



**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**

Priest: Father David Coxon Tel: (0191) 373 0219  
 Secretary: Lisa Hatton Tel: (0191) 373 0219  
 Office Hours: Tues – Thurs from 9.30am–2.30pm  
 E-mail: [ushawmoor.stjohnboste@rcdhn.org.uk](mailto:ushawmoor.stjohnboste@rcdhn.org.uk)  
 (stjosephs.ushawmoor@btopenworld.com)

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

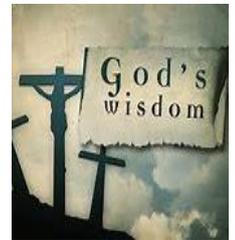
*Please telephone the Chaplain if you have someone in hospital who would like a visit.*



**Thirty second Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A) : 8 November 2020**

**Search! Be ready!** If the taxi arrives at your house and you are not yet ready, then you go nowhere. If the supermarket van arrives with your groceries and you are not around then you may go hungry. Today's Scripture readings are about 'being ready' and the gospel offers an illustration of this. The Jewish ritual for a wedding had it that the bride and her retinue waited patiently for the bridegroom to arrive to take the girl to his home. He might not specify a time when he would arrive but the bride's companions need to be ready. Sadly, in today's gospel, some of the bridesmaids are caught out. As evening turns into night, they need oil to light their torches. They head off to the supplier of oil and, while they are there, the bridegroom arrives. The bridesmaids were not ready and so missed out on the celebration. Today's first reading is more profound but follows the same theme. It's a poem, a prayer, as we yearn to be able to share the wisdom of God:

*'Wisdom is bright, and does not grow dim. By those who love her she is readily seen, and found by those who look for her. Quick to anticipate those who desire her, she makes herself known to them. Watch for her early and you will have no trouble; you will find her sitting at your gates. Even to think about her is understanding fully grown; be on the alert for her and anxiety will quickly leave you. She herself walks about looking for those who are worthy of her and graciously show herself to them as they go, in every thought of theirs coming to meet them.'*  
 (Wisdom 6: 12-16)



You may like to read this prayer slowly a few times over. Then, think of something *you* would like to ask of God, seek from God, but then, don't just leave it there. Having asked something of God it is then really important that we open our eyes to be ready *to notice* when God may be responding to what we have asked. If we open our eyes to look for God's reply then we may be surprised to see how often God responds to our request. So, if you express to God that you are feeling lonely and later, while watching TV, your phone rings, is this an interruption or might it be God's response to your prayer...?  
 - David Coxon

**Recently deceased:** Cecilia Duggan died on 21 October. Her funeral will be at Langley Moor on Monday.

**Anniversaries this week:**

**Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs:** Joe Bell, John Hennigan, Robert Eltrington, Peggy Eltrington, Maureen Duggan, Joe Turner.

**St Joseph's:** Anne Finnigan, Cyril Chatterton, Joseph Dawson, James Holliday, Elizabeth Gilfoyle, Jane Ward, Walter Blakey, Ella Waters, Michael Fox, David Hall, Ruby Conroy, James Dodds.

**St Michael's:** James Hodgson, Gloria Johnson, Terence Donnelly, Peter Rollitt, Terence Lynn, Elizabeth Marley, Joseph Glennon, Josephine Fitzsimmons, Mary Jane Hall, Elizabeth Davidson, Margaret Sherlock, Joe Wilson, William Rutter, Anne Brennan, Elizabeth Openshaw, Fr. Michael Sands.



**Remembrance Sunday:** Today you may like to watch the service at the cenotaph on television but, while at home, you may like to be more imaginative. Perhaps you have a photograph of some family member who was in the war, or even a picture in the newspaper advertising some war movie. Maybe you could make a poppy and light a tea light to put in front of your picture, then take time to pray for all who have died in war or as a result of war.

**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 3)**

St Joseph's:	St Michael's:	Our Lady Queen of Martyrs:
Joe Cutmore Billy Donnelly	Jill Cox Shelagh Robinson	Tom Brennan Angela McKenna



**Our churches:** 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'.** This means that we can call into our churches for informal private prayer during specific times. Perhaps we would like to use our regular mass times as times when we can drop in for prayer. 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 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](mailto:stjosephs.ushawmoor@btopenworld.com) or phone the office on 0191-373 0219.

**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](mailto:frpaultully@outlook.com)

**During this second lock-down ....** the bishops of England and Wales invite us all to take a time of quiet prayer each evening at 6.00pm

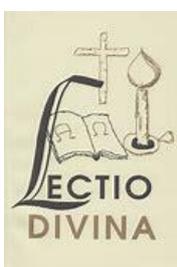
**'Test and Trace':** If you have a smart phone with the NHS app you can now click on to the NHS icon as you enter any of our churches. If there should be a local outbreak of covid-19 this can help with the 'Track and Trace'.



**'Northern Cross':** This is the newspaper which gives news, comment and chat from parishes,

partnerships and schools all over our diocese. Some people may receive a free copy with newsletters this week to encourage interest. '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 November edition is available now. If you want more information, please phone **01429-274408** or email [editor.norcross@btconnect.com](mailto:editor.norcross@btconnect.com) You could help 'Northern Cross' to survive!

**Apart from entering a further lockdown,** we are also moving towards the season of Advent (29 November). This is a time for new beginnings. It will also mark the first anniversary of our becoming the parish of St John Boste. Since again we cannot gather for mass this could be a time for trying out new ways of praying and reflecting. Some of our Pastoral Council have suggested a creative pattern of praying that we could all share in while staying in our own homes. Also suggested was the way of praying called 'Lectio Divina'; this Latin term means 'divine reading' or 'reading spiritually'. We will say more about this over the next couple of weeks and, if anyone should want to participate, we will send you more information.



**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) Also, it was announced on Monday that whatever is donated to Mary's Meals will be doubled by the UK Government. So, for every £1 that you give, Mary's Meals will receive £2.

**Parish Coffee Morning:** As we go into the new 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 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. The first virtual Parish Coffee Morning will be at 10.30am on Thursday 12th 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).

**Long, long ago .....** Margaret Coonan was selling tickets for an Easter raffle. And then it all stopped abruptly because of lock-down. However, Margaret has recently sorted out tickets and prizes and so - if you still have tickets - here are the winning numbers: (1) Blue ticket 261; (2) Green 131; (3) Blue 253; (4) Blue 174; (5) Green 61; (6) Blue 293; (7) Blue 227; (8) Blue 28; (9) Green 56; (10) Green 103; (11) Green 69; (12) Blue 127; (13) Green 92; (14) Blue 260; (15) Blue 132; (16) Blue 107; (17) Green 146; (18) Blue 295; (19) Blue 96; (20) Green 34; (21) Blue 219; (22) Blue 199; (23) Blue 302. Winners can ring **07340-085673** to claim prizes.