

# Masses, Services and Devotions

	St Bede's Church Bedlington	St Robert of Newminster Church Morpeth
<b>Saturday 29th February</b> <i>Weekday of Lent</i>	5.00pm—5.20pm Confessions 5.00pm The Rosary <b>5.30pm Vigil Mass: Bob Baptist</b>	9.40am The Rosary <b>10.00am Mass: Peter Marshall &amp; Dcd of the Marshall family</b> 10.30am Stations of the Cross 11.00am to 12 noon Confessions
<b>Sunday 1st March</b> <b>1st Sunday of Lent A</b>	<b>4.00pm Stations of the Cross</b>	<b>9.00am Mass: People of the Parish</b> <b>11.00am Mass: Mrs C I Cole</b>
<b>Monday 2nd March</b> <i>Weekday of Lent</i>	9.30am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9.40am Morning Prayer of the Church <b>10.00am Mass:</b>	8.30am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9.00am The Angelus 9.15am Service of Word and Communion
<b>Tuesday 3rd March</b> <i>Weekday of Lent</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: Sr Shelagh Doherty &amp; Dcd of Doherty and Devitt families</b>
<b>Wednesday 4th March</b> <i>Weekday of Lent</i>	<b>Partnership Mass at St Thomas of Canterbury, Longhorsley at 7.00pm</b>	
<b>Thursday 5th March</b> <i>Weekday of Lent</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: Dcd Mbrs of R &amp; G McAllister family</b> 7.00pm Stations of the Cross 7.30pm Divine Mercy Devotions
<b>Friday 6th March</b> <i>Weekday of Lent</i>	9.30am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9.40am Morning Prayer of the Church <b>10.00am Mass</b>	8.30am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9.00am The Angelus 9.15am Service of Word and Communion
<b>Saturday 7th March</b> <i>Ss Perpetua and Felicity</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: Pat Horrax</b> 10.30am Stations of the Cross 11.00am to 12 noon Confessions
<b>Sunday 8th March</b> <b>Second Sunday of Lent</b>	4pm Stations of the Cross	<b>9.00am Mass: Robert Weatheritt</b> <b>11.00am Mass: Maureen Garbutt</b>

## The Pope's Intentions March 2020



**Catholics in China:** We pray that the Church in China may persevere in its faithfulness to the Gospel and grow in unity.

### Update on Church Organ Repairs

The Diocesan Finance Office has approved the repairs to the Organ at St Robert's, as previously advised a couple of weeks, but unfortunately following discussion on Friday, we now know that the approved repairer is not able to carry out the work until January 2021, because they have other work in their diary until then. This will probably be good news for those who are preparing to be married this year!

We are though, still hoping to go ahead with the redecoration of the Church and work to the radiators. However, we have invited all quotations and then when we do receive them, we have to submit them for approval to the Diocesan Finance Committee because this work will be over the £10,000 threshold at which permission is needed. As soon as we have further we will let you know.



PRAYER

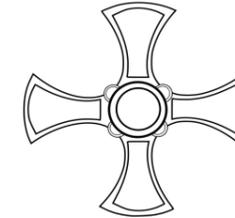


FASTING



ALMSGIVING

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

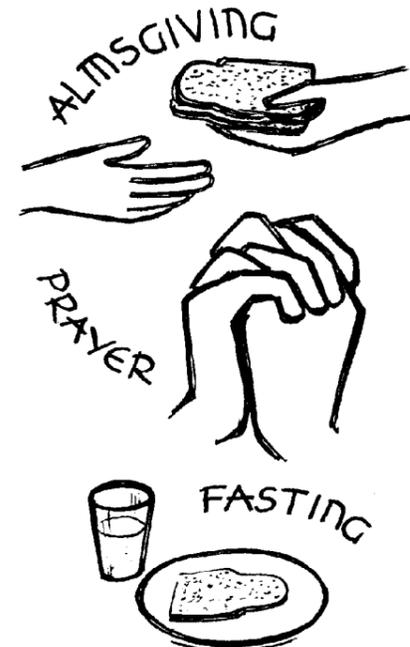
## Sunday 1st March 2020 — First Sunday of Lent

Famous artists depict Satan as a winged demon with goat horns and cloven hooves. If the devil really presented temptation to us in this obvious guise, we would easily be able to recognise and resist it. Sadly that is not the case. We tend to think of temptation as something that will lead us into a life of crime or immorality, but temptation is simply anything that threatens to take us away from God. Temptation does not come with all the easily recognisable trappings of Satan. More often or not temptation comes as an attractive choice. Satan presents for us easy ways out of our problems. Satan dresses up poor decisions as sensible options. Worse, the devil will help us to justify our poor decision making until we reach a point where we really cannot tell right from wrong.

Many of us fail to recognise temptation, and the reason we fail is because we don't really know who we are or what we're about. It's surprising that we can get so far on in years without being about to answer simple questions like "What are you doing for God?" "How would you like to be remembered?" The reason we struggle with questions like these is because as human beings we are governed hugely by self interest. Self interest is essential for survival and it's in all of us, but as

Christians we have to put self interest on a back burner and put in the time and effort into defining who we really would like to be. Once we have achieved this, then the devil's temptations are suddenly crystal clear. After all, we can't be tempted away from our path in life if we've no idea what our path in life is. If we have no plan, we are hardly worth the devil's attention.

When we choose to give up something this Lent, perhaps it should be something that reflects the path we have chosen and the temptation we are trying to transcend. If we decide to give up red wine for instance, with the intention of dropping a couple of dress sizes, God won't be hugely impressed and the devil won't be remotely interested. If we give up wine because we have identified that it is stopping us from doing some important work of God's making, our Lenten journey will take on a life changing significance. Jesus gives us an important clue; "Away with you, Satan! for it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'" When we make our daily choices ask, "Is this about me.... or is it about 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, Candidates for the Sacraments, Women, The Needy and Hungry of the World, Penitents and Wanderers, Survivors of Sexual Abuse. Please pray for those who are sick and unwell, for all who have died recently including Kathleen Knight (nee McKinley), who has recently died and whose Funeral will take place in Coventry; and for all whose anniversaries occur at this time.

**Offertory Collections 22nd/23rd February**  
St Bede's: £316.24. / St Robert's £776.66

**St Bede's Parish Gift Aid & Planned Giving**

In preparation for the new financial year the planned giving boxes will be available soon. Any parishioner new to the parish, or anyone not in the scheme and wishing to contribute to the support of the parish please contact the office on a Monday or Tuesday morning on 01670 823258. If you are a tax payer would you consider signing a Gift Aid Declaration whereby the parish will reclaim 25 pence for every £1 donated from the Inland Revenue.



**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 during Lent will go towards our Lenten Alms appeal for St Cuthbert's Care .

**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.

**Lenten Alms**

Throughout Lent we collect for St Cuthbert's Care for our Lenten Alms. This year the Appeal supports their Hardship Fund, offering financial support to older Catholic people wishing to live in one of their nursing homes in Newcastle or Sunderland. There will be a box or basket on the way out of church at the of every Sunday Mass throughout



**CAFOD Family Fast Day**

Friday 6th March is CAFOD Fast Day. **Envelopes are available today and you are asked to return them by next Sunday.** In today's gospel, Jesus fasts and prays for 40 days in the desert. During the 40 days of Lent we too are invited to fast – moderating what we eat – and to pray, renewing our relationship with God. As Jesus gave himself for us, we are also invited to be generous with the gifts and riches that we have received from God. Sister Consilia for example in Zimbabwe, gives of herself on a daily basis. She has dedicated her life to serving God and God's people. May her generosity inspire us as we continue our Lenten journey.



**Stations of the Cross**

We will celebrate Stations of the Cross every Thursday evening at 7pm and every Saturday morning at 10.30am at St Robert's. At St Bede's, Stations of the Cross will be celebrated at 4pm on a Sunday afternoon.



**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:**

Are you trying to pray a little more during Lent? Why not try to try to come to Adoration, a valuable period of quiet prayer before Jesus truly present in the Blessed Sacrament. We have Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament throughout the week before Mass at both St Robert's Church and St Bede's. Please check back page for all times.



**Confessions**

We have Confessions available on Saturday morning at St Robert's Church between 11am—12noon and at St Bede's Church on Saturday evening from 5pm—5.20pm. Please use these weeks of Lent to make use of this wonderful sacrament. Don't lose this opportunity .... Come along ... if you know you haven't been for some time, ask yourself why, reflect on your need for God's love and mercy, and then come along ... we are all sinners, we all need to be absolved from our sins, please pray about coming to confession during Lent.



**Lenten Lunches for Charity**

Lenten Lunches continue every Friday throughout Lent in the church hall at St Robert's, from midday—1.30pm each Friday. Offers of help and soup, bread rolls gratefully accepted.

If you are willing to help please sign up on list at the back of church. Proceeds will be split between **CAFOD and Mary's Meals.** Thank you. Please remember that Fridays



during Lent should be days of Fast and Abstinence. These Lunches are meant to support those in need with our proceeds and are not meant to be a Feast for us; they are to help enable us to Fast from our normal lunches and remind us that from what we save, we are able to support those in need.

**Partnership Station Masses**

During Lent we will be celebrating Partnership Masses on Wednesday evenings, using a different Partnership Church each week and we hope that people will be able to travel around the different churches for Mass and refreshments afterwards. All Masses will begin at 7pm.

- 4<sup>th</sup> March, St Thomas of Canterbury, Longhorsley
- 11<sup>th</sup> March at Sacred Heart & St Cuthbert, Amble,
- 18<sup>th</sup> March at St Bede, Bedlington,
- 25<sup>th</sup> March at St Robert of Newminster, Morpeth
- 1<sup>st</sup> April at St Aidan, Ashington
- And Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April at St Robert's Mass followed by Confessions from 1045am—1245pm

**Parish Meeting at St Bede's**

As we do not have a Parish Council at St Bede's and there is no opportunity to talk about Parish Pastoral issues, Father Peter will hold a Parish Meeting on **Monday 9th March at 7pm** in the Church Hall. If you want to come along you will be very welcome.

**Rite of Election**

Bishop Robert will be celebrating the Rite of Election at St Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle upon Tyne TODAY (Sunday 1st March) at 2.30pm and he will offer a special word of welcome to those who are preparing to be Received into the Church. At St Robert's Parish, Jill Perkins is preparing to be Received into Full Communion at Mass on Easter Sunday and Jill and members of her family will be attending this service today. We keep her and her whole family in our prayers at this time.

**\*\*\* Journey in Faith \*\*\***

Unfortunately the next meeting of the Journey in Faith clashes with the Partnership Development Group Meeting (Thursday 12th March) so to make sure we can meet, we are going to change the dates of the Journey in Faith to **THURSDAY 5th March and THURSDAY 19th March at 7.30pm.** Very many apologies for the inconvenience.

**Pope John Paul II Award**

Bishop Robert will this afternoon (Sunday 1st March at 4pm at Gateshead Hilton) be presenting the Pope John Paul II Awards to young people from throughout the diocese. Kasia Glancy from St Robert's Parish will be receiving her Pope John Paul II Award. We congratulate Kasia on this achievement.

**3Cs Club**

The meeting will continue every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of the month, with the next meeting on Wednesday 11th March at 2pm. All welcome.

**First Holy Communion**

First Holy Communion will be celebrated in June. We have a nice selection of small First Holy Communion gifts, bookmarks, rosary beads, pewter standing crosses, Communion Mass books, sterling silver necklets, pins, brooches, cards, etc. There will be a sale of these items after Easter, however if you need them before please call into St Robert's office.

**Coronavirus Advice**

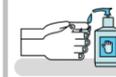
The Bishops of England and Wales have issued guidelines for the Church concerning the Coronavirus. Because of the changing nature of this virus, information may be changed at short notice. [www.cbcew.org.uk/guidance-to-catholics-on-coronavirus/](http://www.cbcew.org.uk/guidance-to-catholics-on-coronavirus/)



**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**

We ask all Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, whether distributing hosts or the Precious Blood from the Chalice, to use the anti-bacterial hand gel provided.

- For weekend Masses at St Robert's, Ministers are asked to go into the sacristy to use the gel and then come onto the Sanctuary via the Sanctuary door; on weekdays the gel will be on the credence table at the side of the Sanctuary.
- at St Bede's, the gel will be on a small table near the Paschal Candle.



**St Bede's Mini Vinnies Appeal**

During Lent St Bede's School Mini Vinnies are supporting the Mary's Meals Backpack Project. Can you help them? Do you have any of the following items to fill a 4-12 year old school child's backpack for use in impoverished countries of the world? You can donate a filled backpack, an empty backpack or any of the following: pens, rulers, towels, flip-flops or sandals, toothbrush (new), notepads, crayons, sharpeners, shorts or shirts, pencil cases, toothpaste, pencils, erasers, spoon, bars of soap, small balls e.g. tennis ball and spoons. If you think that you can support this appeal please could you take all donations to St. Bede's Primary School labelled 'Mini Vinnies Appeal'.



**Keyholders at St. Robert's.**

We are required by the Diocese to keep a log of all those who have a key to gain access to any part of the Church, Presbytery or Church Hall. We are also requested by the Diocese for all people who hold keys to sign a Key Log Sheet. If you have a key (internal or external) please could you collect a form from the Parish Office, or alternatively contact us by email and we can forward the form to your email address

**Rededication of England to Mary**

On Sunday 29th March, every parish is being asked to celebrate the Rededication of England to Our Blessed Lady. The first dedication was made by King Richard I in Westminster Abbey in 1381, as he sought the protection of Our Lady in the face of great political turmoil. At this point, England received the title 'Mary's Dowry,' meaning that England was 'set aside' as a gift, a dowry, for Our Lady under her guidance and protection. On Sunday 29th March, the Re-dedication will take place throughout our country. As King Richard I once gave England as a gift to Our Lady for her guidance, so we too, seek Mary's protection and prayers, giving ourselves through this act of dedication. This will be at 12noon, following on from the 11am Mass on Sunday 29th March.



**St Patrick's Day – 17<sup>th</sup> March**

We now have a selection of St Patrick's Day cards on sale on the stand at the back of St Robert's Church.

**Choir Practices**

We have Choir Practices every Wednesday evening at St Robert's Church from 7pm and the Choir sing at the 11am Mass each Sunday. If you feel you would like to join them and help with the music for our 11am Sunday Mass please feel free to come along.

**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, a link to Tangney Tours for the Pilgrimage Brochure, prices, travel dates, etc, [www.hexhamandnewcastlelourdespilgrimage.co.uk](http://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 are sick and who cannot travel or stay on their own in Lourdes, and those who need Nursing Care.



**Baptism Preparation Meeting**

The next Baptism Preparation Meeting will be held on March 12<sup>th</sup> at 6.30pm at St Bede's. Any parents who are looking to have their child baptised are asked to speak to Fr Peter of 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 Priest's permission to have their child baptised here.



**Parishioners contact details**

The details we currently have for parishioners' date back more than 6/7 years and some details will now be out of date. If you think you need to update your details, please let us know as soon as possible.

**Women's World Day of Prayer**

This year the Service for Women's World Day of Prayer has been prepared by the Christian Women of Zimbabwe, taking as their theme 'Rise, take up your mat and walk'. The Bedlington Service will be hosted by St. John's, Bedlington Station, on Friday 6th March at 2pm. Refreshments will be served after the Service. All Welcome The Morpeth Service will be hosted by the Baptist Church, in the Methodist Church, Howard Road, Morpeth on Friday 6th March at 2pm. Refreshments will be served after the Service.

**Christian Aid Spring Evening**

The Christian Spring Evening will be held on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm for 7.30pm in the Methodist Hall, Morpeth. The theme this year is Kenya and there will be Kenyan style meal followed by a talk about how Christian Aid is helping people in that country survive the even more frequent droughts they are experiencing due to climate change. The speaker is Helen Cunningham from Newcastle Christian Aid office and tickets cost £7.50, available from Gerry or Eileen Harber (517829).

**St Robert's SVP Meeting**

The next meeting of the St Robert's Conference of the SVP will be on Wednesday 11th March at 7.30pm in the upstairs Meeting Room of the Hall. We urgently need to recruit new members – why not come along to find out what we do?



**Romero Pilgrimage to Holy Island**

To coincide with the 40th anniversary of the martyrdom of St Oscar Romero (24th March 2020) a one-day pilgrimage to Holy Island (Lindisfarne) taking place on Saturday 4th April. This pilgrimage will be a day with prayer and liturgy, a film, dance performance and a pilgrim walk around the island. Safe crossing times for the causeway mean that all participants need to be on Holy Island no later than 10:30am and the Welcome Gathering and Prayer will begin in the Anglican Parish Church of Mary the Virgin at 11am. The day will end around 5pm after an ecumenical service and key-note address. The day is sponsored by the Romero Trust, with the collaboration of CAFOD staff and volunteers in the North East and Br Ken Vance SJ, organising Scottish participation. The key-note speaker is Edgardo Colon-Emeric, a Methodist theology professor at Duke University in North Carolina.