

Masses, Services and Devotions

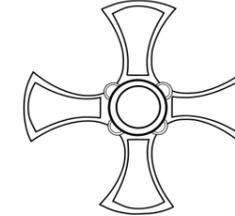
	St Bede's Church Bedlington	St Robert of Newminster Church Morpeth
Saturday 29 th December <i>St Thomas Becket</i>	5.00pm The Rosary 5.00pm-5.20pm Confessions 5.30pm Vigil Mass: Craik & Freel families	9.40am The Rosary 10.00am Mass: Intentions of loved ones 10.30am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 11am - 12noon Confessions
Sunday 30 th December The Holy Family C		9.00am Mass: Molly McKee 11.00am Mass: Sarah Crosby
Monday 31 st December <i>7th Day of the Christmas Octave</i>	9.30am Morning Prayer of the Church 10.00am Mass: Margaret Faulder	8.30am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9.00am The Angelus 9.15am Service of Word and Communion
Tuesday 1 st January <i>Mary the Mother of God</i>		11.00am Mass: In thanksgiving
Wednesday 2 nd January <i>St Basil the Great and St Gregory Nazianzen</i>	9.30am Morning Prayer of the Church 10.00am Mass: James Chadwick	8.30am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9.00am The Angelus 9.15am Service of Word and Communion
Thursday 3 rd January <i>Most Holy Name of Jesus</i>		8.30am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9.00am The Angelus 9.15am Mass: Gail and David Swift 7.00pm Divine Mercy Devotions
Friday 4 th January <i>Weekday of Christmas</i>	9.30am Morning Prayer of the Church 10.00am Mass: Francis Reed McAlroy	8.30am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9.00am The Angelus 9.15am Service of Word and Communion
Saturday 5 th January <i>Weekday of Christmas</i>	5.00pm The Rosary 5.00pm—5.20pm Confessions 5.30pm Vigil Mass: Arkell & McAlroy families	9.40am The Rosary 10.00am Mass: Intentions of loved ones 10.30am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 11am - 12noon Confessions
Sunday 6 th January Epiphany of the Lord C		9.00am Mass: Jim McKee 11.00am Mass: Veronica Leyland

The Pope's Intention for December

Evangelization: In the Service of the Transmission of Faith; that people, who are involved in the service and transmission of faith, may find, in their dialogue with culture, a language suited to the conditions of the present time.



**Saint Bede's
Catholic Church**
Catholic Row
BEDLINGTON
NE22 6HS



**Saint Robert of Newminster
Catholic Church**
Oldgate
MORPETH
NE61 1QF

PARISHES OF THE BRINKBURN PARTNERSHIP, NORTHUMBERLAND

Parish Priest: Father Peter Stott

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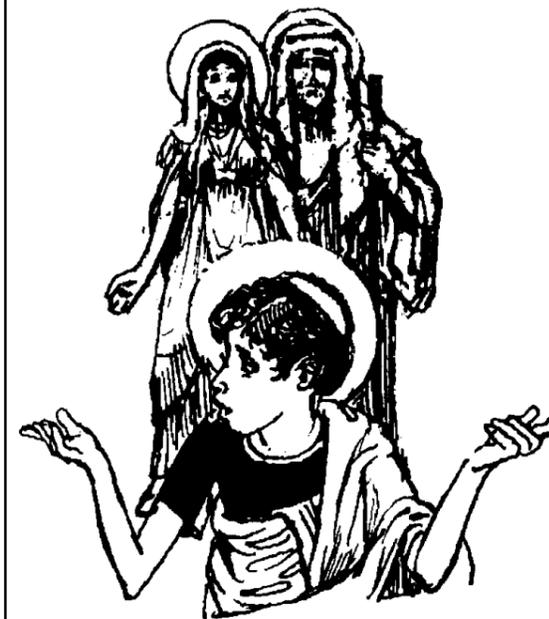
Parish Deacon: Reverend Stephen Boulter

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Sunday 30th December - Holy Family C

When we hear stories about the Holy Family we are struck by the normality of Jesus' upbringing. Mary and Joseph behave like any parents of today. Secondly we are struck by the love and tenderness that surrounds Jesus in his early years. The fact that he was born in a stable and grew up with no great wealth doesn't seem to matter. What matters is that Jesus grew up knowing that Mary and Joseph loved and cared for him.



Jesus would have been brought up in a Jewish tradition, and he would not have been expected to challenge this tradition. What is interesting for us to learn is, that by the tender age of twelve Jesus was developing a sense of who he really was. When Jesus causes his parents much distress by becoming separated from them to stay in the temple listening to the teachers, he tells Mary and Joseph, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be busy with my Father's affairs?" Mary and Joseph don't quite understand what he means, but we are told, "Mary stored all these things in her heart." She had faith in her son, and she allowed him to become the individual she always knew he was.

It's not easy to let go and allow your child to be his or her own person, especially if you see them making all sorts of mistakes. Today's gospel is a lesson in parenting. Surround your children with love and caring. Pass down all the good Christian traditions you yourself have learned, then have faith and allow your child to be the person they need to be.



Please pray for: The Harvest, the Fruits of Human of Work, and the Reverent Use of Creation; Students and Teachers; The Spread of the Gospel; Justice and Peace in the world; Prisoners and their Families; All Victims of War; Young People; Prisoners and their families. Please pray for those who are sick; for all who have died recently, including Graham Lynn, who Funeral Service was held on Friday. Joan Molly of Bedlington whose Requiem Mass will be held on Wednesday 9th January at St Bede's Church and for Margaret Whittle of Morpeth whose Funeral Service will be held on Friday 11th January at St Robert's Church; and for all whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Offertory Collections 22nd / 23rd December
St Bede's: **N/A** / St Robert's: **£923.54**

Advent Alms

Very many thanks to those who contributed to the Advent Alms. At St Robert's we raised. £ 853.65

Tea and Coffee after Mass

We have tea and coffee available after the Vigil Mass at St Bede's each Saturday evening. The proceeds from donations for tea and coffee at St Bede's are going towards "The Alan Shearer Centre", run by St Cuthbert's Care for people with complex disabilities and their families ... www.alanshearercentre.org.uk We also have tea and coffee available after the 9am and 11am Masses at St Robert's on Sunday morning.



Newsletter Items

Please drop in a note at the Presbytery or e-mail items for the parish newsletter by 7pm on Wednesday to the parish office email address at St Robert's.

Christmas Greeting and Thanks

Fr Peter would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very Happy and Holy Christmas Season and also to pray for everyone as we come to the end of 2018 and look forward to a new Year. Very many thanks to everyone who has prepared for our celebrations and supported our Masses during the last few days. A special word of thanks for many cards and gifts received by Fr Peter on this special occasion of Christ's Nativity. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

"EDGE"

Edge Middle School Journey of Faith Edge resumes after Christmas on Thursday 10th January 2019  at 6pm. If you have children of Middle School age, please try to encourage them to come along, even if its only for a taster evening, to see if they enjoy it. You never know ... they might decide they like it!



School of Joy at Bethlehem

Some of the parishioners of St Bede Parish made a conscious decision not to send Christmas Cards to people they see regularly but instead to donate to a Charity. This year that Charity has been the School of Joy at Bethlehem. We have not yet made the donation from the Parish music night in November, so we will add the two amounts together and forward to the Friends of the Holy Land.



THE SCHOOL OF JOY
FOR SLOW LEARNERS

Crib Donations Friends of the Holy Land

Bishop Seamus has asked that the Crib Offerings this year be sent to the Friends of the Holy Land to enable them to give hope and practical support to the most vulnerable Christians in and around Bethlehem



Mass : New Years Day

Tuesday January 1st is the Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God. Mass that day will be celebrated at 11am at St Robert's Church. It is a great way to begin the New Year by coming to Mass, and asking for the blessing of Mary the Mother of God on all that we do during 2019.



Epiphany Carol Service

On Sunday 6th January we will be celebrating an Epiphany Carol Service at St Robert's Church at 6pm. We hope you will be able to come along and join in this special celebration. Refreshments will be served afterwards in the Hall.

Flower Arrangers Rota

We have been considering for some months the possibility of establishing a Flower Arrangers' Rota at St Robert's Church, rather than leaving it to the Cleaning Groups to do the Flowers ... ie, having a regular rota of people willing to arrange the flowers for the Church. If this is something that you would like to be involved with please let Fr Peter or Bernadette (in Parish Office) know and a meeting will be arranged for the beginning of the New Year

Northumberland Listening Service

A free and confidential Listening Service, is available for those who wish to talk about issues such as Loss and Bereavement, Stress, Anxiety, Relationship Difficulties, Loneliness or other concerns. To make an appointment please telephone 07732 980740.

St Robert's School and Nursery

St Robert's School has a pre-school Nursery, offering up to the 30 hour childcare provision to children aged 3 and over. They also have spaces currently in Reception to Year 3 within school. If any parents would like to arrange to visit our School and Nursery, or for further details on either of the above please contact the school office on 01670 512031. For parents of children due to start school in September the online portal is now open and is accessed via Northumberland County Council.

Wansbeck Valley Food Bank

The Wansbeck Valley Food Bank will have many demands on their services at this time of the year. If you wish to help, you can donate items of food, particularly something seasonal, please drop into the Wansbeck Valley Food Bank Box in the Church Porch at St Robert's Church.



The Northern Catholic Calendar

The 2019 edition of The Northern Catholic Calendar is now available at the back of Church, price £3 each.

Baptism Preparation Meetings

The next Baptism Preparation Meeting will be held at St Bede's Church on Thursday 17th January at St Bede's Church, Bedlington., and then the February Preparation Meeting will be held at St Robert's. Any parents who are wishing to organise a Baptism should contact either Fr Peter or Deacon Stephen to make arrangements to attend this meeting. Once that has been arranged then a date can be considered for the Baptism.



St Robert's SVP

The next meeting of the St Robert's SVP conference will be on Wednesday 9th January at 7.30pm.

Christmas Cards at St Robert's

There are many Christmas cards still left at the back of Church at St Robert's Church. Please check before they are thrown away.



Journey in Faith

The next Journey in Faith Meeting will be held on Thursday 3rd January 2019 at 7pm in the Presbytery at St Robert's.

SVP - Sudan Crisis Appeal

If you wish to support the SVP Sudan Crisis Appeal, please make cheques payable to "SVP England and Wales" and either hand directly to a member of the SVP or put into the ordinary collection and it will be passed on.

Partnership Spirituality Network Meeting

The next meeting of the Partnership Spirituality meeting to plan further services between our partnership Churches will be held on 21st January 2019, 10:30am at St Bede's Bedlington

Treasurer Wanted

The local Women's World Day of Prayer organisers are seeking to appoint a treasurer. Do you have 8 hours to spare spread over the year? We are required by the Charity Commission to have a Treasurer for the annual event to continue in solidarity with the rest of the world. It would be a very great shame if such a witness were to cease to exist for want of someone to keep track of our meagre finances. So if you have 8 hours to spare, you'll help to ensure that this important event in the life of the Morpeth community continues. Full training and support will be provided. If you are moved to say 'yes' to this request for help, please get in touch with Suzanne Hamnett on 01670 518485 or email suzhamnett@hotmail.com by 6th January 2019.



Diocesan Vacancies

The Diocese has the following vacancies: Health and Safety Officer - required to co-ordinate all aspects of health and safety across the Diocese, ensuring that all Diocesan properties and activities conducted in and around them are safe and without risk as far as reasonably practicable. Based at the Diocesan Offices in Newcastle with extensive travel throughout the Diocese. Closing date: 11 January. Administrator for St John XXIII Parish, Washington and St Joseph's Parish, Birtley ... 16 hours per week, 12 month fixed term contract. Closing date: 15th January. Administrator for the Department for Safeguarding ... a full-time post on a 12 month fixed term contract. The closing date: is 16th January. For further information and details of how to apply please visit our website www.rcdhn.org.uk or contact us 0191 243 3301, email human.resources@diocesehn.org.uk