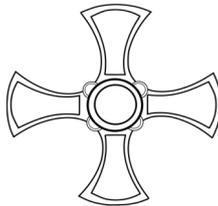


**Saint Bede's
Catholic Church**
Catholic Row
BEDLINGTON
NE22 6HS



**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 | peterjstott@aol.com

Parish Deacon: Reverend Stephen Boulter

St Bede's Presbytery, Catholic Row, Bedlington, NE22 6HS
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www.strobertsmorpeth.com | www.stbedesbedlington.co.uk | Northumberland Listening Service 07732 980740

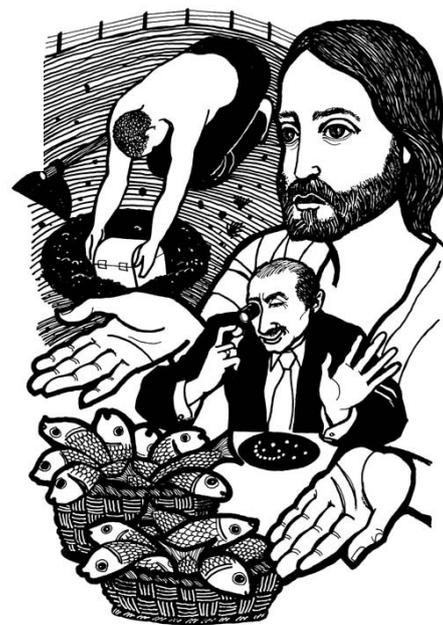
Sunday 26th July 2020 — 17th Sunday of the Year

“The Kingdom of Heaven is like treasure buried in a field; which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.” “The Kingdom of Heaven is like a merchant searching for fine pearls. When he finds a pearl of great price, he goes and sells all he has and buys it.” In both parables both men appreciate the true value of what they have discovered. Both men are certain about the wisdom of what they must do and are willing to put everything on the line to secure their newfound treasure.

Today Jesus is asking us to determine how much we treasure the Kingdom of Heaven. How valuable is Heaven to us and what are we prepared to do to secure it? Are we prepared to give all we've got and to renounce everything that gets in the way? If the two men in the parables had passed their treasure by or failed to recognise the treasure's value, we would have thought them insane, yet this is how we behave all the time.

All too often we are prepared to let the Kingdom of Heaven slip through our fingers. Perhaps we do this because we have never stopped to reflect on how valuable the Kingdom of Heaven is. Perhaps we have recognised the value of God's Kingdom to us but have forgotten it in the day-to-day distractions of putting meals on the table and paying the bills. Perhaps heaven's rewards seem so distant that we prefer instead to work for more immediate and tangible rewards , home improvements, fame, social acceptance and career development. Perhaps we think we can work on God's agenda and our own agenda simultaneously, recognising the value of God's Kingdom but not quite able to renounce our own self-interest.

Jesus gives us some concrete advice. He tells us that those who study the scriptures and search diligently will find the discernment to recognise God's treasure and the wisdom to secure it.





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 including **Gerard Molloy** of Bridge View Care Home, Stakeford who died recently and whose Requiem Mass will be celebrated on Tuesday; and for all whose anniversaries occur at this time.

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. Collection received at St Robert's between 24th June – 21st July came to **£1,136.00**, 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

Requiem Mass for Gerard Molloy

Following UK government guidelines due to COVID-19 the Requiem Mass for Gerard Molloy on Tuesday has to be treated as a Family and Invited Friends only Private Funeral. Following Government guidelines, and our bishops' guidelines, we are only allowed to have 30 people present at a Funeral in Church.

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.

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,

time to
UPDATE



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.

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 week-end.



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 and the Bishops' Conference website www.cbcew.org.uk contain many useful links that may be helpful to you at this time.

The Wednesday Word

The Wednesday Word website contains reflections on the forthcoming Sunday readings for both adults and children and can be accessed at wednesday-word.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; 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.



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 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 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



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 10am on Friday.**
- There are NO Masses from Monday 3rd August - Friday 7th August.
- 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 to book. You can just turn up to attend Mass without telephoning in advance, but 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 and you will be asked for your contact details. Due to the 2m socially distancing rules, we have 35 spaces available.
- To attend Mass we ask you 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.
- 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. When booking your seat at Church, we take your information [name and telephone number] and hold it for 21 days.
- We need some more stewards for Masses in September, as we will not have enough to cover Masses in both churches, so if you can help please contact Fr Peter as soon as possible. At the moment we have 9 volunteers from St Bede's but need more for September when there will be four Masses per week.
- 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.
- *The main changes at Mass: Church opens at 9.30am; Stewards will lead you to your seat; Holy Communion is to be received in the Hand only; no words are spoken as Holy Communion is distributed; and Holy Communion is distributed at the end of Mass.*
- I ask for your patience please, as we do our best and make this work for everyone.

Updated Guidance from the Bishops' Conference

- **Social Distancing.** Worshippers should limit their interactions with anyone they are not attending church with, i.e. if they are attending corporate worship (Mass) with one other household, wherever possible they should maintain social distancing with anyone outside of this group.
- **Face Coverings.** Face coverings are currently mandatory on public transport and in shops and in supermarkets from 24th July 2020. Government guidance states "People are also strongly encouraged to wear face coverings in enclosed public spaces where there are people they do not normally meet" and our Bishops' Conference have added "**such as a church**".

Taken from: www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own

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 volunteers now for both weekday and Sunday Masses, 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 for 5 Masses per week. We need a minimum of 20 volunteers. 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 think we will have 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.

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 - to donate online, or visit the CAFOD website - www.cafod.org.uk - and also donate online.

CAFOD
Catholic Agency for
Overseas Development

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

Saturday 25th July		St James	Patricia Jameson
Sunday 26th July		17th Sunday of the Year	People of the Parish
Monday 27th July	10am Mass at St Bede's	Weekday	Marie Davies (ML)
Tuesday 28th July		Weekday	REQUIEM MASS: GERARD MOLLOY
Wednesday 29th July	10am Mass at St Bede's	St Martha	Billy McDougall
Thursday 30th July		St Peter Chrysologus	Deceased members of the Cole family
Friday 31st July	10am Mass at St Bede's	St Ignatius Loyola	A Sick Person (AC)
Saturday 1st August		St Alphonsus Ligouri	No Mass
Sunday 2nd August		18th Sunday of the Year	No Mass



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.



Thanks to Parishioners

Ellen and Eddie Nixon "would like to thank Fr Peter Stott, Fr Stephen Watson, Fr Cornelius O'Connor, Fr Chris Hughes and Deacon Stephen for their prayers and support and the strength that they received from them, at the sad death of their daughter, Marie. They would also like to thank the parishioners of both St Bede's and St Roberts parishes for all their prayers, Mass Intentions, flowers and cards and also the wonderful meals they received at such a sad time. Many, many thanks also to Pat and Martin Gales for being at their side each and every day".

Mary Young wishes to express her "appreciation to her friends and fellow parishioners at St Bede's and St Robert's Parishes for the messages of kindness shown to her on the recent sad death of her husband Alan, at what has been a very difficult time. It is a great comfort, even during these trying times, to know that people care".



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

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.

