

**West Durham Catholic Parishes:  
Esh, Esh Winning, Langley Park and Ushaw Moor**

**St John Boste Pastoral Office, Durham Road, Ushaw Moor, Durham. DH7 7LF**

Priest: Father David Coxon Tel: (0191) 373 0219

Secretary: Lisa Hatton Tel: (0191) 373 0219

Office Hours: Tues – Thurs from 9.30am–2.30pm

E-mail: [stosephs.ushawmoor@btopenworld.com](mailto:stosephs.ushawmoor@btopenworld.com)

Website: [wdrcp.org](http://wdrcp.org)

Primary Schools: St Joseph's, Ushaw Moor: Tel. (0191) 373 0355

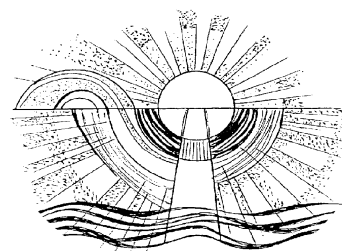
Our Lady Queen of Martyrs, Esh Winning: Tel. (0191) 373 4343

St Michael's Esh Laude: Tel. (0191) 373 1205

Hospital

R C Chaplain Father Paul Tully Tel. (01388) 818544

*Please telephone the Chaplain if you have someone in hospital who would like a visit.*



	<b>St Joseph's Ushaw Moor</b>	<b>St Michael's Esh Laude</b>	<b>Our Lady Queen of Martyrs, Newhouse</b>	<b>St Joseph's Langley Park</b>
<b>Saturday 8 December</b> <i>The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Patron of the Diocese</i>	6.00 pm Mass Clifton Ward & Dec'd Members of Brennan and Nelson Family, Sheila Kenny Family & People of the Parish			
<b>Sunday 9 December</b> <i>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent</i>		9.00 am Mass Sarah & James Rankin, Anne Rankin, Frank & Lizzie Armstrong, Denis Gavin, Margaret & John Bell, Peggy and Gerald Hannant & People of the Parish	10.30 am Mass Paul Boddice (sick) & People of the Parish	
<b>Monday 10 December</b>				
<b>Tuesday 11 December</b>	6.15 pm Confessions 7.00 pm Mass NBF			
<b>Wed 12 December</b>		9.15 am Mass School Chapel Priest's Intention		
<b>Thurs 13 December</b>			9.15 am Mass Priest's Intention	
<b>Friday 14 December</b> <i>St John of the Cross</i>				9.15 am Mass Priest's Intention
<b>Saturday 15 December</b>	6.00 pm Mass Special Intention, John Halpin & Parish of the Parish			
<b>Sunday 16 December</b> <i>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent</i>		9.00 am Mass Bro. Denis Casey. CMF., Edward Farrell, Tony Sands & People of the Parish	10.30 am Mass Kevin & Rosanna Slevin and Frank & Nancy Hogan & People of the Parish	

**Anniversaries:**

**Ushaw Moor:** Beatrice Towns, Brian Kelly, Joe Halpin, Vincent Keelty, John Gallagher, Ellen Maughan, Harry Law, Robert Ward.

**Esh Winning:** Thomas Rowan, Mary Hughes, Mary Elizabeth Shoulder, Patricia Kervin, Kevin Slevin, Eileen Mallen, George Peel, Barry Shaw, Billy Hughes, Jack Richardson, Norman Turner.

**Esh & Langley Park:** Joseph Dumighan, Catherine Bygroves, Michael Powell, Oswin Maynard Towns, Mary O'Connor, Jenny Wilson, Frank Armstrong, Bert Goundry, Thomas Finley, Ken Mashel, Joe Halpin, Barrie Charlton, Margaret Davidson.

**Collection Details:**

Ushaw Moor: £ 190.74

Esh & Langley Park: 25 November: £292.60; 2 December: £276.85

Esh Winning: Attendance: 68 Collection: £111.20

	<b>Ushaw Moor</b>	<b>Esh/Langley Park</b>	<b>Esh Winning</b>
Holy Communion Ministers	Janet Dawson <u>Kath Gardiner</u> Pam Stoddart	<u>Emma Peverall</u> Margaret Hallam Susan Clark	Cecilia Wharton & Beryl Shoulder
Readers	Kirsty Doran	Joanne Sands Eileen Tallentire	Kathleen Flatley & David Low
Welcomer		Noreen Gardner	
Children's Liturgy	Debbie with Joshua	Denise Kendall Ann McMahan	
Counting Team	Billy Donnelly & Sean Cantwell		Jacqueline Ball & Anne Sewell
Coffee Morning			Phil & Paula Mackie

**Postage Stamps – Please put used stamps in box at back of Church in aid of the Air Ambulance Service.**



**Get close to God.** The temple in Jerusalem was seen to be the place where one 'met with God'. For this reason the prophet Baruch, in today's first reading, imagines a flattening of the hills and a filling in of the valleys to create a road that allowed easy access into God's presence. This image is picked up many years later by John the Baptist in today's gospel. John wants a situation in which all of us have easy access to God. What could we do to allow us to get close to God in our own lives, today?

David Coxon

**Preparing for Reconciliation and Holy Communion:** Last Wednesday we had another meeting for children and parents preparing for sacraments. This was on the subject of how best we *listen to God's word in the Scripture readings*. During our mass today we will have a short liturgy about the importance of the Scriptures.



**Christmas masses:**

- Christmas Eve, 5.00pm: Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs;
- Christmas Eve, 7.30pm : St Michael's;
- Christmas morning, 10.00am : St Joseph's.

**Confirmation:** This Sunday afternoon, 2.00 – 4.00pm, we will have a meeting in our Parish Centre at Newhouse for those of our young people preparing for Confirmation. In this we will be thinking about the significance of 'baptism'. Our sessions will not be hard work but will, hopefully, prompt us to think and to share our thoughts with one another. **NOTE:** If you haven't yet returned your two forms, please bring them with you to our preparation session.

*(There is also a handout today with mass times across our Partnership)*

**Advent calendar sheets:** Last weekend we had coloured sheets available which offered little points of reflection for each day during Advent. If you didn't get a sheet then there are still some at the back of church today.

**The Finchale Partnership:** Thank you to everyone who came along to the Partnership Advent Service at Ushaw last weekend, and to those from all our parishes who were involved in preparing the service. Please take a copy of 'The Finchale Partnership at Christmas' and join us for Advent and Christmas services over the next few weeks. If you'd like to find out more about what is happening in the Partnership, the minutes of the November meeting of the Partnership Development Group are now available on the noticeboard, and on the partnership webpages hosted at <http://www.stcuthberts-durham.org.uk/>

**'Northern Catholic Calendar':** This is the directory which gives up to date information on parishes, partnerships, schools as well as contact details for clergy and convents. The 2019 edition is now available at the back of church for £3.00

**Esh Village Carol Service :** Tuesday, December 18th at 7.00pm in All Saints Church. If you would like to be part of the choir, we are gathering in the Anglican Church at 2.00pm today for a rehearsal. Everyone welcome. No previous experience needed. It's all about enjoying yourself and celebrating the season.



**Advent Fayre:** Many thanks to all who supported the Advent Fayre at Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Parish Centre last Sunday. The fayre raised a staggering £1302. An incredible result! Thank you.

**St Joseph's Christmas raffle:** Prizes welcomed! Tickets on sale from today.

**Becoming One Parish:** Bishop Seamus and his advisors have now given preliminary permission for our three parishes to come together as one single parish. After Christmas it would be helpful to have an open meeting so that people from all of our parishes might share hopes and concerns. We will then present a detailed proposal for our plan to our Partnership Group, and then to the bishop and to the Council of Priests.

**Events at Ushaw College:**  
 \* Christmas Sunday lunches in the college refectory from November 24<sup>th</sup> – December 16<sup>th</sup>. Booking is essential. Tel: 0191-373 8500 or email [meet@ushaw.org](mailto:meet@ushaw.org)  
 \* Carol services this Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at 7.30pm. Also Thursday, 12.30pm. Further information: phone 373 8500 or go to [ushaw.org](http://ushaw.org)

**Finding out more:** A few people have recently said they would like to find out more about what Catholics believe. I wonder if anyone else might be interested in finding out more...? If so, you might like to let me know. We hope to start a new 'Journey in Faith' group shortly. David Coxon

**Christmas lamps:** Envelopes are now available at the back of church for you to fill in. If you are able you might like to offer a donation of, perhaps, £5 to cover the cost. If you cannot afford the £5 please take a lamp anyway.

**Service of Reconciliation:** We are to have a Service of Reconciliation on Tuesday, December 18<sup>th</sup> at 7.00pm. This will be at St Joseph's, Gilesgate and, from our Partnership, there will be a number of priests available for confession. All welcome. We also have an opportunity for confession on Tuesdays, 6.15 – 6.55pm at Ushaw Moor or after any weekday mass.

**Advent Alms:** St Cuthbert's Care works all the year round helping to improve the lives of the most vulnerable members of our communities. When you contribute to the 'Advent Alms' box you are supporting this work in a very practical way.

**Names on Rota:** Most people across our parishes who have any ministry during weekend masses have now completed the YELLOW forms indicating whether or not they are happy to have their names printed in the newsletter. This is now a requirement for data protection. If anyone hasn't yet completed a yellow form could they please collect one form the back of church and complete it and return it as soon as possible.

**Partnership Prayer:**  
 Risen Christ,  
 from your abundant grace,  
 pour out afresh your Holy Spirit upon our Diocese.  
 As we build on the deep foundations of faith  
 laid by the countless saints of these Northern lands,  
 by Aidan and Cuthbert, Hilda and Bede,  
 may our Partnerships continue the mission  
 of building your Kingdom on the earth:  
 to give living witness to your love,  
 and to your compassion and hope for our world.  
 We pray in trustful confidence  
 that your power working in us  
 can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.  
 Through the same Christ our Lord, Amen

**CAFOD:** Help others...  
 Christmas gifts ideas...  
 Pick up a brochure from the back of church.

