



## St John Boste Parish, West Durham

Esh, Esh Winning, Langley Park and Ushaw Moor

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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.*



## Feast of Christ the King (Year A) : 22 November 2020

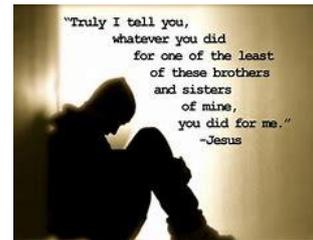
**Christ the King:** We are at the end of the Church's liturgical year so today's feast of Christ the King honours Jesus Christ as Lord over all creation. It was established by Pope Pius XI in 1925, essentially as a development of the Feast of the Ascension. The readings are specific to the feast: in today's second reading Paul speaks about 'resurrection':



'Everyone will be brought to life in Christ; Christ first, then those who belong to him. After that will come the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, having done away with every sovereignty, authority and power. For he must be king until he has put all his enemies under his feet, and the last of the enemies to be destroyed is 'death'.  
(1 Corinthians 15: 20-28)

However, the first reading, its accompanying psalm and the gospel all follow a simpler theme: that of a shepherd who gently and carefully watches over the sheep entrusted to his or her care. Yet it's not 'sheep' in a *literal* sense that's being referred to. It's rather that, in daily life, each of us have those who are entrusted to our care, people we 'shepherd' and guide: our children or grandchildren, sick or elderly relatives, neighbours who live alone, children we may teach, our employees or colleagues ... In caring for them, shepherding them, each with their own needs, we allow the care of Jesus to become more 'real' for them. It is on this social awareness and action that it seems we will one day be judged. Perhaps it will be those who are 'vulnerable' who will ultimately be the ones who judge us:

'I was hungry, and you gave me food; I was thirsty, and you gave me drink. I was a stranger, and you made me welcome, naked and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see me. In so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers or sisters of mine, you did it to me.' (Matthew 25: 31-46)



**Recently deceased:** Anne Watson (Esh Winning). Her funeral will be at crematorium on 27 November.

### Anniversaries:

**St Joseph's:** Mary Byrne, Bert Offer, Winifred Lewin, Beatrice Everett, Elizabeth Stoddart, Michael Maugham, John Wilson, Elizabeth Dawson, Dorothy Robertson, Lucy Isles, Kitty Nugent, Vera Howarth, John Martin.

**St Michael's:** Larry Whitty, James Brennan, Sarah Salmon, Alice Wallis, Minnie Mason, Charles Ernest Welsh, Susan Hughes, Bernard Smith.

**Our Lady Queen of Martyrs:** Frank Donnelly, Harry Erby, James Rochford, Patrick Gannon, Sandra Rowley, Martin Cantwell, Emily Wright, Michael Peel, Mary Agnes Golightly, Harry Adams, Julia Joyce-Gibbons, Ann Swailes, Frances Rutter. May they rest in peace.

### Church cleaners during this week (Team 2)

St Joseph's:	St Michael's:	Our Lady Queen of Martyrs:
Esther Martin, Kyle Oman, Melanie Lee, Bill Donnelly.	Jill Cox, John Flynn, Karen Thompson, Anne McMahon.	A McKenna, Catherine McKeown, Colleen Brown, Geraldine Barnes.

### Stewards next weekend (Team 1)

St Joseph's:	St Michael's:	Our Lady Queen of Martyrs:
Christine Brennan, Margaret Coonan.	Noreen Gardner, Christine Thompson.	Cecilia Wharton, Angela McKenna.

**Hospital visits:** If you know of a patient who wants a visit from the Catholic Hospital Chaplain, please inform Fr Paul Tully on 01388 818544 or [fpaultully@outlook.com](mailto:fpaultully@outlook.com)

**During this second lock-down ....** Church leaders invite us all to take a time of quiet prayer each evening at 6.00pm

**Make people feel better!** You may have seen something in the news last weekend. People are leaving bunches of flowers or other gifts for strangers to pick up and take home. Nothing sinister, but simply acknowledging that life for most people is difficult at present so imagine your delight to find a bouquet on a park bench with a note saying. 'Hello, I don't know you, but please take these flowers home as a present to brighten up these dark days!' Lovely!



# FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING



**Individual prayer:** Having just recently managed to re-open all four of our churches, they are now closed again 'for public worship' until at least 2 December, according to government regulations. **However, our churches can open for 'individual prayer' or 'private prayer'.** We are using our current weekend mass times as times when we can drop in for quiet prayer with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. So: opportunities for 'individual prayer' at St Joseph's, Ushaw Moor on Saturdays, 6.00 – 6.45pm; at St Michael's on Sundays, 9.30 – 10.15am; at Our Lady Queen of Martyrs on Sundays, 10.30 – 11.15am. You do not need to book a place for this individual prayer but we do ask that you offer your name and contact details to a steward at the church. This is purely to enable 'Test and Trace' to help if there should be an outbreak of the virus in our area. Please don't come to church if you have a cold or symptoms of flu but do remember to wear a face-covering inside the church. And, as the weather gets cooler, it could be an idea to wear warm clothing too since we need to leave doors open to allow air flow. We will still need to clean our churches between uses; this is significant if we should have one or two funerals in any given church during a single week so, as ever, if you feel able to help with this it would be good to have the extra pairs of hands. It just takes about 30 minutes for church cleaning now. If **you** would like to volunteer to help with cleaning or with stewarding, please contact the Parish Office: you can email: [stjosephs.ushawmoor@bopenworld.com](mailto:stjosephs.ushawmoor@bopenworld.com) or phone the office on 0191-373 0219.



**The season of Advent:** Next weekend (29 November) we will begin the season of Advent. This is a time for fresh starts and new beginnings. It will also mark the first anniversary of our becoming the parish of St

John Boste. And, what a year! Since we cannot gather for mass this could be a time for trying out new ways of praying and reflecting. One suggestion was to experiment with a way of praying called 'Lectio Divina'; this Latin term means 'divine reading' or 'reading spiritually'. In this we seek to delve deeper into a text from the bible to discover how it might speak to our heart. With this newsletter is a **yellow** sheet to help explain this, and to allow us to 'get inside' the text we will have in next weekend's gospel. There is a further **blue** sheet with today's newsletter. This blue sheet speaks about "the prayer of Anchors". This is nothing to do with ships or fishing! That sheet will explain, and invite us to be part of a community or group which, though living in different houses, *prays together* for specific people or specific things. This can vary enormously but, to start, we are - all of us - invited to pray each day for the people of our parish and for the communities in which they live. Take a look at the two enclosed sheets and perhaps try to experiment.

## Parish Coffee Morning:

In this second national lockdown, many of us will be spending more time on our own. If you are online, why not make yourself a coffee, and join us for a virtual Parish Coffee Morning? The



aim is to help people of our parish to keep in touch whilst we are not able to meet in person, by meeting online for a coffee and a chat. The meeting will be via Zoom. Don't worry if you have never used Zoom before: it is very easy to join a Zoom meeting, so please do give it a try. About six people joined in last week. Our next gathering will be at 10.30am on Thursday 26th November. Details of how to join the meeting will be available in the Parish Facebook Group, or by contacting [christine.brennan61@gmail.com](mailto:christine.brennan61@gmail.com).

**DH7 Advent Course:** Fridays, 27<sup>th</sup> November, 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> December, 2.00 – 3.00pm on Zoom. All welcome! To take part please email Bill Offler: [williamoffler@outlook.com](mailto:williamoffler@outlook.com) and, for a booklet, phone Mary Tribe on 0191- 3849133

**Nora Stebbings (Esh Winning):** In March 2018 someone asked us to include Nora's name as having recently died though her funeral was not from our churches. Can anyone give me any information about Nora? - David Coxon

**The Spirituality of the religious orders:** The Finchale Partnership and the University Chaplaincy have organised a series of events on the Spirituality of the religious orders. The events take place on Zoom. The third event in our series is The Spirituality of the Benedictines. Speaker: Scholastica Jacob was a nun of Stanbrook Abbey, and is now living as a Benedictine in Durham, conducting research at the Centre for Catholic Studies on the experiences of English Benedictine nuns in the early 19th century. Date: Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November at 7.00pm. Details of how to join are available in the parishes' Facebook groups or by contacting [margaretdoyle1066@sky.com](mailto:margaretdoyle1066@sky.com)

**A thought:** Expect nothing, appreciate everything.

## Mission boxes:

Kim Jennings used to look after the red mission boxes at Newhouse. She is aware that some people might want their boxes emptied. However, she has only a list of *names* of box holders, but no addresses. If anyone wants their box emptied Kim is happy to collect. You can contact her on 0191- 373 7403 on weekdays after 3.30 pm.



## Readings for next weekend (First Sunday of Advent, Year B):

The season of Advent sees the start of the new liturgical year of the Church, a sort of "New Year's Day", a time for new beginnings. Whereas this past year our gospel reading each week has been taken from Matthew, this coming year it will be taken from St Mark. So, our readings for next weekend:- Isaiah 63: 16-17, 19; 1 Corinthians 1: 3-9; Mark 13: 33-37