

# Masses, Services and Devotions

	St Bede's Church Bedlington	St Robert of Newminster Church Morpeth
<b>Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> January</b> <i>Memorial Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	5.00pm—5.20pm Confessions 5.00pm The Rosary <b>5.30pm Vigil Mass: Simpson and O'Neill Families</b>	9.40am The Rosary <b>10.00am Mass: Alice Waugh</b> 10.30am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 11.00am to 12 Noon Confessions
<b>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January</b> <b>2nd Sunday of the Year A</b>		<b>9.00am Mass: People of the Parish</b> <b>11.00am Mass: SEI Cole</b>
<b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January</b> <i>Weekday Year 2 Week2</i>	9.30am Morning Prayer of the Church <b>10.00am Mass: Marie &amp; George Hedley</b>	8.30am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9.00am The Angelus 9.15am Service of Word and Communion
<b>Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> January</b> <i>St Agnes</i>	9.30am Morning Prayer of the Church 10.00am Service of Word and Communion 11.00am Funeral Service Jean Clark	8.30am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9.00am The Angelus <b>9.15am Mass: Dorothy Marr</b>
<b>Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January</b> <i>Weekday</i>	9.30am Morning Prayer of the Church <b>10.00am Mass: Ronald Stephenson, Mary &amp; George Qusklay and Marion Colonna</b>	8.30am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9.00am The Angelus 9.15am Service of Word and Communion
<b>Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January</b> <i>Weekday</i>	9.30am Morning Prayer of the Church 10.00am Service of Word and Communion	8.30am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9.00am The Angelus <b>9.15am Mass: Daniel McLaughlin</b> 7.00pm Divine Mercy Devotions
<b>Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January</b> <i>St Francis de Sales</i>	9.30am Morning Prayer of the Church <b>10.00am Mass: Elizabeth Jane Moran</b>	8.30am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9.00am The Angelus 9.15am Service of Word and Communion
<b>Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> January</b> <i>The Conversion of St Paul</i>	5.00pm—5.20pm Confessions 5.00pm The Rosary <b>5.30pm Vigil Mass: People of the Parish</b>	9.40am The Rosary <b>10.00am Mass: Daniel McLaughlin</b> 10.45am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 11.00am to 12.00 Noon Confessions
<b>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> January</b> <b>3rd Sunday of the Year A</b>		<b>9.00am Mass: Helen &amp; Douglas Cone</b> <b>11.00am Mass: People of the Parish</b>

## The Pope's Intentions January 2020



Prayer intention for evangelisation - Promotion of World Peace: We pray that Christians, followers of other religions, and all people of goodwill may promote peace and justice in the world.

### Medjugorje Pilgrimages

Medjugorje Irish Centre can organise pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady from April - October 2020 with a 7 Night Stay and Airport Shuttle service from Dubrovnik or Split for €266 per person sharing. Book your own flights - any time and we provide guaranteed airport shuttle service. Call for further information and book the dates that suit you. Tel. 020 3239 8662 or email reservations@med-irishcentre.com. MEDJUGORJE: 00387 36 651 518 ENGLAND: 0044 20 3239 8662 Email: reservations@med-irishcentre.com, Website: www.med-irishcentre.com

### Church Cleaning Rota

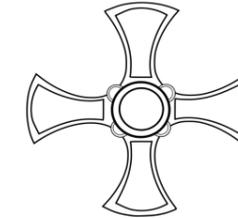
St Robert's Church Cleaning rota for 2020 is now available in the church porch. Please take a copy. Many thanks to all who volunteer for this important role, but we do ask everyone to help keep the church tidy.

### Rededication England to Mary

On Sunday 29th March, every parish is being asked to celebrate the rededication of England to Our Blessed Lady. We are asked to mark this at 12 noon. We will discuss what we will do at the next Liturgy and Worship Group meeting. Everyone welcome.



**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  
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## Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2020 —Second Sunday of the Year

The image of a lamb can be confusing. We conjure up warm and cosy pictures of a small fluffy creature, perhaps frolicking and jumping in a green field in the sun. We even think of the lamb as a pet. And certain types of hymns and songs play on this strange image. So Jesus is presented in a meek and mild fashion, as tame as a pet. Yet when we look at his life it is very hard to find any evidence to support this vision of him.

Perhaps what lambs represent most of all is innocence. We see them as helpless and without blemish. In the Old Testament the lamb was used as a sacrificial victim to God. It was clean and therefore acceptable in God's eyes. It was the Passover lamb that signified God's acceptance of the Jewish people's cry for freedom. So before long we begin to hear of a person who will fulfil this role of lamb on behalf of the people. He is called the Suffering Servant, someone who will come and take on the ills of the nation, be led to terrible suffering and trials, and then be slaughtered like a lamb in expiation for the sins of the people. He will be like a lamb led to slaughter.

This would be ringing in the ears of some of the crowd when John the Baptist pointed out Jesus. He had already preached that someone important was coming; someone he was unworthy even to help fasten his shoes. And now he fingers Jesus as that person. When John calls Jesus the Lamb of God, he is hinting at what they have heard about the Suffering Servant and he is tapping into that yearning they had for the Messiah, someone who would come from God to set up a new kingdom, freeing them from oppression.



John's words, then, were exciting. This is him... this is the one we've been waiting for... this is the one who will take away the sins of the world. Within three years Jesus would be led away like a lamb to the slaughter. But his death would prove to be a turning point, a victory over the forces of evil and death. Then the New Testament would see visions of heaven where the lamb was sitting on a throne in glory... the triumphant Lamb of God.



Please pray for: Peace on Earth, Racial Justice Day, Christian Unity, Victims of Human Trafficking, The Sick and those who care for them, The Unemployed. Please pray for those who are sick, for all who have died recently including **Jean Clark** (Bedlington) whose Funeral will be held on Tuesday; **Aileen Conroy** (Morpeth) whose Funeral Service will be held on Thursday 30th January at St Robert's Church; **Violet Josephine Waters**. (Bedlington) whose Funeral Service will be held at Cowpen Crematorium on Thursday 30th January; and **Alice Hogg** (Bedlington) whose Funeral Service will be held at St Bede's Church on Thursday 30th January; and for all whose anniversaries occur at this time.

#### Weekly Collection - 11th / 12th January

St Bede's Church: £ £243 / St Robert's Church: £765.24

#### Crib Collection

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to the Christmas Crib collection for the Christian people of the Holy Land. The total amount collected came to **£232.82** at St Bede's Church and **£271.75** at St Robert's Church.



#### White Flower Appeal 2020

Very many thanks to all who donated to the Retiring Collection last weekend for the Annual White Flower Appeal for the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children. We collected **£143.80** at St Bede's Church and **£264.45** at St Robert's Church. Please remember that it is important to post off the postcards opposing the decriminalisation of  Society for the Protection of Unborn Children.

#### Tea and Coffee after Mass

Tea and coffee are available after the Saturday Vigil Mass at St Bede's and after both the 9am and 11am Masses on Sunday at St Robert's Church Hall and everyone is welcome. Donation at St Bede's between now and Lent will go towards 'Mary's Meals'.

#### 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.

#### First Confessions

Our young people continue their preparation for First Holy Communion by celebrating their First Confessions this week ... Wednesday 22nd January at 6pm at St Bede's Church and Thursday 23rd January at 6pm at St Robert's Church. Please keep them all in your prayers at this time.



#### Wednesday Mass at St Bede's

It is good for us to have St Benet Biscop School with us on a Wednesday. Mass, advertised for 10am, will probably start at about 10.10am when St Benet Biscop School are attending, as this gives them a little more time to get across after the first lessons. We won't change the advertised time, as this will cause too much confusion, especially at times when the school is not attending; just please be aware that 10am Mass may be a little late starting in term time.

#### St Robert's Mini - Vinnies

Please remember to save your postage stamps as Mini Vinnies are still collecting stamps for local charities — tub available in the church porch.



#### Hymnbook Amnesty at St Robert's

We seem to have a number of hymnbooks missing from Church, because we have regularly run out of hymnbooks for Sunday Mass in recent weeks. If you have borrowed a hymn book and have it at home can you please return it.

#### Partnership Day of Recollection

We are having a Day of Recollection for our Partnership on Saturday 1st February. This day is being organised to bring together people from all our five parishes to explore our commitment to God, the Church and to one another. If you have never experienced a Day of Recollection before, please consider coming along. There will be two talks on how we respond to God's call and become active in living out our faith, there will be quiet time for prayer, we will begin the day with Mass at 10am and close the day with Adoration and Benediction, finishing by 3.15pm. Lunch will be provided. All you need to bring is yourself! There is a list on the notice board in both churches ... please sign up TODAY if you will be attending so we know numbers for catering.

#### Christian Unity Week in Morpeth

There are weekday services from Monday to Saturday arranged for various churches and times during Christian Unity Week, which are on the poster and there will be a joint Service to celebrate the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity on Sunday 26th January at St Georges URC Church in Morpeth at 6pm. Everyone welcome.



#### Christian Unity Week at St Bede's Church

On Sunday 19th January there will be a "Songs of Praise" at 4pm at St Bede's Church. All welcome.



#### St Robert's SVP

The next meeting of the St Robert's Conference of the Society of St Vincent de Paul will be held on Wednesday 22nd January at 7.30 p.m. in the upper church hall. We would be delighted to welcome any prospective new members - why not come along and give it a try?



#### 3C's Club

The meetings will continue every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month, with the next meeting on Wednesday 22nd January from 2pm. All are welcome!

#### Journey in Faith

Our Journey in Faith meetings have now resumed and the next meeting will be on Thursday 23rd January looking at "Sacramental Signs and Symbols"



#### Parish Pastoral Council

The next Parish Pastoral Council Meeting will be held on Thursday 30th January at 7pm. Venue to be confirmed.

#### Deputy Head-teacher Vacancy: St Bede's

St Bede's Primary School at Bedlington is seeking to appoint, in April 2020, a Deputy Head-teacher and governors are looking for "an exceptional practising Catholic". The closing date for applications is Friday 31st January 2020 at 12 noon and interviews are scheduled for Friday 24th February 2020. Full details of the advertised post are available on the Diocesan Education Service Website as well as the school website.



#### Ministry of Consolation Meeting

There will be a Meeting on Monday 20th January at 7pm in St Robert's Presbytery, to discuss our parishes' approach to "the Ministry of Consolation", to discuss what we can do better and see how we move this forward throughout 2020 following the four monthly drop in coffee mornings. All who have been involved are invited to attend.

#### Baptism Preparation Meeting

The next Baptism Preparation Meeting will be held on February 13th at 7.00pm at St Robert's. Any parents who are looking to have their child Baptized are asked to speak to Fr Peter or Deacon Stephen about filling in the Baptism paperwork and attending the Baptism preparation Meeting.



**Reminder:** For Baptism, one parent of the child to be baptised must be a baptised catholic. Mass on a Sunday (or Sat. vigil) is expected. One of the godparents is also expected to be a practising catholic. Attendance at the Baptism Meeting must be completed. Dates for Baptism are not usually given out before the Baptism Meeting is completed. People living outside the Parish will need their own Parish Priests permission to have their child Baptised here.

#### Church Repairs at St Robert's

As announced last week, the Diocesan Finance Buildings Committee and Historic Churches Committee have given permission for our Church organ to be repaired and cleaned. We have no time-scale yet for this work, as we are trying to coordinate with the other works that need to be completed and Fr Peter is currently in touch with the organ company, builders and decorators to try to plan work to the radiators and redecoration of the church. When I know more I will let you know, Fr Peter

#### Work to the Upstairs Hall at St Robert's

Work to the upstairs Hall continues at a slow pace! Electricians have been in this week, Decorators and Joiners are coming in next week. Hopefully carpet fitters will be here soon!

#### Northern Catholic Calendar 2020

Copies of the 2020 Northern Catholic Calendar are now available in the porch priced £3. Please put money in the slot in the wall.

#### Preparation for Lent Liturgy Meeting

There will be a Liturgy and Worship Meeting for both parishes, to help us prepare for Lent on Monday 27th January at 7pm. Lent begins on 26th February and we need to know what we are planning in both St Bede's and St Robert's before Lent begins, so we invite those interested in preparing and organising to come along. Venue will be announced soon.

#### St Robert's Senior Parishioners Social

The St Robert's Senior Parishioners Social will be held on Saturday 15th February 2020, from 3 pm till 6 pm. 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 derive 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!

#### Do you have any surplus rosaries?

Through the Catenian Association rosaries are sent to missions in Africa, the indigenous people of Australia and to people in prison in the UK. Over the past 2 years over 11,000 donated rosaries have been sent to overseas missions and nearly 30,000 purchased rosaries have been distributed through prison chaplains in the UK. If you have any rosaries that you don't need they will be very much appreciated by Catholics in these situations. Please leave them in the box on the table in St Robert's church porch. Thank you.



#### A message from St Benet Biscop Catholic Academy

"In July, a group of St Benet Biscop Students are travelling to Cambodia, one of the poorest nations in the world, with a volunteer organisation called 'Camps international.' The four-week expedition will involve building facilities such as kitchens, toilets and schools, installing water systems, reforestation and community education. The work of Camps International supports less fortunate communities (33% of the population live on less than \$1 a day) by providing essentials that we take for granted. The students have made fantastic individual efforts to raise the funds they need for their trip and one last push will ensure that we can support every student on their adventure of a lifetime where they will not only challenge themselves but support local communities and the environment." St Benet Biscop Catholic Academy are therefore proud to present a very special fundraising event at 7.30pm on Friday 28th February at Whitley Bay Playhouse. The evening will feature extreme cameraman Keith Partridge who will give a 'behind the scenes' presentation, with stories of filming in some of the most challenging places on earth. The event will be presented by the BBC's Chris Jackson, who will host a question and answer session with Keith after his presentation. In addition, we will also be raising money for Macmillan and Cancer Research UK, two charities very close to our hearts. Thank you so much for your support! Tickets: £15 [www.playhousewhitleybay.co.uk](http://www.playhousewhitleybay.co.uk) Box Office: 08442481588"



#### Holocaust Memorial Evenings

The theme for the 2020 Holocaust Memorial Evenings is "Stand Together". This year, 2020, marks the 75th Anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau.

- On Sunday 26th January at 3.30pm, the Central Library in Newcastle (NE1 8AX) are holding the Opening Ceremony for Holocaust Memorial Day. For more information please contact [martajosephs@googlemail.com](mailto:martajosephs@googlemail.com)
- On Monday 27th January at 6.30pm Sunderland Interfaith Forum are holding their annual Holocaust Commemoration. This will take place in Sunderland Minster (opposite the Empire Theatre). Bosnian Genocide survivor Smajo Baso will give an account of the Bosnian Genocide, which commemorates its 25th anniversary in 2020. The Holocaust speaker is Gerald Stern who will recall his father's escape from Nazi Germany.
- On Tuesday 28th January the first of our Diocesan commemorations takes place at St. Mary's School, Benton Park Road, Newcastle upon Tyne at 7.00pm. There are two guest speakers; Smajo Beso who will tell of his parents' experiences during the Bosnian Genocide in 1995. Gerald Stern will recall his father's experiences during the Holocaust.
- On Thursday 30th January we return to St. Michael's Catholic Academy, Beamish Road, Billingham for the second of our Diocesan commemorations. This event starts at 7.00pm with the guest speaker, Marta Joseph's who will recall her father's experiences during the Holocaust.

Visit the Diocesan website for more information on all these events and the latest news from the Department for Interreligious Relations.

#### St. Hilda's Diocesan Resource Centre:

Staff at St Hilda's are looking for: a pair of sloping armed candlesticks; Volunteers Monday to Saturday, morning and/or afternoon to join our Welcoming Group; to meet visitors, assist them in borrowing and returning resources, where to find topics they are looking for; to assist groups who use the facilities and also to sort and ticket new additions to the library. Mobile storage units with plastic trays if any school has any to donate. Someone to care for several pots and a small area of Garden around St Hilda's. If you are interested please contact ... [pat.kennedy@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:pat.kennedy@diocesehn.org.uk)