

Masses, Services and Devotions

	St Bede's Church Bedlington	St Robert of Newminster Church Morpeth
Saturday 2nd February Presentation of the Lord	5.00pm The Rosary 5.00pm—5.20pm <i>Confessions</i> 5.30pm Vigil Mass: Raymond Declerk	9.40am The Rosary 10.00am Mass: James Fraser 10.30am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 11am - 12noon Confessions
Sunday 3rd February 4th Sunday C		9.00am Mass: Helen & Douglas Cone 11.00am Mass: Yvonne Simey
Monday 4th February Weekday	9.30am Morning Prayer of the Church 10.00am Mass: Owen Ruddy	8.30am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9.00am The Angelus 9.15am Service of Word and Communion
Tuesday 5th February St Agatha	9.30am Morning Prayer of the Church 10.00am Service of Word and Communion 11.00am: FUNERAL SERVICE Molly Laing	8.30am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9.00am The Angelus 9.15am Mass: Isobel Walker
Wednesday 6th February St Paul Miki and Companions	9.30am Morning Prayer of the Church 10.00am Service of Word and Communion	8.30am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9.00am The Angelus 9.15am Service of Word and Communion
Thursday 7th February Weekday	9.30am Morning Prayer of the Church 10.00am Service of Word and Communion	7.00pm Divine Mercy Devotions
Friday 8th February St Josephine Bakhita	9.15am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9.30am Morning Prayer of the Church 10.00am Service of Word and Communion	8.30am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9.00am The Angelus 9.15am Service of Word and Communion
Saturday 9th February Weekday	5.00pm The Rosary 5.00pm—5.20pm <i>Confessions</i> 5.30pm Vigil Mass: People of Parish	9.40am The Rosary
Sunday 10th February 5th Sunday C		9.00am Mass: Jan Jurek 11.00am Mass: Mary Wilson

The Pope's Intention February 2019

For a generous welcome of the victims of human trafficking, of enforced prostitution, and of violence.

Vocations Discernment

Are you aged 16 or over and thinking about the priesthood? Why not come along to one of the regular Diocesan Vocations Discernment evenings which are held at Saint Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle from 6:30pm until 8:30pm. These evenings of prayer and reflection provide an opportunity to listen to speakers talk about their own discernment, faith journeys and vocations. Forthcoming dates are as follows: Wednesday 27th February; Wednesday 27th March; Wednesday 22nd May; Wednesday 26th June. For more information, please contact Fr Christopher Warren, Diocesan Vocations Director

Whalton Unit Transport

The Whalton Unit at Morpeth has been temporarily relocated to Wansbeck General Hospital, and the following information has been published on the Northumbria NHS Trust site "We are able to help with transport from Morpeth for those who find it difficult to travel to visit loved ones at Ward 8 Whalton Unit at Wansbeck. Please discuss this with the ward team on 01670 529 008 if you are affected." www.northumbria.nhs.uk/our-locations/the-whalton-unit/

The Matthew Project

At St Bede's we have a large bin for the Matthew Project, which is administered by Bedlington Christian Fellowship, and donations of non-perishable food can be placed in the bin in the church entrance. Thank you to those who support.

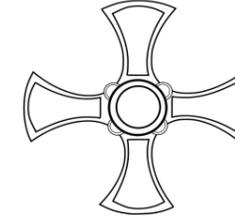
Northumberland Listening Service

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).

Wansbeck Valley Food Bank

If you are able to support the local Food Bank they are requesting the following ... Tinned rice pudding, Tinned fruit, Tins or packets of custard, Packets of dried potato, tins of hot dogs, Long life milk, Jars of jam, marmalade etc. Thank you for your help.

**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

St Robert's Presbytery, Collingwood House, Oldgate, Morpeth NE61 1QF
Tel 01670 513410 | Email morpeth.strobertnewminster@rcdhn.org.uk | peterjstott@aol.com

Parish Deacon: Reverend Stephen Boulter

St Bede's Presbytery, Catholic Row, Bedlington, NE22 6HS
Tel 01670 823258 | Email bedlington.stbede@rcdhn.org.uk

www.strobertmorpeth.com | www.stbedesbedlington.co.uk | Northumberland Listening Service 07732 980740

Sunday 3rd February 2019 – Fourth Sunday of the Year

There's an insightful saying, "An expert is someone who carries a briefcase and works two hundred miles from home." The saying finds resonance in Jesus' own words, "No prophet is accepted in his own native place." In today's reading Jesus is invited to preach back in his hometown synagogue. At first, Jesus' audience are impressed, but then they start to mutter to each other. Surely this is just the son of Joseph the carpenter! When this truth dawns on them they are enraged and drive him out of town. It doesn't matter how successful or famous or distinguished one has become, once you return home you will always be that little runny nosed seven year old who refused to wash behind his ears.



The readings over the Epiphany season are all about human kind coming to understand who Jesus is and what he is about. In particular, the readings tell us how this understanding is communicated. Jesus was an excellent communicator, but not even he was free of prejudice. The business of communicating with others on the subject of God is not without problems and pitfalls.

There is nothing elite about being a prophet. A prophet is anyone who stands up and speaks an insightful truth. As Christians we are all required to stand up for the truth. There is plenty of injustice in the world to speak out against, but before speaking out, we are warned of the pitfalls. Today's gospel warns us of the pitfall of familiarity breeding contempt. What other pitfalls might we encounter in speaking out? It is easy for instance to imagine that everyone's faith should be the same as one's own. Might we misjudge the mood, readiness or interest of our audience? Might we be tempted to patronize, or worse, bore out listeners?

For two thousand years inspirational communicators have stood up in Jesus' wake and amplified his words. Today we are invited to choose our own words, weigh up our audience, examine the pitfalls and add our voice.



Please pray for: Peace on Earth; Christian Unity, The Sick and those who care for them; Victims of Trafficking and those who work to combat it; the Unemployed. Please pray for those who are sick, including **Fr Jim Doherty**; for all who have died recently, including **Bernard Watson** of Bae-dling Manor Nursing Home, Bedlington whose Funeral Service will be held at Cowpen Crematorium on Monday 4th February; for **Molly Laing** whose Funeral Service will be celebrated at St Bede's Church on Tuesday 5th February at 11am; for **Biddie Cox** who has died (funeral arrangements later); and **Paul MacDonald** who has died; and for all whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Offertory Collections 26th/27th January
St Bede's: £207.60 / St Robert's: £812.00

Tea and Coffee after Mass

We have tea and coffee available after the Vigil Mass at St Bede's each Saturday evening. We also have tea and coffee available after the 9am and 11am Masses at St Robert's on Sunday morning.



St Bede's Tea and Coffee Donations

The donations over the next few months will be raised for "Daft as a Brush", which provides custom-made vehicles to transport outpatients to and from hospital who are undergoing Chemotherapy or radiotherapy cancer treatment in the north east.

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.

Flower Arrangers Rota

A new rota for St Robert's Church for Flower arrangers will begin after Easter. If there are other people wishing to join this rota, especially people who currently do the flowers when they're cleaning the church, and want to be involved, please let Fr Peter know so that your name can be added to the list.

Calling all gardeners

When doing your planting could you put in some extra seeds to provide plants for sale at the Christian Aid plant stall on 11th May? Thank you.

St Robert's SVP

The next meeting of St Robert's SVP Conference will be on Wednesday 6th February at 7.30pm.

Rosaries - thank you

On behalf of the Catenian Rosary Group, many thanks to all those who have left rosaries on the table in St Robert's porch in recent months. Another 20 rosaries plus various miraculous medals etc have been sent off and are much appreciated. They will be distributed between Australia, South Africa and UK prisons. Please see the moving letter of thanks on the church notice board. Another collection will be held later in the year.



Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes

You are warmly invited to the celebration of Mass for the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, which is 'World Day of the Sick'. Mass will be celebrated on Monday 11th February at Our Lady Queen of Peace Church, Peshaw at 7pm. Refreshments are available after Mass. The Diocesan Hospitalité look forward to welcoming as many of you as possible to gather as a diocese to celebrate this feast.



Petitions to Our Lady of Lourdes

Fr Peter is travelling to Lourdes this week for the International Pilgrimage Directors Meeting which coincides with the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. If anyone wishes to have prayer petitions taken to Lourdes, please write them out and place in a sealed envelope. Money for candles can also be given if you wish candles to be lit in Lourdes for yours, or for a particular intention. Hand to Fr Peter by Tuesday.

Baptism Preparation Meetings

The next Baptism Preparation Meeting will be held on Thursday 14th February at St Robert's Church. Any parents who are wishing to organise a Baptism should contact either Fr Peter or Deacon Stephen to make arrangements to attend this meeting and also to complete the Baptism paperwork so we have the **Baptism** details to enter the Baptism Register. Once that has been arranged then a date can be considered for the Baptism.



Baptism Invitation

Anna and Mark Hall invite parishioners to join their family and friends for the celebration of Eva's baptism on Sunday 3rd February at 2pm at St Bede's Church.

"Marking the Books"

This is "In Service Training" for Sacristans and Liturgical Lay Leaders to help find their way around setting up for Mass and Services. It will be held at St Hilda's Resource Centre, St. Cuthbert House, 391 West Road, Thursday 21st March 10:30am-3.00pm, Newcastle, NE15 7PY. The Cost is £5.00. Those attending will need to take a packed lunch. If anyone wishes to attend please contact the Parish Office, [Pat or Bernadette], or Fr Peter.

St Robert's Parish Council Meeting

The next Parish Pastoral Council Meeting is to be held on Thursday 21st February at 7pm.

Journey in Faith Meeting

The next Journey in Faith meeting is to be held on Thursday 14th February at 7pm in the presbytery at St Robert's.

Marriage Preparation

Plans are already underway for a Marriage Preparation Course with "Marriage Care" in March. Anyone who has not yet registered and is wishing to get married this year is asked to contact Bernadette at St Robert's Parish Office or Father Peter as soon as possible, for the details of how book a place on the course.



Youth Alpha

A Youth Alpha group is beginning for our Brinkburn Partnership for young people aged 14-18 at St Aidan's, Ashington at 7pm on Sunday 3rd February. This group will last an hour-and-a-half and will discuss big questions of faith and life, with no expectations of having the right answers when you come. It is a chance to ask why we are who we are, who is Jesus, and why does he matter. Refreshments and fun are to be had at each session, too. For further details please contact Thomas, our Partnership Youth Ministry Co-ordinator at youth.brinkburnheavenfield@rcdhn.org.uk or 07483 347646



"EDGE" - Middle School Journey of Faith

Thursday the 7th of February - There is no Edge group in Morpeth this week, due to a Co-workers Group meeting scheduled at the same time. Apologies. The group will continue as usual the following week, the 14th of February. If you have children of Middle School age, please try to encourage them to come along, even if it's only for a taster evening, to see if they enjoy it. You never know ... they might decide they like it!

Youth Ministry Co-Workers Group

We are urgently seeking the offer from two parishioners to become part of the co-workers group who meet throughout the year to support Youth Ministry in the Partnership. St Robert's Parish does not have a representation at this meeting and St Bede's has one, and it is important that we are actively involved in this group if we think youth ministry / activity is important in our parishes. The meetings discuss all aspects of Youth Ministry and outreach in our partnership parishes and in our schools. Anyone willing to help is asked to let Fr Peter know as soon as possible, as the next meeting is to be held on 7th February.

Women's World Day of Prayer Morpeth

The Morpeth Service this year will be held in Morpeth Methodist Church, Howard Terrace, Morpeth on Friday March 1st 2019 at 2.00pm. The Service has been prepared by the Christian Women of Slovenia, taking as their theme - 'Come - Everything is ready'. There will be two rehearsals - the first on Friday 15th February and the second on Friday 22nd February. Both rehearsals will be held at the Methodist Church. Anyone would like to join the choir or orchestra, please come along at 11.00am on those days. On the day of the Service there will be a full rehearsal on from 10.00am until noon. Please support this service, it is always a joy to share with other Christians from all the local Churches, and we are reminded that we belong to God's family worldwide. Each service has a special flavour of the Country which prepares its content.

Diocesan Vacancy

There is a new vacancy for a Parish Administrator at St Paul's, Alnwick. It consists of 9 hours per week, 12 month fixed term contract. Closing date for applications is 11th February. For further information and details of how to apply please visit the diocesan website www.rcdhn.org.uk or contact Katherine Nugent at Human Resources Dept on 0191 243 3301, email human.resources@diocesehn.org.uk

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

The Pilgrimage to Lourdes takes place from July 26th—August 2nd. Booking Forms are now available from Fr Peter ... Lots more information is on the pilgrimage website www.hexhamandnewcastlelourdespilgrimage.co.uk and Facebook. There is an Appeal for Nurses for before 30th April—all helpers must register by 30th April ... Youth Forms are available for those aged 16-25 who may wish to join the Youth Section; those who need Nursing Care can apply to travel also ... see Fr Peter for booking forms.

Diocesan Justice and Peace News

The latest Justice and Peace Newsletter informs us that they have been forced to discontinue most of their clothes distribution. The ever-increasing number of clients means that they need extra space and volunteer time for food distribution, which is their priority. They are appealing for Tinned meat, tinned tomatoes, baked beans, plain rice, sugar, tinned fish, tea bags, biscuits, tinned fruit, sweet corn, cooking oil, jam, cereal, tinned chickpeas and kidney beans, small jars of coffee, plus toothpaste, shampoo, body wash, and hand wash. All products must be 'In Date' and ideally have a good shelf life. They appeal also for ladies' and gents' coats in good condition (18 years plus), ladies and men's shoes in good condition (trainers preferred for men), Clean duvets (double and single), Clean pillows and sheets, Clean and good condition towels, kitchen crockery (including large clean pans), Suitcases and Backpacks. Items can be left in the porch at St Robert's Church, but make sure they are clearly marked for the Diocesan Refugee and Asylum Seeker Centre, as the Food Bank also collects from our porch. At St Bede's, items can be left in the porch. Amanda Gallagher (07748701609) at St Bede's Church is willing to help with any collection of items there. Maura Illingworth and Donald Marr coordinate the collections at St Robert's Church.

St Robert's Senior Parishioners Social

The St Robert's Senior Parishioners Social will be held on Saturday 23rd February from 3pm until 6pm, for all those eligible (over 70 or thereabouts). If you would like to come please put your name and phone number on the list in the church porch or the hall, indicating whether you need transport. If you are eligible, please don't be reticent because you think you are not old; do not deprive your fellow parishioners of your company. Ask not 'What will I get out of this party?' ask instead 'What can I bring to this party?' We will try to contact those who have come in previous years but there must be many newly eligible so please do not be shy to add your name. Also as usual we will be looking for donations of prizes for the raffle. Thank you.

Prayers for a New Bishop

Please pray, asking the Holy Spirit to guide the process of appointment and to pray for the Holy Father Pope Francis, the Apostolic Nuncio Archbishop Adams and all who are involved in seeking a successor to Bishop Seamus, who offered his resignation to the Holy Father in July 2017.