859-71 John Hoy D.D. Maurice Postant B.A. D.R.L. 1867-8 [?Harry] Hornby 1868" and circular bookstamp

"Ushaw College Lib."

*Language:* English

1 volume

## Other Papers

UC/P52/2/1-5 1864 - 1869

Rev Wilfrid Grehan's Ushaw College subject notebooks, including Chemistry, Church and English History, Moral Philosophy, Theology, and Syntax

On the front pastedown of the Chemistry notebook manuscript inscription "Names of Posterity to whom this book was handed down by the author: Wilfrid Grehan L.L.D. 1859-71 John Hoy D.D. Maurice Postant B.A. D.R.L. 1867-8 [?Harry] Hornby 1868"

5 notebooks

UC/P52/2/6 [?19th century]

Address book

1 notebook

UC/P52/2/6 [?1847]

Cuttings from an appendix of a printed source entitled "College Chapel of St Cuthbert, Ushaw"

Pages xxxi-xxxvi

UC/P52/2/7 1980 - 1991

Newsletters and other ephemeral publications from St Cuthbert's Deanery and Parish, Durham

1 file