



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

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.



First Sunday of Advent (Year B) : 29 November 2020

The season of Advent: This weekend we begin the season of Advent. This is a time for fresh starts and new beginnings. It's a time to refocus on what is important to us in our lives. It also marks the first anniversary of our becoming the parish of St John Boste. And, what a year! A very happy birthday, though, to everyone in our parish!

	St Joseph's Ushaw Moor	St Michael's Esh Laude	Our Lady Queen of Martyrs, Newhouse	St Joseph's Langley Park
Saturday 5 December	6.00 pm Mass For everyone in our parish; Jimmy McQuillan, Alison Davidson			
Sunday 6 December <i>2nd Sunday of Advent</i>		9.30 am Mass For everyone in our parish; John Tallentire, Tony Gibbons, Tony Sands, Peter White	10.30 am Mass For everyone in our parish; Edith and James Hughes	
Friday 11 December				10.30am Mass Joan Brennan
Saturday 12 Dec. <i>3rd Sunday of Advent</i>	6.00 pm Mass For everyone in our parish; Lesley Pugh; Stan Harper; Ron Jackson.			
Sunday 13 December <i>3rd Sunday of Advent</i>		9.30 am Mass For everyone in our parish; Joseph and Mary Tobin	1030 am Mass For all in our parish; Douglas and Bella Linsley	

Recently deceased: Moira McCallum died last Sunday. Her funeral will be at Newhouse on Monday, 30 November at 1.30pm. Joe McNay's funeral will be at Durham Crematorium on Wednesday 2 December at 1.00 pm. Please note that, because of government regulations, attendance at funerals is by invitation only.

Anniversaries:

Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs: Catherine Leadbitter, Michael Quinn, Paul Quigley, John Makepeace, Pat Rochford, Kathleen Bushby, Jenny Dixon, Joan Turner, Margaret Rochford, Irene Rippon, Emily Richardson.

St Joseph's: Lilian Beetlestone, Teresa Mullen, Thomas Wilson, Jenny Donnelly.

St Michael's: Joseph Sands, Vina Rutter, Martin Rutter Snr., Shirley Oliver, James Willey, Paul Hassan, Jim Goundry, Paddy Gannon, Robert Towns, Joseph Francis Tobin, Michael Hillyard, Robert Tiplady, May Young

Church cleaners during this week (Team 3)

St Joseph's:	St Michael's:	Our Lady Queen of Martyrs:
Christine Brennan, Joe Cutmore, Geraldine Barnes, John Flynn.	Jill Cox, Lynn Dumighan, Noreen Gardner, Christine Thompson.	Angela McKenna, Esther Martin, Melanie Lee, Shelagh Robinson.

Stewards next weekend (Team 2)

St Joseph's:	St Michael's:	Our Lady Queen of Martyrs:
Elsie Vasey, John Alderton. Esther Martin, Lynn Dumighan.	Stuart Cox, John Flynn. Anne McMahan, Karen Thompson.	Colleen Brown, Angela McKenna, Kevin Quigley, Bill Donnelly.

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 frpaultully@outlook.com

Weekly collection: Fewer people have had the opportunity to come long to our masses these past few months and some are asking about making their contributions to our parish finances. A good and safe way to do this is to transfer money from your bank account straight into the parish account. Other people, are bringing their envelopes when they do have the opportunity to come to church for private prayer or for mass. Yet others are dropping their donations through the letter box of the Parish Office. Thanks for all this in these difficult times!

FIRST SUNDAY OF THE SEASON OF ADVENT (YEAR B)

Public worship: For the past four weekends our churches have been open for private prayer only. From next weekend (5/6 December) we can re-open for public worship once more. We will again have mass at St Joseph's at 6.00pm on Saturday, at St Michael's at 9.30am on Sunday, at Our Lady Queen of Martyrs at 10.30am on Sunday, then at St Joseph's, Langley Park at 10.30am on 11 December. Once more we will need to phone in and book a place at a mass; we can't just 'turn up', I'm afraid. You can book a place at a mass by phoning:-

> **01740-469532 between 10.00am – 2.00pm on Wednesday,**
or > **0191- 366 9465 between 5.00 – 6.00pm on Thursday.**

Do, please try to keep to these times. When you phone in, please give your name, your phone number and say whether you are coming to mass as an individual, as a couple, or as a household. You can also click on to the NHS icon in the church entrance. This, too, is to help with Track and Trace in case of 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 colder, it could be an idea to wear warm clothing 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@btopenworld.com or phone the office on 0191-373 0219.

'Northern Cross': This is the newspaper which gives news, comment and chat from parishes, partnerships and schools all over our diocese. Northern Cross' is hoping to attract more people to subscribe to this monthly newspaper, either for an online edition or for a paper copy. The annual cost is £36 for a paper edition through the post, or £20 for an online version. The December edition will be available next weekend. If you want more information, please phone **01429-274408** or email editor.norcross@btconnect.com You could help 'Northern Cross' to survive! A subscription as a Christmas present, perhaps....?

Prayer resources

(1): Last week, with the newsletter, we had a yellow sheet which introduced us to the idea of 'Lectio Divina', or 'reading spiritually'. With this way of praying we read a passage from the bible each day, but we don't read it like a thriller, rushing through the passage at speed. We seek to savour every word, each phrase to discover how it might speak to our hearts. We read slowly, several times over to allow the Word of God to seep into our being. There is another insert with today's newsletter to help us prepare for next Sunday's gospel reading.



Prayer resources (2): With last week's newsletter there was a blue sheet which spoke about 'the prayer of Anchors'. The terminology may be confusing initially but it is simply a way in which people, each in their own home or surroundings, can be joined together in prayer. This could be particularly helpful in today's life of distancing restrictions. We can have specific prayer intentions but, for now, we are - all of us - invited to pray each day for the people of our parish and for the communities in which they live.

Prayer resources (3): As last year, our diocese is offering a reflection on the Scripture readings of each day during Advent. A printed copy is available today with the paper newsletters delivered to people's homes. Those people with access to a computer can access the diocesan website at rcdhn.org.uk and scroll down to 'Advent resources'. Each day, before you read the reflection, try to read the passages from the bible, then pause to consider what strikes you from your reading. Then read the bible passages again before reading the printed reflection.

DH7 Advent Course: This year's Advent course is to be held on Fridays on Zoom. The first session was last Friday but you can still participate on Fridays, 4th, 11th, 18th December, 2.00 – 3.00pm. All welcome! To take part please email Bill Offler: williamoffler@outlook.com and, for a booklet, phone Mary Tribe on 0191- 3849133



Parish Coffee Morning:

We may be coming out of lock-down this week but restrictions about distancing will still apply and many of us will still be spending 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 the 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. Our next Parish Coffee Morning will be at 10.30am on Thursday 3rd December. Details of how to join the meeting will be available in the Parish Facebook Group, or by contacting christine.brennan61@gmail.com

Food Bank: It's 8 months since our last collection of food items, and the busy local depot would still be very grateful for monetary donations. This allows them to target buy the things they most need. If you feel able and willing to give, please go to the website (durham.foodbank.org.uk) and click on the 'Donate Now' button, or send a cheque (made out to Durham Foodbank) to their Head Office: Mile House, Bridge End, Chester Le Street DH3 3RA.

