



St John Boste Parish, West Durham
Esh, Esh Winning, Langley Park and Ushaw Moor

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

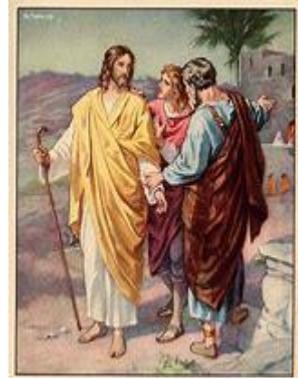
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Please telephone the Chaplain if you have someone in hospital who would like a visit.



Third Sunday of Easter: 26 April 2020

The gospel passages during this Easter season tend to be quite long and, consequently, take up a lot of space in the current format of our parish newsletter! Today's passage, from the gospel of Luke, tells us of two people walking the seven miles from Jerusalem to Emmaus. It was late Sunday afternoon, two days after Jesus had died. These two travellers had been disciples of Jesus. Understandably, they were talking together as they walked, trying to get their heads around all that happened. Try to imagine you are there, walking along with them, as their story unfolds:

‘Two of the disciples of Jesus were on their way to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking together about all that had happened. Now as they talked this over, Jesus himself came up and walked by their side; but something prevented them from recognising him. He said to them, “What matters are you discussing as you walk along?” They stopped short, their faces downcast. Then one of them, called Cleopas, answered him, “You must be the only person staying in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have been happening there these last few days.” “What things?” Jesus asked. “All about Jesus of Nazareth,” they answered, “who proved he was a great prophet by the things he said and did in the sight of God and of the whole people; and how our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and had him crucified. Our own hope had been that he would be the one to set Israel free. And this is not all: two whole days have gone by since it all happened, and some women from our group have astounded us. They went to the tomb in the early morning and, when they did not find the body, they came back to tell us they had seen a vision of angels who declared he was alive. Some of our friends went to the tomb and found everything exactly as the women had reported, but of him they saw nothing. Then he said to them, “You foolish men! So slow to believe the full message of the prophets! Was it not ordained that the Christ should suffer, and so enter into his glory?” Then, starting with Moses and going through all the prophets, he explained to them the passages throughout the scriptures that were about himself. When they drew near to the village to which they were going, he made as if to go on; but they pressed him to stay with them. “It is nearly evening,” they said, “and the day is almost over.” So, he went in to stay with them. Now while he was with them at table, he took the bread and said the blessing; then he broke it and handed it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognised him! But he had vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, “Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road, and explained the scriptures to us?” They set out that instant and returned to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven disciples assembled together with their companions, who said to them, “Yes, it is true. The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon. Then they told their story of what had happened on the road, and how they had recognised him at the breaking of bread.’ (Luke 24: 13-35)



- The story portrays the whole of our lives as a journey, a Journey of Faith. We try to make sense of our lives but, ultimately, only Jesus can enable us to get everything into perspective. Take a while, perhaps using pen and paper, to think about the story of your own life, your own *journey of faith*. What things have happened during the course of your life? Who are the people you have met along the way? Who are the people who have encouraged you in your own *faith-journey*?
- Scratch the surface of this story a little bit and notice how, in the story, you can detect the underlying pattern of the Eucharist, the Mass. The disciples start by thinking about what has been going on in their lives, then Jesus explains the Scriptures to them (*the Liturgy of the Word*), they then sit down together to ‘break the bread’ (*Liturgy of the Eucharist*) and, finally, they rush out to share the message with others.

Recently deceased: Thomas McKenna (Esh Winning). His funeral will be on Wednesday.
Catherine Donnelly (Esh Winning). Catherine's funeral was last Friday, 24th April.
Steve Hutchinson (Langley Moor, but very much part of St Michael's). He died on Monday.
Mary Simpson (Ushaw Moor). Mary died on Tuesday night. Funeral: Thursday 30th April. May they rest in peace.



Anniversaries:

St Joseph's: Michael Corrigan, Norah Laidman, Rachel Usher, Liz Thompson, James Connor, Cecelia McGough, Jeff Thornton, Mary Ann McQuillan, Patrick O'Malley, Sheila Tomlinson, Margaret Hope, Maud Manford.

Our Lady Queen of Martyrs: May Johnson, Alice McKenna, James Wilson, Doreen Emery, Mary Young.

St Michael's: Robert Knox, Marie Beatrice Welsh, Irene Carey, Mary McTear, Ella Callan.



Masses for the sick and for carers:

The Bishops of England and Wales have agreed that every Thursday evening at 7pm a bishop in turn, will

celebrate a live streamed Mass in his Cathedral for all those frontline workers in the NHS and care homes, for the sick and their families and for the repose of the souls of the deceased. The first was last Thursday from Westminster Cathedral. Next Thursday, 30th April, will be with Bishop Richard Moth from Arundel Cathedral. Bishop Robert shall be celebrating Mass in our Cathedral on 14th May.

Listeners: As part of the pastoral care of parishioners and others during this COVID-19 lockdown, a number of qualified counsellors and listeners have generously made themselves available to anyone who may be troubled by the negative effects of the situation. These counsellors and listeners can be contacted through the St Mary's Cathedral Listening Service on 0191 232 6953 and the Northumberland Listening Service on 07732 980740.

EUROPEAN UNION CITIZENS – SETTLED STATUS European Union Citizens:

All EU, EEA and Swiss citizens living in the UK are required by the government to apply through its Settlement Scheme to continue living, working and accessing services here. The deadline for applications is 30 June 2021. Details and links to the application process can be found at: gov.uk/eusetledstatus. Please bring this to the attention of friends, relatives and fellow parishioners who may need to apply. Assistance for those who may have difficulty applying is available at: gov.uk/help-eusettlement-scheme. The Catholic Church in England and Wales stands in solidarity with all European citizens who have made their homes here. They are a valued part of our parishes, schools and communities.

Daily readings and Morning and Evening Prayer:

<https://us.magnificat.net/free>

Mass and prayer available online:

<https://mass-online.org/daily-holy-mass-live-online/>

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

'The Northern Cross': There was no printed issue out in April and there won't be in May. BUT there is an electronic version which is FREE. Just go to the website where it can be found as a pdf. However, there are two points: first, the 'Northern Cross' is struggling right now. It is self-funded and, in our present situation, it has lost its advertising revenue. To help its chances of staying alive, might we try to pay the £1 monthly subscription in the next months? Secondly, and really important, the editor is asking for written contributions from parishioners on how they're worshipping, and living through the pandemic - so as to support others. The normal contributions won't be happening so it's vital the pages are filled. Do write to the editor! It will lift the spirits of fellow readers.

Gathering for Prayer: Each day quite a few of us are stopping to pray together at 12 noon. Do feel free to join in each day, from your armchair, your garden, or wherever you wish. Perhaps you pray for a few different people each day, or perhaps you use one of the psalms, or perhaps just some time of quiet prayer. You choose! Also, I am back to the beginning of my parish address book, praying for each of you individually.

Contact: Some parishioners have said they are very happy to keep in touch with others by phone or email. If you would like some contact, please let me know at the Parish Office.

Thoughts... I'd be very happy to hear peoples' thoughts about the Scripture readings each week...! Anything you have found to be new, helpful? Anything that has spoken to your heart?? What about any other books you are reading: anything you would like to recommend to others?

Food bank: Our food bank reserves are disappearing because of our being unable to go out. So how can we continue to help? We are asking people who normally donate food to donate money instead using our website durham.foodbank.org.uk and clicking on the Donate Now button. Alternatively, for those without internet access, you can send a cheque made out to **Durham Foodbank** and sending to our head office at: Mile House, Bridge End, Chester le Street, Durham, DH3 3RA. Thank you.

Distancing: Terry and Maureen Brown said they had listened to Gardeners' Question Time on Radio 4. The presenters on the panel were working from home due to the lock down. One of them said he kept his children amused by finding gardening jobs for them to do. He was showing them how to plant vegetable seeds and was heard to say 'No those seeds are far too close together they need to be further apart' to which the child replied 'Oh you mean social distancing!'