

Masses, Services and Devotions

	St Bede's Church Bedlington	St Robert of Newminster Church Morpeth
Saturday 7th March <i>Weekday of Lent</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: Pat Horrax 10.30am Stations of the Cross 11.00am to 12 noon Confessions
Sunday 8th March Second Sunday of Lent	4.00pm Stations of the Cross	9.00am Mass: Robert Weatheritt 11.00am Mass: Maureen Garbutt
Monday 9th March <i>Weekday of Lent</i>	9.30am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9.40am Morning Prayer of the Church 10.00am Mass: Terry Macy	8.30am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9.00am The Angelus 9.15am Service of Word and Communion
Tuesday 10th March <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: Margaret Taylor Walker & John Bell
Wednesday 11th March <i>Weekday of Lent</i>	Partnership Mass at Sacred Heart & St Cuthbert, Amble at 7.00pm	
Thursday 12th March <i>Weekday of Lent</i>	9.15am Morning Prayer of the Church 9.3am Service of Word and Communion	8.30am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament 9.00am The Angelus 9.15am Mass: Michael Lillico 7.00pm Stations of the Cross 7.30pm Divine Mercy Devotions
Friday 13th March <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 14th March <i>Weekday of Lent</i>	5.00pm—5.20pm Confessions 5.00pm The Rosary 5.30pm Vigil Mass: Madeleine Potter	9.40am The Rosary 10.00am Mass: Fr. James Doherty & deceased members of the Doherty & Devitt families 10.30am Stations of the Cross 11.00am to 12 noon Confessions
Sunday 15th March Third Sunday of Lent	4pm Stations of the Cross	9.00am Mass: Elphin Conroy 11.00am Mass: People of the Parish



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.

European Union Citizens

All EU, EEA and Swiss citizens living in the UK are required by the government to apply through its Settlement Scheme to continue living, working and accessing services here. The deadline for applications is 30 June 2021. Details and links to the application process can be found at: gov.uk/eusetledstatus. Please bring this to the attention of friends, relatives and fellow parishioners who may need to apply. Assistance for those who may have difficulty applying is available at: gov.uk/help-eu-settlement-scheme. The Catholic Church in England and Wales stands in solidarity with all European citizens who have made their homes here. They are a valued part of our parishes, schools and communities.

Scripture Retreat at Stanbrook Abbey

This takes place on Saturday 16 May 2020 at Stanbrook Abbey, North Yorkshire. It is a day with the God Who Speaks led by Benedictine nuns from the Abbey. For further details, or to register an interest in attending, please contact adult.formation@diocesehn.org.uk.

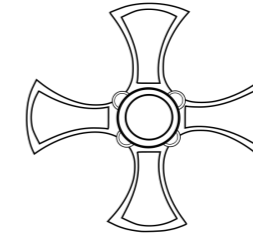
Tents of Encounter at Ushaw College

From Friday 8 May to Sunday 10 May, The Word on the Road comes to Ushaw. This is part of a national Scripture Roadshow organised jointly by The Bible Society and the Bishops' Conference Scripture Working Group. For further details, please contact adult.formation@diocesehn.org.uk.

Windows Into Heaven

From 13 April to 31 May at Ushaw College there will be an exhibition of icons on the life of Christ, as depicted in the Rosary. This has been arranged to mark both the Year of the Word and the Rededication of England as the Dowry of Mary. The exhibition will be open every day, and there will be accompanying booklets and an opportunity for group prayer every Thursday at 2.00pm. In addition, volunteer guides will give talks on the exhibition every Friday at 2.00pm. Please do advertise this event in your parishes.

**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 8th March 2020 — Second Sunday of Lent

When you hit a low do you feel sorry for yourself and complain bitterly, or do you seek to pull yourself back up and learn from it. When you are on a high do you make the most of the moment, working hard and feeling grateful, or do you sit back and become complacent? How you answer these questions is an important indicator of how you are likely to shape your future. Obviously a more positive attitude is going to shape a more fruitful future.



Today we find Peter James and John in low spirits. Discipleship is proving to be more difficult than they had imagined and understandably they were losing the enthusiasm and drive that they had shown previously. Jesus recognises that it is time to treat his disciples to a motivational vision, the vision that we now refer to as the 'Transfiguration'. The glimpse of heaven's glory must surely have stayed with Peter James and John for the rest of their days. But how does that help us? There's no doubt that some people are treated to spiritually motivating moments, but for most of us life seems to be just one long round of paying the bills. Is it any wonder we lose the bright-eyed vision of our youth. Or could it be that God is sending us little words of encouragement all the time and we simply don't remember them?

Peter lends a little human perspective to the story of the Transfiguration. He proposes erecting three tents in which to keep hold of the vision. It might sound trite, but keeping hold of a vision is key to staying motivated. Some people keep letters of encouragement and cards of thanks and congratulations to remind themselves of a time when they were doing a particularly good job. Other people adorn their desks at work with photographs of their children to remind themselves of why they are working, or cover their walls with certificates to keep in mind their original ambition. Others simply keep imagining how things will be once they have achieved their goals.

Jesus teaches us that we can't always control what's happening around us, but we can change our thinking. If we adopt a 'can do' attitude we will make much better choices for shaping the future.



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 Marie Burke of Challoners Gardens whose Funeral Service will take place on 16th March in St Robert's Church; and for all whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Offertory Collections 29th / 1st March
St Bede's: £245.00.

St Robert's £613.08; (Standing orders for February £2673.92)

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 Lent.



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.



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 Women's League

The next CWL meeting will be on Monday 9th March, at 7:00pm, in St Robert's Church Hall. This will be a business meeting which will start with prayers.

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.

- 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
- And Saturday 4th April at St Robert's Mass followed by Confessions from 10.45am—12.45pm

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.

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

The next meeting of the Journey in Faith clashes with the PDG Meeting (Thursday 12th March) so change the date of the Journey in Faith to **THURSDAY 19th March at 7.30pm**. Very many apologies for the inconvenience.

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.

Northumberland Vicariate – PRECAUTIONS AGAINST CORONAVIRUS

At their meeting on 4 March 2020, the Clergy discussed the Coronavirus outbreak, including independent medical advice. The Clergy unanimously agreed that, until further notice, the following precautions will be taken in all the churches within the Northumberland Partnerships:

- The distribution of Holy Communion under both kinds is suspended.
- Holy Communion will be distributed in the hand only.
- Clergy and Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist are to wash their hands in hot soapy water or use sanitised gel before and after they distribute Holy Communion.
- The Sign of Peace is suspended.
- Holy Water stoups are to be emptied and/or removed.
- Everyone attending Mass is asked to sanitise their hands as they come into church using sanitised gel dispensers available in porches and entrances.
- Everyone is asked to maintain good personal hygiene, especially at Mass and parish gatherings.

Bishop Byrne has been informed of these arrangements and has given his approval. If you have any concerns or questions, please speak to your priest or deacon.

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?

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 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. This will be at 12noon, following on from the 11am Mass on Sunday 29th March.

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.

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.



Christian Aid Spring Evening

The Christian 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).

Musical Evening and Auction

You are invited to a Musical Evening and Auction to be held at Holy Name Church Hall, Jesmond on Saturday 14th April at 7.30pm. The event is to help fund the competition of a hospital in Uganda. All welcome.

Christian Aid News

The latest edition of Christian Aid News is available on the stand in St Robert's Church porch. It is free, so please take one home and read it. It contains important information about the very real effects of Climate Change on people in the developing countries, and what we need to do urgently to mitigate this crisis. We must respond to the cry of those in desperate need.

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 S.J. organising Scottish participation. The key-note speaker is Edgardo Colon-Emeric, a Methodist theology professor at Duke University in North Carolina.

St Bede's Parish Crockery

Over many years Parishioners have kindly donated various pieces of crockery and kitchen ware, which has been greatly appreciated. We have recently purchased new crockery for use at Parish events to replace that which is currently in use. Being aware that some Parishioners may wish to make use of the old items, baskets containing this crockery will be placed in the St Bede's Narthex over the next few weeks. Please take anything which may be of use. We will donate any remaining pieces to Charity.

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.



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.

Churches together Lenten Lunches

Churches Together in Bedlington Lenten Lunches are at Stakeford Methodist Church every Tuesday in Lent. Soup and a bun between 12 - 12.40, followed by a short service ending at 1pm. All welcome.

3Cs Club

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

St Robert's Sunday Morning Coffee's.

We are in the process of drawing up the new rota of volunteers to serve coffee in the Church Hall following the Masses on Sundays. A huge thanks goes to the current volunteers. However, it would be wonderful to have a few more willing helpers to share the load. If you are able to help please contact Elizabeth Dixon or Bernadette Rich at the Parish Office for more information. At the moment most volunteers are on duty once every two months, some are more regular. Of course, if you are currently on the rota unless we heard from you, we will presume that you are willing to continue. Thank you once again for your support.



Thursday Morning Change

Please note that the service of Word and Communion at Bedlington on Thursday will be at 9.30am to enable Deacon Stephen to attend in-service clergy training..