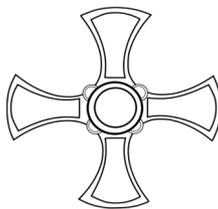


**Saint Bede's  
Catholic Church**  
Catholic Row  
BEDLINGTON  
NE22 6HS



**Saint Robert of Newminster  
Catholic Church**  
Oldgate  
MORPETH  
NE61 1QF

## **PARISHES OF THE BRINKBURN PARTNERSHIP, NORTHUMBERLAND**

**Parish Priest: Father Peter J Stott**

St Robert's Presbytery, Collingwood House, Oldgate, Morpeth NE61 1QF  
Tel 01670 513410 | Email [morpeth.strobertnewminster@rcdhn.org.uk](mailto:morpeth.strobertnewminster@rcdhn.org.uk) | [peterjstott@aol.com](mailto: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](mailto:bedlington.stbede@rcdhn.org.uk)

[www.strobertsmorpeth.com](http://www.strobertsmorpeth.com) | [www.stbedesbedlington.co.uk](http://www.stbedesbedlington.co.uk) | Northumberland Listening Service 07732 980740

## **Sunday 19th July 2020 — 16th Sunday of the Year**

Jesus compares the Kingdom of Heaven to a field in which the master has sown good seed. In the night, an enemy comes and plants weeds, so when the crop grows it is a mixture of wheat and weed. The servants' instinct is to pull the weeds out, but the master demands that the bad grow alongside the good ... he himself will sort the wheat from the weeds at the final harvest.

It's a typical Palestinian problem, the darnel weed, which looks just like wheat in its early stages is a menace to the harvest. The roots of the darnel weed intertwine with the roots of the wheat. To pull the darnel out can jeopardise the harvest. Similarly, just as it's hard to tell the difference between wheat and darnel, so it's not always easy for us to tell the difference between good and evil. A bad person can change and become good, and a seemingly good person might not be as virtuous as we imagine. It's best if we refrain from judging; this job is best left to God.



In films and novels, the good guys always win and the bad guys always get their come-uppance. Happy endings satisfy our human sense of justice, but in reality justice seems strangely elusive. We come up against evil time and time again. Sometimes we get so angry that we want to take justice into our own hands. Sometimes we are incensed that God can allow evil to grow alongside good, but before we get too irate, maybe we need to stop and take a good long look in the mirror. What makes us so sure that we're not weeds too? Where did we get that assurance that we are represented in the parable as the wheat?

Rarely is reality black and white. We all have good and bad inside us. We all need to change, and we all deserve the opportunity to make those changes. Perhaps this is the reason Jesus' advises us to leave the evil to grow alongside the good. As Martin Luther King Jr. once said, "God's purpose is not wrathful judgement. God's purpose is redemption, and the road to redemption is by way of reconciliation."



**Please pray for:** A Deeper Understanding between Christians and Jews; Those who suffer Persecution, Oppression, and Denial of Human Rights; Europe; Human Life; Seafarers. Please pray for family members, parishioners, those we know who are unwell; we have a number of parishioners from both parishes who are quite unwell at the moment and we ask you to pray for them; for those in hospital, recovering from or awaiting surgery, all suffering from COVID-19; for all who have died recently; and for all whose anniversaries occur at this time.

### Websites and Facebook Pages

Our Parish Websites and Facebook pages are updated regularly, and the Parish Newsletter is available on our website each week. Please remember also that the diocesan website [www.rcdhn.org.uk](http://www.rcdhn.org.uk) and the Bishops' Conference website [www.cbcew.org.uk](http://www.cbcew.org.uk) contain many useful links that may be helpful to you at this time.



### Newsletter by Email

If you would like to go onto our mailing list for the weekly Newsletter, as we are not printing paper copies, please send your email address to Fr Peter at St Robert's and you will be added and the Newsletter will be emailed each weekend.



### The Wednesday Word

The Wednesday Word website contains reflections on the forthcoming Sunday readings for both adults and children and can be accessed at [wednesdayword.org](http://wednesdayword.org) Using this website can be a good way to prepare for Sunday Mass (online) and reflect on the readings.



### Streaming Masses from the Diocese

For those who are unable to join us for Mass at St Bede's, parishes are still streaming their Masses: St Charles Church, Gosforth is now streaming Mass on [churchservices.tv](http://churchservices.tv); St Mary's Cathedral in Newcastle, Holy Name at Jesmond, St Patrick's at Consett, Our Lady Immaculate and St Cuthbert Church at Crook, St Elizabeth's Church at Minsteracres, St Mary's Sunderland and St Mary's Hexham are all streaming on YouTube Channels. There are also several Masses streamed on Facebook, details of which can be found on the diocesan website. The "churchservices.tv" site and "mcnmedia.tv" site both host many churches in Ireland and the UK for the broadcast of Mass.



### Listen to Mass over the Telephone

If you don't have access to the Internet and would like to listen to Mass you could use the service provided by the Middlesbrough Diocese. The number to call is ☎ 01642 130120. Calls are charged at local rate and free if in your included minutes. You can call at any time and will find yourself listening to Mass from the beginning.



### Reopening of our Churches

#### St Bede's Church, Bedlington:

- Mass this week at St Bede's will be celebrated at **10am on Monday, 10am on Wednesday and 7pm on Friday.**
- PLEASE book your place at Mass in advance. We do not want to be in the position of turning anyone away from Mass, but if we fill our places we cannot exceed our seating allocation, so we ask you book. If you turn up to attend Mass without telephoning in advance, you will be asked to wait in a queue, so that the stewards can find out if there are any free places available in Church. Due to the 2m socially distancing rules, we have 35 spaces available.
- To attend Mass you will need to ring ☎ **01670 823 258** to book a Mass for this week. Please ring any evening to reserve a place. If your call is not answered, please try later.
- We did not fill all places in Church last week, so, if you wish, you may now book more than one Mass per week.
- Mass is open to anyone from all parishes, so long as you book a place.
- We have to follow NHS Track and Trace guidance. By Telephone Booking we take your information and hold it for 21 days
- It is recommended that those who are meant to be "shielding" should not attend at the moment. This advice will change on 1st August.
- Please remember all our stewards and cleaners are volunteers, from our parishes, trying their best to make it possible for us to reopen the Church for Mass. What they will ask you to do, is for your safety and the safety of those attending Mass.
- I ask your patience please, as we do our best and make this work for everyone.

#### St Robert of Newminster Church, Morpeth:

- The Church remains closed as internal decoration work continues.
- We then await permission from Bishop Robert for the opening of the Church. Then we will have to undertake a Risk Assessment with the Diocesan Health and Safety Officer for the safe opening of St Robert's Church.
- At the moment we are still unable to celebrate a public Mass, Baptisms, Funerals or Weddings in our Church.
- **We need to recruit our volunteers now, so that when permission is given we are ready. Please consider offering some time as a volunteer Steward/Cleaner so that we can reopen St Robert's Church. Many thanks to those who have already offered.**
- Please let Fr Peter know of your offer to help and the necessary paperwork / safer recruitment documents will be forwarded to you by email. The number of volunteers will determine whether we are able to safely reopen or not.
- When we do open, because of the 2m social distancing guidelines, we will have to 28 spaces available for people in church.

#### Other Partnership Churches

St Aidan's Church at Ashington is open for Mass, and information on their Mass times is available on their website and Facebook page. They too are using a telephone Booking system for attendance at Mass. St Thomas of Canterbury at Longhorsley has been given permission to reopen; and Sacred Heart and St Cuthbert at Amble is still awaiting the diocesan risk assessment, so is unable to open at the moment.

#### Keeping us updated with your contact information

If you are reading this and realise that you have not updated a recent change of address, telephone number or email address, please try to send an email to the parish with your updated information. If you have recently moved into the parish and haven't yet given us your details, please let us know your details by email.

### Northumberland Listening Service

Are you struggling with “lockdown”, “shielding”, “self-isolation” or any other issue and need to talk to someone? If there is something bothering you and you need to talk, please remember that we have the Northumberland Listening Service set up by parishes in this area of Northumberland several years ago. The number is “Northumberland Listening Service” ☎ 07732 980740.

### “The Catholic Times” and “The Universe”

At the moment you are unable to collect your catholic newspaper at Mass, but you can get it delivered to your home every week, post free. Please go to [www.thecatholicuniverse.com](http://www.thecatholicuniverse.com) or call them on ☎ 0161 820 5722 and they will arrange this for you. There is a “special offer” for 3 months for £18 or £72 for 12 months subscription.

### The Catholic Herald

The Catholic Herald is becoming a monthly catholic news magazine, instead of a weekly newspaper. You can subscribe direct at [www.catholicherald.co.uk/subscribe](http://www.catholicherald.co.uk/subscribe) at an annual cost of £59.99.

### “The Northern Cross”

Father Dennis Tindall has written an appeal to try to save the future of “The Northern Cross”. It is not being printed at the moment due to the coronavirus, and because of this are losing sales and finding it difficult to remain financially viable. There is an appeal for you to subscribe and read the paper online. Full details are on their website at [www.northerncross.org.uk](http://www.northerncross.org.uk)



### Diocesan Vacancies

The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle has the following vacancies:

- Property Surveyor based in Newcastle with extensive travel throughout the Diocese. Full-time. Two year fixed term contract.
- Justice and Peace Refugee Project Co-ordinator based in Newcastle. 18 hours per week. 12 month fixed term contract.
- Department for Education, Administrator (maternity cover) – full-time

For further information and details of how to apply please visit the diocesan website [www.rcdhn.org.uk](http://www.rcdhn.org.uk) or ring ☎ 0191 243 3301

### Digital Transformation of the Diocese

The Diocese is looking to work with an experienced IT solutions provider on its latest project, ‘Digital Transformation of the Roman Catholic Church in North East England: Office 365 Migration project for the Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle’. Interested parties can download the tender document from the diocesan website, and submit tender proposals by 12noon on Friday 7th August 2020. If you have any questions, then please do not hesitate to contact the Head of Communications, Iain Riddell by email: [head.communications@rcdhn.org.uk](mailto:head.communications@rcdhn.org.uk)

### DEC Coronavirus Appeal

The Disasters Emergency Committee, of which CAFOD is one of 14 active members, have launched a nationwide Coronavirus Appeal to reach out to the poorest people of the world who are suffering from COVID-19, especially in Refugee Camps in war-torn countries of Yemen, Syria and South Sudan. You can visit the DEC website - [www.dec.org.uk](http://www.dec.org.uk) -



to donate online, or visit the CAFOD website - [www.cafod.org.uk](http://www.cafod.org.uk) - and also donate online.

### Pauline Books and Media, Newcastle

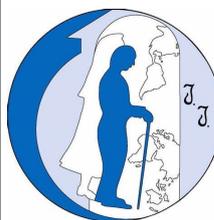
To all Priests, Deacons, Catechists and Teachers, Although our Pauline Books & Media Centre at St Mary’s Cathedral in Newcastle has been closed throughout the lockdown, our Management Team has kept in regular contact with our employees. In addition to regular Zoom meetings we also have been reflecting on the way forward for the Pauline Centre. We are staying connected with our customers via social media and have gained new followers to our Facebook page. Fr Sean Hall has been offering some reflective insights into the daily Scripture readings and other interesting reflections are posted regularly. Our younger followers posted their art work of Rainbows of Hope, and their thank you messages for NHS and key workers cheered and kept us hopeful. The Trustees of Pauline Books & Media are well aware of the implications this lockdown has on us as a Charity. Although we aim to focus on our on-line presence, which is currently being redesigned, we are optimistic that our Centre in Newcastle will continue to be supported by you all. Now that the Cathedral has reopened for private prayer, we are discussing with our staff how we might have a phased reopening of the Centre. In the meantime you can visit our website: [www.pauline-uk.org](http://www.pauline-uk.org) or telephone 017535 77629 to order online. Suppliers are gradually reopening and so we will be happy to help source whatever you may need. We are most appreciative of your on-going support for the ministry of the Daughters of St Paul in the Diocese over the past seventeen years. This support enables us in turn to support our committed and loyal staff.



With all good wishes and blessings, Sr Angela Grant

### Little Sisters of the Poor Appeal

The Little Sisters of the Poor are committed to providing safe accommodation and professional care for vulnerable older people. However, due to the recent Government restrictions, St Joseph’s Care Home in Newcastle has been forced to implement emergency measures to aid efforts to fight the Coronavirus pandemic. Unfortunately, along with residential visitations, this also includes cancelling charity events and collections which has had a massive impact on the donations we rely on to help with our increasing running costs. We are appealing for your crucial support at this uncertain time, to help us safeguard our Homes and meet the ever-evolving needs of our Sisters, staff and residents. Your crucial donations will enable us to purchase extra essential Personal Protective Equipment



(PPE) such as gloves, sanitising gel, eye protection, face masks, safety clothing and chemical cleaning products to ensure we can continue to comply with all health and safety regulations.

**Make a Donation** All donations, no matter what size, will be very gratefully received and will make a real difference to the lives of our vulnerable elderly residents. Cheques made payable to ‘Little Sisters of the Poor’ for PPE supplies can be sent to; St Joseph’s Home, Westmoreland Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE4 7QA. Alternatively, you can make a secure, online donation, by visiting: [www.littlesistersofthepoor.co.uk/donate-here/](http://www.littlesistersofthepoor.co.uk/donate-here/). Thank you so much

### Appeal for the Diocesan Justice and Peace Group

Destitute clients are now receiving digital vouchers on their phones which they can spend at Tesco or Asda. This new system is expensive for the charity as each client receives £30 a month. If you are in a position to help, it would be much appreciated if you could support the charity. Bank transfers can be sent to HSBC DHN Destitute Asylum Fund, Sort Code 40-34-18, Account No 52854058. Cheques made payable to “DHN Destitute Asylum Fund” and sent to Justice and Peace refugee project c/o Fr. Adrian Tuckwell, St Anne’s Presbytery, Half Fields Road, Winlaton, NE21 5RW.

# Masses and Intentions this week

<b>Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> July</b>		Weekday	Mirabella & Dennis Burnett
<b>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July</b>		<b>16<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year</b>	People of the Parish
<b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<i>10am Mass at St Bede's</i>	<i>St Apollinaris</i>	In Thanksgiving (AC)
<b>Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July</b>		<i>St Lawrence of Brindisi</i>	Betty Dymond (CW)
<b>Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July</b>	<i>10am Mass at St Bede's</i>	<i>St Mary Magdalene</i>	Brian Gregory (BCG)
<b>Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> July</b>		<i>St Bridget of Sweden</i>	Intentions of the Cole family
<b>Friday 24<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<i>7pm Mass at St Bede's</i>	<i>The Martyrs of the Diocese</i>	Marie Davies (ED)
<b>Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> July</b>		<i>St James, Apostle</i>	Patricia Jameson
<b>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> July</b>		<b>17<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year</b>	People of the Parish



## The Holy Father Pope Francis' Intentions for July 2020

Our Families: We pray that today's families may be accompanied with love, respect and guidance.



### Your Church Offering—THANK YOU

Many thanks to everyone who is making regular payments, either by dropping off envelopes at the Presbytery or by Standing Order. Standing Orders and BACS payments received at St Robert's in June amounted to **£3,382.92**. Many Thanks. These are difficult times for many people, and I am very grateful to all those who are continuing to make regular offerings. If you wish to set up a Standing Order, **Mandates** are available on our websites. Alternatively, if you wish to make a donation by BACS directly from your own bank account, please use these details.



#### Morpeth

Sort Code 40-34-18  
Name of Account "DHN Morpeth St Robert of Newminster"  
Account Number 32010755

#### Bedlington

Sort Code 40-34-18  
Name of Account "DHN Bedlington St Bede"  
Account Number 81163620

### Prayer to Our Lady Health of the Sick

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope.  
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick.  
At the foot of the Cross  
you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith.  
You, Salvation of the Roman People,  
know what we need.  
We are certain that you will provide,  
so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee,  
joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial.  
Help us, Mother of Divine Love,  
to conform ourselves to the Father's will  
and to do what Jesus tells us:  
He who took our sufferings upon Himself,  
and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross,  
to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen.  
We seek refuge under your protection,  
O Holy Mother of God.  
Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test –  
and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

### Prayer For those who miss going to church

God of the last supper, who knew real presence:  
*a beloved one reclining into you,  
holding dusty feet as you poured water over them,  
the tug at the hem of your garment,*  
touch us now, unable to receive your risen body in church,  
Unable to gather as your body; touch us with your word,  
*handed on from your mouth, from memory,  
written down, broken and shared over centuries  
from the pulpit, the kitchen table;*  
touch us with the glimpses we can see of spring,  
of our vulnerable brothers and sisters,  
of your presence within.  
Raymond Friel

### An Act of Spiritual Communion

For those who are unable to attend Mass at the moment, and therefore unable to receive Holy Communion, this prayer for an Act of Spiritual Communion may be helpful.  
*My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.*

### Confession or An Act of Perfect Contrition

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) is now available outdoors at St Robert's (weather permitting) and observing the 2m social distancing rules. Please contact Fr Peter and we will try to arrange this for those who wish. For those who are unable to celebrate this Sacrament it is possible at the moment to make an Act of Perfect Contrition, as given in the Catechism [§1452] for these times. To make an act of Perfect Contrition, we simply need to turn to God and be, as it were, overwhelmed by God's mercy, and then express in our own words or in the words of the traditional Act of Contrition, the sorrow we feel for our offences against the goodness of God. When we do that in all sincerity of heart, we may rest assured that God forgives our sins and that we come away from that Act of Perfect Contrition freed from those sins.

### St James Anglican Parish Morpeth Consultation

As part of a study for the Boys Brigade Hall in Manchester Street, Morpeth St James Parish are doing an online consultation, wanting to reach as many young people as possible, as well as the wider community. Anyone who would like to take part are invited to complete the survey [www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/TVPLHMK](http://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/TVPLHMK). It would be very helpful if you could share the link with as many young people under 25 as possible. This survey is not restricted to young people who are already connected to Morpeth parish.