

Masses, Services and Devotions

	St Bede's Church Bedlington	St Robert of Newminster Church Morpeth
Saturday 22nd February <i>The Chair of St Peter</i>	5.00pm—5.20pm Confessions 5.00pm The Rosary 5.30pm Vigil Mass: Molly Ruddy	9.40am The Rosary 10.00am Mass: Peter Marshall 10.30am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 11.00am to 12 noon Confessions
Sunday 23rd February 7th Sunday of the Year A		9.00am Mass: People of the Parish 11.00am Mass: Tony Syron 12.30pm Baptism: Florence Shaw
Monday 24th February <i>Weekday, Week 7</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
Tuesday 25th February <i>Weekday</i>	9.30am Morning Prayer of the Church 10.00am Service of Word and Communion 10.45am Funeral Service Terence Goonan	8.30am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9.00am The Angelus 9.15am Mass: Andrew Kingwell
Wednesday 26th February Ash Wednesday	9.30am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9.40am Morning Prayer of the Church 10.00am Mass: No Intention	7.00pm Mass: Intentions of Bryan and Elaine Masterson
Thursday 27th February <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 9.15am Mass: Mr John Devitt and Dcd Of Devitt & Doherty families 7.00pm Stations of the Cross 7.30pm Divine Mercy Devotions
Friday 28th February <i>Weekday of Lent</i>	9.30am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9.40am Morning Prayer of the Church 10.00am Mass No Intention	8.30am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9.00am The Angelus 9.15am Service of Word and Communion
Saturday 29th February <i>Weekday of Lent</i>	5.00pm—5.20pm Confessions 5.00pm The Rosary 5.30pm Vigil Mass: Bob Baptist	9.40am The Rosary 10.00am Mass: Peter Marshall & Dcd of the Marshall family 10.30am Stations of the Cross 11.00am to 12 noon Confessions
Sunday 1st March First Sunday of Lent	4pm Stations of the Cross	9.00am Mass: People of the Parish 11.00am Mass: Mrs C I Cole



The Pope's Intentions February 2020

Listen to the Migrants' Cries: We pray that the cries of our migrant brothers and sisters, victims of criminal trafficking, may be heard and considered.

The Matthew Project Bedlington Update

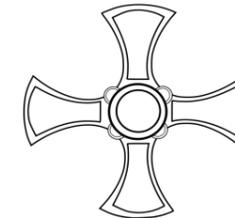
Many thanks to the St Bede's parishioners who regularly donate to the Matthew Project. In particular, the church's response to the Christmas Appeal was phenomenal. Throughout 2019 the project received 583 requests for help from Bedlington residents. This led to 1459 adults and children receiving support. December was particularly challenging with over 100 requests for support. As these figures show, there is an ever-increasing need for donations. Please, if you can, show your support the project by donating food and household goods via the bins in the Narthex. If you know of anyone who would benefit from support from the Matthew Project please contact Russ Wallace at russ.wallace@btinternet.com or 07941 128493. Thank you.

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



**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 23rd February 2020 — Seventh Sunday of the Year

What strange advice! "If anyone strikes you on the right cheek, turn the other also." "If anyone forces you to go one mile go also the second mile..." "If anyone sues you for your outer garment, give them your undergarment too." Jesus tells us not to resist evil. Does he mean us to roll over and allow our enemies to walk all over us?



It's very easy for us to love our friends. Only loving those who are easy to love doesn't provide very much of a challenge, and consequently doesn't earn us much of a reward. The challenge Jesus poses today is to meet our enemies with love. Jesus' advice is to meet violence with non-violence and to meet force with acquiescence. If we only love those who love us back we are not doing anything more than anyone else, but if we love our enemies, we show ourselves to be true disciples of Christ.

In our conflict-ridden world, today's gospel has never been more relevant. Never has there been a better time for Christians to get more involved in campaigning for non-violent strategies. Jesus isn't suggesting we roll over and allow our enemies to walk all over us, nor is he suggesting we turn a blind eye. What he is suggesting is that we always make a stand for justice in the spirit of love and not aggression. There are a million and one little things we can do each and every day to help tackle the causes of poverty, prejudice and oppression. The world has never been more ready.



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 **Terrance Goonan** (Ashington) whose Funeral Service will be held at St Bede's on Tuesday at 10.45 am; and for all whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Weekly Collection - 15th / 16th February

St Bede's: £246.60: Standing Orders January £831.00
St Robert's: £813.60

St Bede's Parish Gift Aid

In order to ensure our records are up to date please let us know of any amendments e.g. contact details, a tax payer, or non-tax payer. If you are a tax payer and not in the Gift Aid scheme would you consider signing a Gift Aid Declaration? This permits us to claim 25% of your donation from the Inland Revenue. For anyone already in the scheme would you consider making your donation by Standing Order? For further information please contact the parish office (Monday or Tuesday mornings). Many thanks for your continued support.

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 up to Lent will go towards 'Mary's Meals' and then 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.

Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday will be celebrated on Wednesday 26th February. There will be **10am Mass at St Bede's Church**, Bedlington and a **7pm Mass at St Robert's Church, Morpeth**. Masses in the other Partnership Parishes are ...

- AMBLE Sacred Heart & St Cuthbert, 10am and 7pm Mass
- ASHINGTON, St Aidan, 7am Mass and 10am Mass
- LONGHORSLEY, St Thomas of Canterbury, 10am Mass

Ash Wednesday is also a Day of Fast and Abstinence. Fasting means that the amount of food we eat is considerably reduced. Abstinence means that we give up a particular kind of food, usually not eating meat, or drink or form of amusement.



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 Lent.



CAFOD Family Fast Day

Friday 6th March is CAFOD Fast Day. Envelopes are available today and you are asked to return them anytime over the next two Sundays.



Lenten Lunches for Charity

Lenten Lunches will begin on Friday 28th February and 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.

- 4th March, St Thomas of Canterbury, Longhorsley
- 11th March at Sacred Heart & St Cuthbert, Amble,
- 18th March at St Bede, Bedlington,
- 25th March at St Robert of Newminster, Morpeth
- 1st April at St Aidan, Ashington

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.



Catholic Woman's League

The next CWL meeting will be held on Monday 24th February, at 7.00pm in St Robert's Church Hall. There will be a talk on the Herbert Project – Police Dementia Initiative. Everyone welcome.

3Cs Club

The meeting will continue every 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month, with the next meeting on Wednesday 26th February from 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.

Journey in Faith

The next Journey in Faith meeting will be held on Thursday 27th February at 7.30pm in the Presbytery, after Stations of the Cross.

Divine Mercy Devotion

The next Divine Mercy meeting will be held on Thursday 27th February at 7.30pm in St Robert's Church, after Stations of the Cross

St Patrick's Day – 17th 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

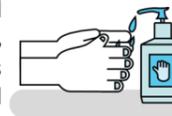
We have Choir Practices every Wednesday evening at St Robert's Church from 7pm and the Choir sing at the 11am Mass each Sunday. If you feel you would like to join them and help with the music for our 11am Sunday Mass please feel free to come along.

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/

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

As an extra measure for hygiene, we ask all Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, whether distributing hosts or the Precious Blood from the Chalice, to use the 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 on to 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.

Rededication of England to Mary

On Sunday 29th March, every parish is being asked to celebrate the Rededication of England to Our Blessed Lady. A full list of churches taking part is available on the 'BEHOLD2020' website that has been set up for this. The first dedication was made by King Richard II 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 II 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. We respond to this invitation on the day of the Re-dedication, in two ways: A Personal Promise by praying The Angelus Promise, a prayer in which we say 'yes' in union with Our Lady through the words of the Annunciation: and in a Communal Entrustment, as the people, we will, once again, renew the vows of dedication made to Mary by King Richard II, praying together the Act of Entrustment.

"33 Days to Morning Glory"

This is the book that enables us to prepare for the above celebration on 29th March. The book contains daily reflections, like a Private Retreat in Preparation for 29th March. Copies are available at the back of Church.

Morpeth Fair Day

Although we have not been invited to any discussions which have already taken place between NCC and organisers, we have been informed that on Morpeth Fair Day the Road Closure will only begin at the Zebra Crossing outside the School and vehicular access will be available for those coming to Mass, via the Curly Kews. Many thanks to Mary Grimes who is acting as the contact person with those who are organising.

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 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 12th 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.

New Parishioners

It is noticeable that we have new parishioners attending Mass at St Robert's on a Sunday morning. We are delighted to be able to welcome all those who have recently moved into the area and have become members of our parish community. Please introduce yourself to Fr Peter if you haven't already done so. It would also be helpful if you give your details, address, email, etc to Fr Peter or Bernadette in the parish office. You are very welcome, we hope you feel happy amongst us. If we don't live up to our words of welcome, please let us know. We want everyone to feel part of our parish and welcome here among us.

Christian Aid Spring Evening

The Christian Aid Spring Evening will be held on Saturday 14th 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).

SVP National Raffle

Tickets for the SVP National Raffle will be available after Mass at St Robert's and St Bede's this weekend and for the following few weeks, price £1 per ticket. Prizes of £3000, £2000, £1000 and 20 other cash prizes. The money raised goes towards supporting the SVP Special Works such as Blackfriars House, resettlement of offenders etc. See poster in Church porch.

