

Masses, Services and Devotions

	St Bede's Church Bedlington	St Robert of Newminster Church Morpeth
Saturday 25th January <i>The Conversion of St Paul</i>	5.00pm—5.20pm Confessions 5.00pm The Rosary 5.30pm Vigil Mass: People of the Parish	9.40am The Rosary 10.00am Mass: Daniel McLaughlin 10.30am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 11.00am to 12 noon Confessions
Sunday 26th January 3rd Sunday of the Year A		9.00am Mass: Helen & Douglas Cone 11.00am Mass: People of the Parish
Monday 27th January <i>St Angela Merici</i> <i>Week 3, Year 2 / LH 3</i>	9.30am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9.40am Morning Prayer of the Church 10.00am Mass: Patrick Ruddy	8.30am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9.00am The Angelus 9.15am Service of Word and Communion
Tuesday 28th January <i>St Thomas Aquinas</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 9.15am Mass: Paul Digweed
Wednesday 29th January <i>Weekday</i>	9.30am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9.40am Morning Prayer of the Church 10.00am Mass: Holy Souls	8.30am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9.00am The Angelus 9.15am Service of Word and Communion
Thursday 30th January <i>Weekday</i>	9.30am Morning Prayer of the Church 10.00am Service of Word and Communion 1.45pm: Funeral Service: Alice Hogg	8.30am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9.00am The Angelus 9.15am Mass: Andrew Shackleton 11.00am Funeral Service: Aileen Conroy 7.00pm Divine Mercy Devotions
Friday 31st January <i>St John Bosco</i>	9.30am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9.40am Morning Prayer of the Church 10.00am Mass: Holy Souls	8.30am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9.00am The Angelus 9.15am Service of Word and Communion
Saturday 1st February <i>Saturday Mass of Our Lady</i>	10.00am Partnership Mass 5.00pm—5.20pm Confessions 5.00pm The Rosary 5.30pm Vigil Mass: Private Intention	<i>Mass and Day of Recollection at St Bede's, No Mass / No Confessions here today</i>
Sunday 2nd February Presentation of the Lord		9.00am Mass: People of the Parish 11.00am Mass: Peter Onono

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.

SPUC Event: Building a Culture of Life

The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children is having a one-day conference on Saturday 7th March from 9.30am—4pm at Tyneside Irish Centre, Newcastle. The conference is to help people learn more about the threat of decriminalisation abortion and assisted suicide, how to take effective pro-life action locally and how to lobby to make a difference. Book a place on the conference by calling SPUC on 020 7091 7091 or email katherinehampton@spuc.org.uk. The days costs £30 including lunch and refreshments.

Morpeth Fair Day

The Morpeth and District Chamber of Trade have announced that they are unable to organise Morpeth Fair Day, so the organisation of this seems to have been taken over by Turners Funfairs along with Premier Catering. After the problems we faced last year, it would be good to have someone from the parish at St Robert's taking control of some discussions on our behalf, with the organisers, so that we do not have a recurrence of the last minutes problems for people trying to get to Mass that Sunday. If anyone is willing to look into this, please speak to Fr Peter as soon as possible.



First Confessions And First Holy Communion

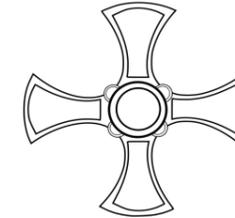
Congratulations to the young people for our two parishes who celebrated their First Confession on Wednesday and Thursday last week. It was a lovely celebration and a great opportunity for them to celebrate God's love and mercy in this very special way.

Please continue to pray for all these young people as they now continue their preparation for First Holy

Communion in June (6th June at St Robert's and 13th June at St Bede's). Many thanks to our catechists and our school staff for their support throughout the preparation and to those who turned up on Thursday evening to support the children in prayer. We encourage all our parents to keep up their support over the coming weeks, encouraging their children and of course, bringing them along to Mass as an integral part of their preparation. We look forward to the summer celebrations.



**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

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Sunday 26th January 2020 — Third Sunday of the Year

What if Jesus had asked Peter, Andrew, James and John, "How do you see yourself in five years from now?" Do you think they might have replied, "Still fishing for a living, in the same old fishing boats on the same old lake!" Not likely! The early disciples knew exactly where their priorities lay and they understood the urgency of Jesus' ministry. There was a whole world that needed to hear what Jesus had to say and not much time to complete the job.

What if Jesus levelled the same question at us? "Where do you see yourself in five years time?" Do you see yourself doing the same thing you do right now? Do you see yourself doing the same things day in and day out for the rest of your one and only life? Jesus has a better idea. Jesus asks each of us to be fishers of men. Do we jump to it with the same immediacy as the early disciples or do we hunt for an excuse?

Many of us feel uncomfortable about evangelising. We associate evangelisation with the eccentric or the holier than thou. We associate evangelisation with the man laden with bill boards in the city precinct or the woman handing out leaflets through the crack in the front door. We have a 'live and let live' ethos today that doesn't sit comfortably with trying to persuade others to adopt our own beliefs. Funnily, this wasn't really Jesus' style either.

Being a fisher of men doesn't have to be about notching up conversions. Being a 'fisher of men' is more about making a real difference in the lives of others. Being a disciple of Jesus means attracting others to our lifestyle by our shining example. Being a disciple is most certainly not about being overly holy or wearing sackcloth. Discipleship could be about writing a song or a book, it might be about bringing our children up with a conscience or giving an elderly relative somewhere to live. Discipleship might be about starting a meaningful conversation in the local pub, or just being a good friend to someone lonely.

Whatever mode of discipleship we choose, we only have this life to do it.





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 **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; for **June Gebhard** (Hepscott) whose Funeral will be celebrated at Cowpen Crematorium on 5th February; and for all whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Weekly Collection - 18th / 19th January
St Bede's: £271.82 / St Robert's: £753.91

Thank you from Friends of the Holy Land

"Thank you for your Christmas Crib offerings, which contribute to our work supporting, school fees, medical expenses, family and community support. Your help is so important as there is no social care system or foodbanks in the Holy Land, state schooling is Muslim and the Christian children are under pressure to convert as they are in such a small minority. An injury or illness easily tips families into financial crisis and medications and treatment have to be paid for. Your help shows them that they are not alone."



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'.

Clergy Training Fund.

Proceeds from October to the end of December on a Saturday evening raised **£460.82** which is being sent to the diocesan finance office for the Clergy Training Fund. We are now raising funds for "Mary's Meals" between January and the beginning of Lent"

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.

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 and we run out of hymnbooks for Sunday Mass in recent weeks. If you have borrowed a hymn book and have it at home or elsewhere, can you please return it.

Partnership Day of Recollection

We are having a Day of Recollection for our Partnership on Saturday 1st February at St Bede's, Bedlington. 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. Anyone not booked and wishing to attend should email the parish offices by Monday.

Christian Unity Week in Morpeth

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.



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 5th February 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?



Saturday Morning changes

Please note that there is No Mass and No Confessions at St Robert's Church on Saturday 1st February. Mass will be at 10am at St Bede's Church for the beginning of the Day of Recollection.

Preparation for Lent Liturgy Meeting

There will be a Liturgy and Worship Meeting in St Robert's Presbytery 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. We invite those interested in preparing and organising to come along.

Rededication of 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.

Parish Pastoral Council

The next Parish Pastoral Council Meeting will be held on Thursday 30th January at 7pm. Please meet in the Presbytery.

Deputy Head-teacher Vacancy: St Bede's

St Bede's Primary School at Bedlington is seeking to appoint a Deputy Head and the closing date for applications is Friday 31st January at 12 noon. Full details of the advertised post are available on the Diocesan Education Service Website as well as the school website.



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 baptised 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.



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!

Anna Chaplaincy

In Morpeth, the ecumenical Morpeth Chaplaincy Team has been ministering to the elderly in Care Homes and Sheltered accommodations since 2014. The Chaplaincy team are now to be called the "Anna Chaplaincy". The vision of Anna Chaplaincy is to see in every small and medium sized community in the country, Anna Chaplaincy, so that the "Anna Chaplain" name becomes synonymous with spiritual care for older people. Mrs Veronica Shearer from St Robert's Parish is one of the team members. The Morpeth team is to be commissioned as "The Morpeth Anna Chaplaincy Team" at 4pm on Sunday 2nd February in St James Church, Morpeth. Representatives from all the local churches will be present at this commissioning and it is hoped that the Mayor and some councillors will be present, as well as representatives from the Sheltered Housing Schemes and the Care Homes as the Anna Chaplaincy starts this new chapter in its Ministry to the elderly in Morpeth.



Catholic Woman's League

The next CWL meeting will be on Monday 27th January, at 7:00pm, in St Robert's Church Hall. This will be a Burns Night celebration evening.

Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes

11th February is the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes and World Day of Prayer for the Sick. There will be a Mass at St Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle, on that day at 7pm to mark this special occasion. Everyone welcome.



Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

Information is now available for the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes, which takes place from 31st July—7th August 2020. The pilgrimage website has almost all the information necessary, including links to all the Booking Forms, link to Tangney Tours for the Brochure, www.hexhamandnewcastlelourdespilgrimage.co.uk or contact Fr Peter for further information. Places available in the Youth Section for anyone aged 16-25, by coach to Lourdes, places available for those who cant travel or stay on their own in Lourdes, and those who need Nursing Care.

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 Box Office: 08442481588"

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.



3C's Club

The meetings will continue every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month, with the next meeting on Wednesday 5th February from 2pm. All are welcome!

"Face to Face"

This is an invitation from The Association of Religious, to join them at The Mercy Hub at St Mary's Cathedral [entrance opposite the railway station] on Saturday February 1st, from 2pm to 4pm. Come and share tea and a chat. Just drop in for as long or short a time as you would like. The Association of Religious is aware that there are many fewer opportunities for Young adults and Religious men and women to meet and get to know about each other. Among religious there can be a sense of 'invisibility.' This a chance to spend some time together. Welcome at 2pm Prayer to finish at 3.40

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
- 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.

Medjugorje Pilgrimages

Medjugorje Irish Centre can organise pilgrimages 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

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.

Justice & Peace Project

The Justice & Peace Project in Newcastle is very grateful for St. Robert's continuing food contributions. There is a great ongoing need for the staple food items listed in the porch, owing to increasing numbers of destitute asylum-seekers (living on 8 food items and £5 per week). Please continue your kind help.

Thinking about a career in politics and public affairs?

Faith in Politics is a Catholic Parliamentary and Public Affairs internship scheme which began in 2003. The scheme uniquely offers a foundation of Catholic faith and spiritual formation for those who believe they may have a vocation to public service in politics or public affairs. Interns commit to a varied year working in Parliament or in the public affairs teams of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, the Catholic Education Service, and CAFOD. They explore the political landscape and the Church's involvement in social action through a series of events, including a visit to Rome on pilgrimage, to learn how the Vatican works, and how the UK relates to the Holy See. Interns undertake the first year of a part-time Master's Degree in Catholic Social Teaching at St Mary's University, Twickenham. Importantly their journey begins and ends with a retreat, and spiritual guidance is an integral part of the year. The group lives at More House in Kensington, and at the end of the year they join a network of over 100 alumni. Faith in Politics is named on the Vatican's website Laity Involved as an example of best practice formation of the lay faithful. More information and online application at <http://faithinpolitics.org.uk>

