



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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 Secretary: Lisa Hatton Tel: (0191) 373 0219
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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.



Third Sunday of Advent (Year B) : 13 December 2020

John the baptiser ... must have been a scary sort of a guy. He wore animal skins and, for food, foraged for fruit, seeds and plants. He sought to speak truth fearlessly, undeterred by the people of power and influence. It was this, ultimately, which led to his arrest and execution: he had upset the mighty. It is this John who came as 'a witness to speak for the light'; he is pointing us towards Jesus. What can we do this week to move closer towards Jesus?

	St Joseph's Ushaw Moor	St Michael's Esh Laude	Our Lady Queen of Martyrs, Newhouse	St Joseph's Langley Park
Saturday 12 December <i>3rd Sunday of Advent</i>	6.00 pm Mass For everyone in our parish; Lesley Pugh; Stan Harper; Ron Jackson; Joseph Halpin; Robert Roches; Jim Roche; Mary & Robert Wilkinson; Madeline Swift;			
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	
Friday 18 December		11.00am Wedding: John Coates and Anne Boland		No mass today
Saturday 19 Dec. <i>4th Sunday of Advent</i>	6.00pm mass For everyone in our parish; James McLoughlin			
Sunday 20 December <i>4th Sunday of Advent</i>		9.30am mass For everyone in our parish; Marion, James and Anne Redmond; Maggie Rowntree.	10.30am mass For everyone in our parish Tom Hopper	

Recently deceased: David Ringrow (Ushaw Moor). David's funeral was last Thursday.

Anniversaries: Our Lady Queen of Martyrs: George Peel, Barry Shaw, Billy Hughes, Jack Richardson, Norman Turner, Martin Gannon, Bridget Wilson, Martin Vizard, Kathleen Thompson.

St Joseph's: John Gallagher, Ellen Maughan, Harry Law, Robert Ward, John Halpin, Patrick Murray, James Keelty, Mary Mooney, Robert H. Oliver, Joyce Maughan, Martin Taylor, John Kerwin.

St Michael's: Margaret McCabe, Arthur Thompson, Robert Coates, Jenny Turnbull, James Bygroves, Liz Goundry, Peggy and Bob Demmery, William Lyons, Margaret Tomaney, Mary Bygroves, Mary Bella Toner.

Church cleaners during this week (13 -19 December) (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 McMahan.	A McKenna, Catherine McKeown, Colleen Brown, Geraldine Barnes.

Stewards next weekend (19/20 December) (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, <i>Catherine McKeown.</i>

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!

Next weekend: A retiring collection for 'Sea Sunday' to support people, away from their families, working at sea for months at a time. This charity helps with warm clothes, phone cards as well as support in faith.

THIRD SUNDAY IN THE SEASON OF ADVENT (YEAR B)

Welcome to our masses: Remember that, for all masses, we need to phone in and book a place; we can't just 'turn up', I'm afraid. Unfortunately, we aren't able to have mass at Langley Park on Friday 18 December but we will have mass at St Joseph's at 6.00pm next Saturday (19 December) and, on Sunday 20 December, at St Michael's at 9.30am, and at Our Lady Queen of Martyrs at 10.30am. You can book a place at next weekend's masses 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. We are also opting to keep a 2-metre distancing in our churches. These weekend masses could be particularly helpful to families currently thinking about baptism or First Communion. If you would like to volunteer for the occasional 30-minute cleaning, or with stewarding at mass, please let us know at the Parish Office. You can phone the office on 0191-373 0219 or email: stjosephs.ushawmoor@btopenworld.com.

Christmas masses: We also need to book places for the Christmas masses. Again, we can't just 'turn up'. The provision of Christmas masses depends very largely on the number and availability of people to clean the churches. So, when are our Christmas masses?

Christmas Eve *morning*: 9.00am and 11.00am at St Michael's;
10.00am and 12 noon at Our Lady Queen of Martyrs.

Christmas morning: 8.30am and 10.00am at St Joseph's, Ushaw Moor.



Then a mass at 10.30am on Boxing Day at St Joseph's, Langley Park. [*Please try to leave this mass for residents of Langley Park only, since many people in Langley don't have cars to be able to travel to churches.*] For all of these masses you will need to book a seat. Since they are all 'Christmas masses' please book for only one mass.

To book for Christmas masses:

Please phone: > **0191- 373 0219 between 3.00 – 7.00pm on Monday, 14 December**
or > **0191- 366 9465 between 3.00 – 6.00pm on Tuesday, 15 December**

'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'.

Parish Coffee Morning: Our next virtual coffee morning will be on Thursday, 17 December at 10.30am. 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. Details of how to join the meeting will be available in the Parish Facebook Group, or by contacting christine.brennan61@gmail.com.

Advent service: If you have access to a computer then you are invited to a parish Advent Service at 7.30pm on Thursday, 17 December. This will be on Zoom. If you would like to take part please email Phil Mackie at phil@big-small.co.uk for the links.

'Northern Cross' is our diocesan newspaper which brings together news, comment and chat from parishes, partnerships and schools all the way from the Scottish border down to Darlington, Stockton and Hartlepool. Some people may receive a free copy this week as the Northern Cross team seek to arouse interest. The paper is hoping to attract more people to subscribe, 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 is available now. 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....?

Foodbank: Our food collections this year only took place from January to March but we contributed 728.86kg, which equates to 911 meals. The busy local depot would still be very grateful for monetary donations. This allows them to buy the things they most need. If you feel able 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 the new Food Bank depot:- Unit 7-9, First Avenue, Drum Industrial Estate, Chester le Street, DH2 1AG

'Blue Christmas': 2020 has been a year of losses. Whether it be relationships, health, freedom, finances.... with Christmas approaching, the days may not appear 'merry and bright'. We may instead feel weary, broken, lonely, in pain. Our 'Blue Christmas' service acknowledges all this. It is a time to gather virtually and safely from our own homes; to share elements of prayer, scripture, music and reflection; to acknowledge our sadness; to remember we are not alone, but rather to connect hearts and souls and receive comfort, hope and encouragement for the days ahead. We would like invite everyone to a simple and informal 30-minute service on Zoom, Saturday, 19 December at 10:30. Please contact the Parish Office (preferably by Wednesday 16th December) for details on how to join (telephone participation is also possible). Feel free to engage or just to listen. Should you be unable to attend, we ask you hold us in contemplative prayer at this time.

Operation Christmas Child: Thank you to everyone that gave to the annual appeal, either by making up a shoebox of goodies or donating online. A total of 115 boxes have been sent from our parish.

Facebook page: We have set up a Parish Facebook page. If you are interested in being part of this then the name of the Facebook Group is "St. John Boste Parish Community".