



**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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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.*



**Twenty ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A) : 18 October 2020**

**The ones God chooses:** Sometimes the readings from the Hebrew bible, or 'Old Testament', can seem obscure. Yet I am fascinated by today's first reading. Cyrus is not Jewish; he is the pagan king of Persia. Yet, at a time when so many Jewish people are living in exile in Babylon, 500 miles away from their homeland, Cyrus is the one who will liberate them. This liberation is surely to benefit King Cyrus' political aspirations yet this is *interpreted* as God choosing even a pagan gentile to bring salvation to the Jewish exiles.



'Thus, says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whom he has taken by his right hand to subdue nations before him, to force gateways before him that their gates maybe closed no more. It is for the sake of my servant Jacob, of Israel my chosen one, that I have called you by your name conferring a title on you though you do not know me. I am he Lord, unrivalled; there is no other God besides me.' (Isaiah 45: 1, 4-6)

We can sometimes think, in a strange possessive way, that God belongs *to us*. 'Us' can be 'Catholics', 'Anglicans', 'Muslims', 'westerners', 'whites', 'men', 'women', 'clergy'.... Yet it's not *God* who belongs to *us*. Actually, it is *we* who belong *to God*. All of us. No exceptions. If we appreciate that God can bring about his plan through any of us, all of us, this can alter our perception of others. God seems not to look at our 'labels' but, rather, looks into our hearts. During this time of increased restriction and uncertainty we are invited to discern what we ourselves are most seeking, and to be aware of the deeper needs of those around us. On this World Mission Day, we are challenged to think how best we can work with one another to allow God's plan, God's hope for the people of our community and our world, to become ever more real in a way that can transform people's lives for the good.

**Anniversaries this week:**

**Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs:** Jane Kenny, John Corrigan, Julia Brown, Jack Tinkler, James Duffy, Mary Brennan, John Suddes, Margaret Harkin.

**St Joseph's:** Christine Graham, Robert Bartlett, Ellen Rowan, Gordon Simpson, Elizabeth Millmore.

**St Michael's:** Fr Godfrey Bryce (1997), Jim Outterside, Edward Farrell, Lavinia Mullaney, Terry Trotter, Thomas and Evelyn Rutter, John Cuthbert Welsh, John Rutter.

**Mass times:** please note our current mass times :

Saturday, 6.00pm at Ushaw Moor; Sunday, 9.30am at Esh; Sunday, 10.30am at Newhouse.

Also: Friday, 23 October, 10.30am at St Joseph's, Langley Park.

Parents thinking about baptism or First Communion for their children might like to think about booking in for a weekend mass. On Thursdays, phone 373 0219 between 10.00am – 2.00pm, or 366 9465 between 5– 6pm.

**Mass intentions for next weekend:**

**St Joseph's: Saturday, 24 October, 6.00pm:** For everyone in our parish; also, Veronica Halpin; Ann Skelton.

**Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs, Sunday, 10.30am:** For everyone in our parish; also, Noreen Fodden; Joan Emmerson

**St Michael's:** For everyone in our parish; also, Winnie Lyons, Joan Brennan, Marion Redmond, James and Anne Redmond, Maggie Rowntree.

**Church cleaning: NOTE CHANGES!**

**St Joseph's:** Geraldine Barnes, Lynn Dumighan, Esther Martin, Janet Dawson.

**OLQM (Saturday 11.00am):** Anne McMahon, Catherine McKeown, Angela McKenna, Kevin Quigley.

**St Michael's (Saturday 11.00am):** Jill Cox, Stuart Cox, Eileen Tallentire, Karen Irving.

**First Communion catechists:** Our diocese is providing lots of on-line resources for us. First Communion catechists are invited to join in a meeting on Thursday, 22 October at 7.00pm and Confirmation catechists on Wednesday 21 October at 7.00 pm. For further details or to express an interest email [adminfaith.mission@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:adminfaith.mission@diocesehn.org.uk)

**Retiring collection at mass today:** a retiring collection for World Mission Day

## 29<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**Re-opening for mass:** We'll celebrate mass at St Joseph's Ushaw Moor at **6.00pm next Saturday** (24 October), at St Michael's at **9.30am next Sunday** (25 October) and then at Our Lady Queen of Martyrs at **10.30am next Sunday**. Note that mass at St Michael's will be a little later than our usual time, at 9.30am. We also hope to have mass at **St Joseph's, Langley Park on Friday, 23 October**; this mass will be at **10.30am**. This re-opening of all of our churches now calls for additional volunteers as stewards and cleaners. Could *you* help? Do please phone/ email the Parish Office to offer help. If you would like to come to any of these masses please phone the **Parish Office** this coming **THURSDAY** on **373 0219** between **10.00am – 2.00pm**, or phone **Bill Donnelly** on 07896- 782529 or **373 4284** between **5.00 – 6.00pm**. Please try to keep to these times if at all possible since it can become difficult if people are still phoning on Friday or even Saturday. Let us know if you are coming to mass as an individual, as a couple, or as a household group. Those people who have been to mass a few times recently may like to wait until later in the day to try to book a place, to allow the opportunity first for those people who haven't yet been able to come to mass. Please don't come to church if you have a cold or symptoms of flu. And, as the weather gets cooler, it could be an idea to wear warm clothing too since we need to leave doors open. Remember too that it is now obligatory to wear a face covering in all enclosed public spaces, including all of our churches.

Now, some practical information for those planning to come to mass at **St Michael's** or at **St Joseph's, Langley Park**: When you arrive at church you will be met by someone who will check your name against the booking list to ensure we have your phone number in case of a further virus outbreak locally. If you choose, you can then leave your collection donation, and *then* sanitise your hands. You will be led to a specific seat by a steward (not necessarily your *favourite* seat, I'm afraid). At **St Michael's**, benches on the left of the church can be used by individuals; benches on the far right by individuals or couples; benches in the centre of the church by households/ bubbles or by couples. At **Langley Park** we have individual chairs with a maximum congregation of 15 people. It is great that we can meet again at church but please try not to congregate inside or outside. We will have Holy Communion at the very end of mass at **Esh** and then you can leave immediately by going up the aisle on the sacristy side of the church to the exit. The procedure for **Langley Park** will be explained during the mass. Please try not to bring too many things to mass with you since you may need to carry all of these to Holy Communion before leaving. Remember, if *you* would like to volunteer to help with cleaning or with stewarding, please contact the Parish Office: you can you can email: [stjosephs.ushawmoor@btopenworld.com](mailto:stjosephs.ushawmoor@btopenworld.com) or phone the office on 0191-373 0219.

**Contributions:** Because we don't necessarily have the same opportunity to put money into the collection baskets at mass just now then a number of people have recently been seeking information about direct debits, standing orders and on-line contributions. This is certainly an easier system to use in our present situation. If you are interested in doing this then let us know at the Parish Office and someone will be in touch with how best to do it. If you prefer to put your donation into an envelope then remember that to gain tax refund on your donations you need to use an 'official' yellow Planned Giving Envelope with printed parish name.



**Operation Christmas Child:** the annual appeal for shoe box gifts brings Good News and great joy to children around the world - something needed more than ever in 2020. If anyone

feels able to pack a shoe box, please contact the Parish Office or Karen Thompson (01914475308 or [karen.thompson71@talktalk.net](mailto:karen.thompson71@talktalk.net)) to arrange safe supply of your empty box & leaflet and safe pick up of your filled box. The last date for collection is Sunday 8th November. Alternatively, you can pack a shoe box/donate online: [www.samaritans-purse.org.uk](http://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk)

**National Rosary Rally:** Saturday 31 October 9.00am – 9.00pm. Further information from [www.walsingham.org.uk](http://www.walsingham.org.uk)

**Are you willing to listen? Our diocese is sponsoring a six-week, on-line training course in Listening Skills.** Some parishioners may be experiencing mental health issues such as anxiety; low mood; loss and bereavement; family concerns etc. You will learn effective listening skills to offer support and if necessary "sign post" people to other sources of help. The course begins on Tuesday 10 November. Ask at Parish Office for detailed poster. Those participating are to be referred by their priest. For further details on the course contact: Oonagh Atkinson on 0191 3891188. The cost of the course will be paid by our parish.

**'Unlocking the mystery of the bible':** A free eight-week on-line bible study on Mondays 7.30 – 8.30pm beginning 2 November. Further details from [adminfaith.mission@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:adminfaith.mission@diocesehn.org.uk)

**Mary's meals:** Mary's Meals is a **global movement** which sets up school feeding programmes in communities where poverty and hunger prevent children from gaining an education. To discover more in a very practical way you may like to watch a video message about Mary's Meals. This video contains includes a message from Sister Medhin, working in Ethiopia. Here is the link: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D3sM\\_UQvkIQ&t=13s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D3sM_UQvkIQ&t=13s)

