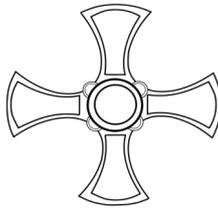


**Saint Bede's
Catholic Church**
Catholic Row
BEDLINGTON
NE22 6HS



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

PARISHES OF THE BRINKBURN PARTNERSHIP, NORTHUMBERLAND

Parish Priest: Father Peter J Stott

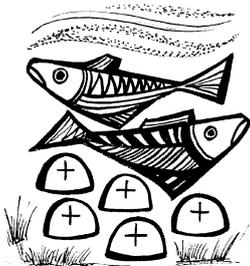
St Robert's Presbytery, Collingwood House, Oldgate, Morpeth NE61 1QF
Tel 01670 513410 | Email morpeth.strobertnewminster@rcdhn.org.uk | peterjstott@aol.com

Parish Deacon: Reverend Stephen Boulter

St Bede's Presbytery, Catholic Row, Bedlington, NE22 6HS
Tel 01670 823258 | Email bedlington.stbede@rcdhn.org.uk

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

Sunday 2nd August 2020 — 18th Sunday of the Year

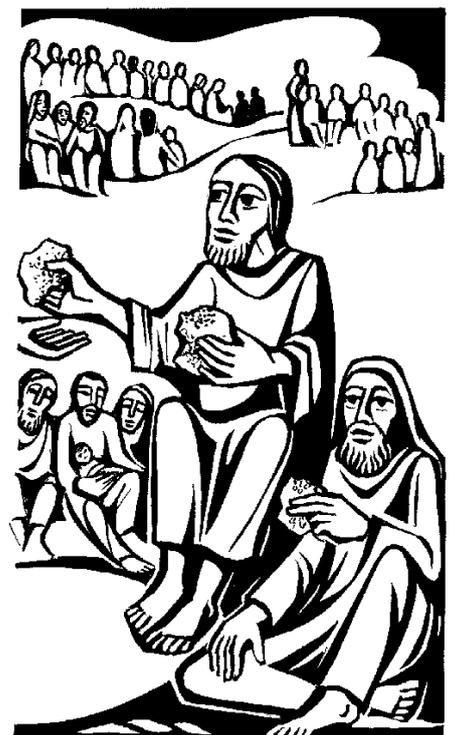


We all know the story of the feeding of the five thousand. We were brought up on it from being young. Jesus takes the five loaves and two fish, and before we know it, five thousand people have had more than enough, and twelve baskets of food that was not eaten remain left over.

The twelve baskets are a sign that when we call on God's generosity, we always receive more than enough. God's grace always exhausts our needs. We end up not simply satisfied but satiated.

But why does God act like this? Earlier in the miracle story we hear that Jesus "took pity on the crowd". In fact, "took pity" is a rather weak way of describing what Matthew wrote in the Greek text. He said that Jesus had a feeling in the pit of his stomach, in his very guts, when he saw the plight of the crowd. It's the same sensation we get when perhaps we see news footage of a famine or a civil war: we instinctively want to do something.

It is because our God is capable of that feeling in the pit of the stomach, that we end up with twelve baskets over. God is almost generous to a fault, but with a loving kindness that is never wasted.





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.

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. 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

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land November 2020

Fr Peter has had brief discussions with Tangney Tours about the Pilgrimage to the Holy Land in November and in those conversations was discussed the possibility of delaying the pilgrimage until April 2021. It may be much easier and safer to travel next year rather than later this year. We are currently exploring the possibilities of travelling from 18th—28th April, seeking clarification with El Al re the flights already booked and checking with the agent in Bethlehem about change of hotels. Other flight options are available. There is nothing definite yet but discussions are ongoing. When Fr Peter knows something more definite he will advise or ask Tangney Tours to contact those who have already booked.



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 Diocese of Middlesbrough. 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, 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 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. A limited number of paper copies are available in St Bede's Church at Mass on a Monday morning.



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 to have a look if you are able to, just to keep up to date. 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 wednesdayword.org Using this website can be a good way to prepare for Sunday Mass (online) and reflect on the readings.



Mary's Meals

Mary's Meal is a charity that is focused on one goal – that every child receives a nutritious daily meal in a place of education. Mary's Meals works in 19 countries across Africa, Asia, Latin America, Eastern Europe, and the Caribbean. Can you support them in their work. With a donation of £15.90, Mary's Meals can provide a child with both education and a meal each day at School for one whole year. You can easily donate online at <https://www.marysmeals.org.uk/get-involved/ways-to-give/> Please try to support this wonderful charity



Northumberland Listening Service

Are you struggling with the current situation that surrounds us with the coronavirus, have you been struggling with "shielding" or "self-isolation" or is there any other issue worrying you? 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.



Reopening of our Churches

St Bede's Church, Bedlington:

- There are NO Masses this week [from Monday 3rd August - Friday 7th August].
- **Masses will resume on Monday 10th August at 10am, Wednesday 12th at 10am and Friday 14th at 7pm**
- 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 we ask you to wait in the church entrance so that the volunteer welcomer 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 instead of the 180+ capacity.
- To attend Mass we ask you to ring ☎ 01670 823 258. 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; all we ask is that you call us to book a place.
- Please do not attend if you do not feel well, or if you are showing symptoms of the coronavirus
- In line with Government and Episcopal recommendation, we are keeping information for NHS Track and Trace. 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.** We will not have enough help 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. If we do not get enough volunteers we will be unable to begin the extra Mass.**
- 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

Shielding information from the Government

- From Saturday 1st August, the guidance on shielding is being relaxed so clinically extremely vulnerable people will no longer be advised to shield, but support will remain available from NHS volunteers and local councils. People will retain their priority for supermarket delivery slots, and still be able to access help with shopping, medication, phone calls and transport to medical appointments.
- While this group of clinically extremely vulnerable people should continue to follow strict social distancing measures, they will be able to participate in more activities such as visiting shops and places of worship

St Robert of Newminster Church, Morpeth:

- The Church remains closed as internal decoration work continues.
- We have not been included in Phase 4 of the Reopening which was announced this week. We Continue to 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, with two volunteers for each Mass. **To enable a two week rota, we therefore need 20 volunteers.** Many thanks to those who have already offered. We have 15 offers of help, but still need some forms to be returned.
- Please let Fr Peter know if you can 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.

Masses and Intentions this week

Saturday 1st August	St James	No Mass
Sunday 2nd August	18th Sunday of the Year	No Mass
Monday 3rd August	St Oswald	No Mass
Tuesday 4th August	St John Vianney	No Mass
Wednesday 5th August	Dedication of the Basilica of St Mary Major	No Mass
Thursday 6th August	The Transfiguration of the Lord	No Mass
Friday 7th August	Weekday	No Mass
Saturday 8th August	St Dominic	Sheila Brown
Sunday 9th August	19th Sunday of the Year	People of the Parish



The Holy Father Pope Francis' Intentions for August 2020

The Maritime World: We pray for all those who work and live from the sea, among them sailors, fishermen and their families.



"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



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.



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.

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, acknowledge our sins, 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.

