

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
 (stjosephs.ushawmoor@btopenworld.com)

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.



Second Sunday after Christmas (Year B) : 3 January 2021

A Different Image of Christmas: We know the Christmas story well enough but today's first reading (from before the time of Jesus) offers a different image. The 'Wisdom' of God is presented as a person, and this 'Wisdom' tells us she came forth from the mouth of the Most High God. She 'had her tent in the heights' but the creator said 'Go and pitch your tent in Jacob, in Israel' and so Wisdom tells us that 'in the beloved city God has given me rest and in Jerusalem I wield my authority. I have taken root in a privileged people, in the Lord's property, in his inheritance'. This is a lovely image, and not only because 'Wisdom' is referred to as 'she'. It's a very visual image which portrays God's 'Wisdom' as having lived in God's presence but has now been instructed to 'pitch her tent' in this world. – David Coxon

	St Joseph's Ushaw Moor	St Michael's Esh Laude	Our Lady Queen of Martyrs, Newhouse	St Joseph's Langley Park
Saturday 2 January <i>2nd Sunday after Christmas</i>	6.00 pm Mass For everyone in our parish; Peter, Michael & Zara Gilroy; Mary Coulthard.			
Sunday, 3 January <i>2nd Sunday after Christmas</i>		9.30am Mass For everyone in our parish; Joan Brennan	10.30 am Mass For all in our parish; Allan Cunningham; Philomena Brown; Joan Davies	
Wednesday, 6 January <i>The Epiphany of the Lord</i>	10.30am mass For everyone in our parish		7.00pm mass For everyone in our parish	
Friday, 8 January				10.30am mass Joan & Oswin Towns
Saturday 9 January. <i>The Baptism of the Lord</i>	6.00pm mass For everyone in our parish; Tommy & Ruby Stoddart			
Sunday 10 January <i>The Baptism of the Lord</i>		9.30am mass For everyone in our parish; Marion, James and Anne Redmond; Maggie Rowntree.	10.30am mass For all in our parish	

Anniversaries:

St Joseph's: Joyce Taskas, Arthur Elley, Tizzy Brockbanks, John Kennick, Eddie Scanlon, Rose Fishwick, Thomas McEleavey, Isabelle Corner, Norman Platten, Bernard Sheen, Jean Morgan, Patrick Thompson, Joseph Finnigan, Katherine Wilkinson, Ann Jennings, Ronnie Marsh.

St Michael's: Fr Tony Battle, Walter Beavis, Mary Isabelle Lyons, Gertrude Quinn, Ellen Gilchrist, Jim Foy, James Raynor, Allan Smith.

Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs: Mary Murphy, Agnes Chapman, Teresa Lamont, Lyn Davies, Charles Zadziuk, Harry Young, Annie Morris, Moira Walsh.

Church cleaners during this week (4-9 January) (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 (9/ 10 January) (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 McMahon, Karen Thompson.	Colleen Brown, Angela McKenna, Kevin Quigley, Catherine McKeown.

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS (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.

This Wednesday (6 January) will be the feast of the Epiphany; we will have a mass at St Joseph's, Ushaw Moor at 10.30am and another at Our Lady Queen of Martyrs at 7.00pm. We will also have our regular masses next weekend: 6.00 pm on Saturday at Ushaw Moor, 9.30 am on Sunday at Esh and 10.30 am on Sunday at Newhouse, as well as 10.30 am at Langley Park on Friday 8th January. You can book a place for these masses by phoning either of these numbers:-

- > **01740-469532 between 10.00am – 2.00pm on Monday,**
- 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.

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!

Newsletters: Is there anyone receiving a paper copy of the newsletter each week when, actually, they have the facility to read this on-line? This could save someone delivering a copy to your door. Please let us know at the Parish Office.

Northern Catholic Calendars: this 2021 directory for the churches, parishes, schools and convents of our diocese is now available for £3. They can't be left at the back of church but if anyone wants a copy please let us know.

Mini-Vinnies: 'Mini-Vinnies' are primary school groups of children who seek to continue the charitable approach of St Vincent de Paul. Our Mini-Vinnie group at St Joseph's school is engaged in various exciting activities, some quite novel, and they invite people of our parish to be part of this. Perhaps you would like to knit scarves and gloves for the homeless - or even contribute unwanted wool. Or save your crisp packets (especially Walker's since they have some metal in the packet). Would you believe that because crisp packets are not easily biodegradable they can be turned into additional layers of insulation for sleeping bags for the homeless. Finally, small denomination coins (5p, 2p, 1p) are saved in the school's "5p Cross" to help 'Feeding Families'.



Thank you: To all who sent me cards and gifts this Christmas.
David Coxon

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

The Holy Family: We didn't have mass last



weekend and so we missed out on the feast of the Holy Family - the family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Our understanding of that family can feel quite idealistic when compared to our own, and yet they had real difficulties too. For example, because we have heard the story from the bible many

times before, we take it in our stride when we read that the angel made known to Mary that she was to be the mother of the Messiah, the Christ. But did Mary simply accept this? It was surely more than a little disconcerting. How would *you* feel? Then how did she explain this to her family and friends? "*An angel came to you?*", her friends might respond; "*an angel told you that you were to have God's baby? A likely tale!*" And I wonder how Joseph felt, deep down, when Mary told him she was pregnant? She was his betrothed and she now tells him she is pregnant! So, he wonders, who is the father? Then, we are told that Joseph took Mary and Jesus to Egypt to escape the cruelties of King Herod. What was it like to be exiled from their homeland, living as immigrants? When we read the gospels, we find that the crowds hung on to Jesus' words; the crowds consisting of the poor and the looked down-on. Yet 'the authorities' did not make life easy for Jesus. How did he feel about that? The pressures. He must have had some bad days as he became increasingly aware of the antagonism that existed towards him, an antagonism which eventually led to his being arrested, tortured and executed. Maybe the life of 'the Holy Family' was not as idealistic as we might initially think.

Bishop Robert Byrne... sends his blessing and good wishes to all, and also expresses his gratitude to all who have enabled our churches to be kept open for masses, for funerals and for private prayer.

