

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

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

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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.



	St Joseph's Ushaw Moor	St Michael's Esh Laude	Our Lady Queen of Martyrs, Newhouse	St Joseph's Langley Park
Saturday 9 February	6.00 pm Mass Jackson & Bullen Family, Patricia Edwards & People of the Parish			
Sunday 10 February <i>5th Sunday of the Year</i>		9.00 am Mass James and Anne Redmond, Maggie Rowntree & People of the Parish	10.30 am Mass Paul Boddice (sick) Teresa Rochford & People of the Parish	
Monday 11 February				
Tuesday 12 February	6.15 pm Confessions 7.00 pm Mass Anne Cutmore			
Wed 13 February		9.15 am Mass School Chapel Priest's Intention		
Thurs 14 February <i>SS Cyril, Monk & Methodius Bp Patrons of Europe</i>			9.15 am Mass Priest's Intention	
Friday 15 February				9.15 am Mass Aileen Cook
Saturday 16 February	6.00 pm Mass Catherine O'Neil & People of the Parish			
Sunday 17 February <i>6th Sunday of the Year</i>		9.00 am Mass People of the Parish	10.30 am Mass Michael & Mary Ann Peel, Nora Stiff & People of the Parish	

Funeral of **Ian Chamberlain** (Bearpark), Durham crematorium: Tuesday, February 12th, 1.30pm

Anniversaries:

Ushaw Moor: Tommy Donnelly, Mary McMahon, Jack O'Connor, Agnes Finnigan, Margaret Davis, Teresa Corrigan, Olive Barr, Alison Davidson, Ann Olive Brown.

Esh Winning: Beradette Watkin, Duncan McCallum, Katie Wood, William Cantwell, Robert Bastain, Philomena Traynor, Peter Shaw, Ethel Duggan, Dick Garr, Celia Wlaton, Jimmy Doyle, Thomas Turner, Henry Bradley, Veronica Hale, Roseann Slevin, Richard Rayner, Henry Turner, Harry Oliver, Agnes Thompson, Violet Atkinson

Esh & Langley Park: Harry Stockdale, Colin Carey, Vincent Wrangham, James Patrick Sherry, James Redmond, Tom Dixon, Mary Johnston, Jane Turnbull, Kenneth Tague, William Parker

Collection Details: Ushaw Moor: £118.05
Esh Winning: £100.55 Attendance: 55
Esh & Langley Park: £197.50

	Ushaw Moor	Esh/Langley Park	Esh Winning
Holy Communion Ministers	Lisa Cummings Lauren Kirkwood Christina Parker	Susan Clark Veronica Chapman Denise Kendall	Cecilia Wharton & Gerard Towns
Readers	David & Joyce McDonough	Karen Thompson Stuart Cox	Kathleen Flatley & Anne Lawlor
Prayers of Intercession	Peter Murray		
Welcomer		Chris Thompson	
Children's Liturgy	School Holidays	School Holidays	
Counting Team	Lesley & John Thornton		Jacqueline Ball & Anne Sewell

5TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Literally 'awesome': I don't know if you have ever looked up at the night sky on a really clear night. That total silence as you gaze up and try to absorb the view of thousands and thousands of stars. You can't help but feel how utterly small and insignificant you are. Such an experience can cause the hair on the back of your neck to stand on end. The sheer mystery of it is just awe-inspiring. This strikes me as how it might be if somehow we were to stand close in the presence of God. A feeling of being totally captivated, mesmerised by the awesome presence of God. Yet this is precisely the image we are given in today's first reading and again in the gospel. The holy man Isaiah pinpoints the occasion as the year in which King Uzziah died. He had some profound experience of being in God's presence and his reaction was '*What a wretched state I am in! Yet my eyes have looked upon the king, the Lord of hosts.*' There was a moment when Simon Peter had a similar experience in the presence of Jesus: '*Leave me, Lord; I am a sinful man*'. I wonder if you have had any such 'Wow!' moment when you felt filled with awe.

David Coxon

Letter from Bishop Seamus: Today's gospel tells us how, after a relatively brief first encounter with Jesus, the three fishermen, Simon Peter, James and John 'left everything and followed him': a dramatic start to a life of discipleship. Our own ongoing journey of pastoral development has not demanded that we literally drop everything and leave family, friends and careers, but it does ask us to take the opportunity to pray and reflect on how we might become better disciples of Jesus. It is important that, in this, we have a shared vision. It is important to communicate our Vision, our Mission and our Values to everyone so that they can become part of the very fabric of our diocese. Today you receive a Partnership Prayer card. A video containing further details is available on YouTube [<https://youtu.be/8NwfN41wIMQ>] and our diocesan website [rcdhn.org.uk]

Preparing for sacraments: During the week we had a further session about the mass for those children and parents preparing for Reconciliation and Holy Communion. We thought about the word '*eucharist*', which means '*thank you*' or '*gratitude*'. An essential part of the mass, then, is about an attitude of wanting to express thanks to God. In every mass our '*eucharistic prayer*' is our 'thank you prayer' to God our Father. What are the things you might like to thank God for?



Confirmation: This Sunday afternoon we have our next meeting for young people preparing for Confirmation. This will again be in the Parish Centre at Newhouse, 2.00 – 4.00pm. We'll think about 'the gifts of the Spirit'.

A New Bishop: A new bishop for our diocese has been appointed to succeed Bishop Seamus Cunningham. Bishop Robert Byrne has been an auxiliary (assistant) bishop in Birmingham since 2014 and his installation will take place in St Mary's cathedral, Newcastle on March 25th.

Getting mixed up: It is easy to become confused between 'partnerships', 'Churches Together' and our move to become 'one parish'! When we speak of '*one parish*' we are thinking about St Joseph's, Ushaw Moor, Our Lady Queen of Martyrs, Newhouse and St Michael's, Esh (with Langley Park) coming together to form one united Catholic parish. Our '*partnership*' is a grouping of our own local Catholic parishes along with the Catholic parishes in Langley Moor, Durham, Sedgfield, Coxhoe and Trimdon. And when we refer to '*Churches Together*' we mean all the churches within the 'DH7' postcode, whether Catholic, Anglican, Methodist, Baptist, Salvation Army

Forthcoming meetings

- Parish Pastoral Council (St Michael's, sacristy) : Wed, Feb 13th, 1.30pm.
- Parish Pastoral Council (OLQM Parish centre) : Thurs, Feb 14th, 7.00pm.

Partnerships: Each week, at mass, we have a prayer for all the people in our 'partnership of parishes'. Yet what we mean by a 'partnership' is very new to all of us - to parishioners, to priests and also to Bishop Seamus. It hasn't been tried before. 'Partnership' is not just about another meeting in the diary. It's much bigger than this. It's about actively looking for ways in which all the parishes in a partnership can genuinely work together. Perhaps, together, preparing engaged couples for marriage. Preparing young people for Confirmation. During Lent, having Stations of the Cross across the parishes. Providing training days for ministers. It can be that, when a priest is ill, the partnership needs to provide cover (and this *could* mean a temporary rearrangement of mass times). The partnership will also be delegated to think about unused or under-used buildings in its area. So, 'partnerships' is not something which may not affect us. We *are* a partnership. This is how we now operate.

Job Vacancy: Caretaker needed for St Joseph's School, Ushaw Moor. See advert on green paper in Church porch.

Food bank: The Food Bank total for February is **130.92kg**. Thank you for all your donations.

Becoming One Parish: Recently we had an Open Meeting to be brought up to date with progress in our three parishes becoming one. We also looked at two questions: (i) what priorities do we want to focus on if we are genuinely to be a parish that seeks to bring good news to others? (ii) what shared events, activities, projects could we engage in to enable the people of our three parishes to pull together? We will now seek to prepare a more detailed proposal for our plan, then present this to our Partnership Group, and finally to the bishop and to the Council of Priests.

Scripture readings for next weekend:

- Jeremiah 17: 5-8: *You choose: put your trust in this world, or in God.*
- 1 Corinthians 15: 12, 16-20: *The significance of 'resurrection'.*
- Luke 6: 17, 20-26: *Strive for the things of this world, or of God.*

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