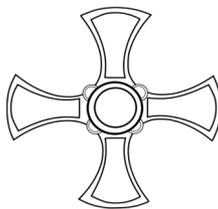


**Saint Bede's  
Catholic Church**  
Catholic Row  
BEDLINGTON  
NE22 6HS



**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  
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**Parish Deacon: Reverend Stephen Boulter**

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

## **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2020 — 33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Year A**

To three slaves a master gives five talents, two talents and one talent respectively. Upon his return, the master discovers that the third servant has buried his talent through fear of failure. The master is angry and throws the worthless slave into the outer darkness. It might seem that the third slave was treated less than sympathetically, after all, he hadn't done anything particularly bad, but on the other hand, he hadn't done any good either. The third slave is a perfect example on how to lead a mediocre life.



God has given each of us gifts, some of us are more gifted than others, but no one is completely without gifts. We are each entrusted to discover our gifts, develop them and use them to best advantage. Jesus moves the point forward. To ignore our gifts is to ignore our responsibility. Gifts are given to shape and fulfil our lives and the lives of others. Gifts enable us to work in partnership with God. To ignore our gifts is to ignore God's intention.

It is good to see the great pleasure the first two servants gain from developing the master's gifts. What makes the third servant so different? The third slave who hid his talent did so out of fear, and perhaps out of laziness. He of course didn't get any fulfilment or pleasure out of this, and the master did not reward him or entrust him with any further responsibility. Perhaps we can sympathise with the third slave. Fear is perhaps the single most debilitating factor in us failing to reach our full potential. Fear of pushing ourselves forward only to meet with rejection, fear of failure, fear of taking risks, fear of stepping into the unknown. Fear of becoming over committed, fear of success even. To borrow the title of a famous book, today's gospel is an invitation to 'feel the fear and do it anyway....'

When through practice and hard work we learn to use our talents, we become more useful to God. When we have perfected certain skills we are better positioned to help others. As the first two slaves discovered, developing talents makes us happy and makes others happy too. More importantly, the more we achieve the more God will entrust us.



**Please pray for:** Students and Teachers; The Spread of the Gospel; Harvest; the Fruits of Human Work; The Reverent use of Creation; Justice and Peace in the World; All Victims of War; Young People; Prisoners and their families. Please pray for family members, parishioners, those we know who are unwell; for those in hospital, recovering from or awaiting surgery and for all suffering from COVID-19. We pray for all who have died recently, including; **Margo Dewar**, [Mitford, Morpeth] whose Requiem Mass will be celebrated on Monday 16th November at St Robert's Church; **Charlie Monaghan** [Bedlington] whose Requiem Mass will be celebrated on Wednesday 18th November at St Bede's Church; and **Anne Ingram** [Morpeth] whose Funeral Service will be celebrated on Thursday 19th November at St Robert's Church; for **Fr Michael Horrax**, uncle of Trish Walker who died recently; for **Neville Donaldson**, husband of Anne, [St Robert's Parish] who died recently; for **Fr Stephen Johnson**, one of our diocesan retired priests who has also died this week; and for all who have died recently and those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

### Remembering the Faithful Departed

In this month of November we pray for the souls of all the Faithful Departed. As we are unable at the present moment to pray together for those who have died, perhaps we could all find some time to pray the Rosary for the intentions of all who have died, or even have a wander around one of our cemeteries to remember and pray for those who have died.



### An Act of Spiritual Communion

As you are unable to attend Mass in Church at the moment 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. (Saint Alphonsus Liguori)*

### Masses Online

During these weeks of lockdown, you can still access Mass online, if you have internet access. Two online services stream masses throughout the day - [www.churchservices.tv](http://www.churchservices.tv) and [www.mcmedia.tv](http://www.mcmedia.tv) Other parishes stream live on Youtube - you just need to search for the parish name on YouTube to find them. You can also go to <https://mass-online.org/daily-holy-mass-live-online/> to find may links to Masses online worldwide. Unfortunately, we have no livestream facilities at either St Bede's or St Robert's Churches.

### Funerals in Church

Even though we are in this new lockdown, when our usual Masses have been stopped, we are still able to celebrate either a Requiem Mass or Funeral Service in Church. All the current restrictions and guidelines still apply that we were following since reopening. Only 30 people are allowed to attend, track and lists to be completed, no congregational singing, as well as other restrictions which are all found on [www.cbcew.org.uk](http://www.cbcew.org.uk)



### 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 and reflect on the readings.



### National Youth Sunday YMT Appeal

Next Sunday, 22nd November is the Feast of Christ the King and a day of pray for all our Young People, National Youth Sunday. There is normally a collection

**Youth Ministry Team** for the work of our diocesan youth team, YMT, but we are unable to have a collection. Like all of us YMT have faced challenges in reaching out, however, they have been communicating with young people through social media and using new ways of creating online resources. If you would like to make a donation to their work, you can send a cheque to Youth Ministry Trust, Emmaus Youth Village, Pemberton Road, Consett, DH8 9BA or make a BACS payment to:

Account Name: Youth Ministry Trust  
Account: 21172654  
Sort Code: 40-34-45

### Clergy Training Fund

The Clergy Training Fund is held throughout November. If you wish to make a donation to this, please put in an envelope and post through Presbytery letterbox, or make an online donation using our bank details and them let us know in the Parish Office that you have done this.



### RCIA online with the diocese

Our diocese is running an online Journey in Faith programme. Registration remains open for new enquirers wishing to join the programme 2020-21. To register or for more information, please email [admin-faith.mission@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:admin-faith.mission@diocesehn.org.uk)

### Collections, Standing Orders and BACS Payments

Now that we are in another lockdown, you can drop your Offertory Envelopes through the Presbytery letterbox or you can make an online BACS donation or set up a Standing Order for a regular payment. Also many thanks to those who continue their regular Standing Orders. It is very much appreciated.

If you wish to set up a Standing Order, Mandates are available on our websites or email in to the office and we will send one back to you. Alternatively, it is possible for you to make a donation by BACS, directly from your own bank account; if so please use the bank details underneath. If you have set up a new Standing Order in the last few months, can you please inform the Parish Office so we can identify your payment on the Bank Statement. If you make or have made an online BACS payment, it would be helpful to let the Parish Office know so that we do not confuse it with a Standing Order. If you are setting up a new Standing Order and pay tax, please remember to request from us a copy of the **Gift Aid form** that enable us to reclaim 25% extra from the Inland Revenue from your donation.

#### 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



### SVP Donations

The SVP would like to thank those people who have very kindly made donations to the SVP. In the last six months since Mass and the weekly collections were cancelled, this is the only income we have received. If any other people are able and would like to make a donation, please put it in an envelope marked for SVP, and post it through the Presbytery letter box. Thankyou.



### Newsletter by Email

If you would like to go onto our mailing list for the Newsletter please send your email address to Fr Peter at St Robert's and you will be added and it will be emailed each weekend. *A limited number of paper copies are available in both churches, which can be picked up if you come to church.*



### 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 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.



### The Great Adventure: Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible

"Many people want to read the Bible because they know it is God's Word, but they give up because it seems so complicated. Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible helps you to get the 'big picture' of the Bible by showing how fourteen narrative books of the Bible tell the complete story from Adam and Eve to Christ and the Church." This new, free, online course is starting in the Autumn and will run across 8 sessions during November 2020 and February 2021. To register or for more information, please email [adminfaith.mission@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:adminfaith.mission@diocesehn.org.uk).



### Northumberland Listening Service

The Northumberland Listening Service has been running for several years, set up by the local catholic parishes in Northumberland, and has helped many people during that time. If there is something troubling you, if you feel affected by the difficulties around us with coronavirus, or trying to "get back to normal" or if there is any other issue troubling you that you need to talk to someone about, the number is "Northumberland Listening Service" ☎ 07732 980740.

### Marys Meals - "Double the Love"

Marys Meals is delighted to announce that the UK Government has pledged to double any donation made to Marys Meals before 31st January 2021, up to £2m. So if you make a donation anytime before the end of January, your donation will be doubled. You can read more about this on Marys Meals' website [www.marysmeals.org.uk/doublethelove](http://www.marysmeals.org.uk/doublethelove) #UKAidMatch



### CWL Advent Service

Every year the Catholic Women's League hold their Advent Carol Service, which is a great way to stop and reflect on the season of Advent and what Advent helps us prepare for. This year we are unable to meet together in Church as we will still be in national lockdown, but plans are afoot to hold an online service. More details will be available here next weekend.



# Masses and Intentions this week

	St Robert of Newminster Church Morpeth	St Bede's Church Bedlington
<b>Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> November</b> <i>Weekday</i>	<b>Mass:</b> Ken Wilson	
<b>Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> November</b> <b>33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Year A</b>	<b>Mass:</b> Helen & Douglas Cone	
<b>Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November</b> <i>St Margaret of Scotland</i>	<b>11.30am Requiem Mass:</b> Margo Dewar <i>[Private Funeral: Family and those invited to attend only]</i>	
<b>Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> November</b> <i>St Hilda of Whitby</i>	<b>Mass:</b> Sr Sheelagh Doherty & Dcd Mbrs of the Doherty & Devitt families	
<b>Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November</b> <i>Dedication of Basilicas St Peter &amp; St Paul</i>		<b>10.30am Requiem Mass:</b> Charlie Monaghan <i>[Private Funeral: Family and those invited to attend only]</i>
<b>Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November</b> <i>Weekday</i>	<b>11.00am Funeral Service:</b> Ann Ingram <i>[Private Funeral: Family and those invited to attend only]</i>	
<b>Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November</b> <i>St Edmund</i>		<b>Mass:</b> Antonio, Robertson & Tomlinson Families
<b>Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> November</b> <i>Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	<b>Mass:</b> Ken Wilson (AB)	
<b>Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> November</b> <b>Our Lord Jesus Christ the King</b>	<b>Mass:</b> Jim McKee	



**The Holy Father Pope Francis' Intentions for November 2020**  
Artificial Intelligence: We pray that the progress of robotics and artificial intelligence may always serve humankind.



### An Act of Perfect Contrition

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.

### Volunteers for the Reopening of Churches

If anyone would like to volunteer as a steward / cleaner to help those who are already fulfilling this role, help would be greatly appreciated. For the new rota for January onwards. We are likely to need volunteers for some months yet, so if you would be willing to help, please let Fr Peter know as soon as possible so that the paperwork can be completed quickly.

### Congratulations ...

To Marian Bell who recently passed the "Certificate in Catholic Healthcare Chaplaincy" with a Distinction. Marian would like to thank everyone who offered her their encouragement and prayers for her studies. Marian is Deputy Lead Chaplain for the Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust and is also the Bishop's Healthcare Advisor for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle.

### Congratulations ...

To Mary Murray who won £25.00 in the first round of St Robert's Bonus Ball Lottery on 7th November.

### Children's Liturgy in Lockdown

There will be a diocesan "Zoom" meeting for those who are involved in Children's Liturgy who would like to explore how we might offer virtual presentations to our young parishioners. It will be held on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 6.30pm. If you would like to take part please contact the Diocesan Vicariate for Faith and Mission by e-mail: [adminfaith.mission@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:adminfaith.mission@diocesehn.org.uk). You will be sent a link to attend using a computer, laptop, tablet or smartphone



### Mass for those who have died from Coronavirus

Bishop Robert will celebrate Mass in the Cathedral on Friday 20th November at 12.05pm for all who have died as a result of Covid-19. As we are in national lockdown, no one is able to attend in person, but it will be live-streamed on the Cathedral Youtube site.



### Statement on the Covid-19 Vaccination

Bishop Richard Moth, Chair of the Department of Social Justice, has prepared a statement on the production and use of a Covid-19 vaccination. This statement has been approved for publication by the Bishops of the Department at their recent meeting and goes out in their name. The full statement can be viewed by following the link: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2020/09/Covid-19-Vaccination-240920.pdf>. There are several key points that we are asked note regarding this statement:

- A vaccination against Covid-19 is, in principle, a social good to protect people from harm.
- The Bishops urge the Government to develop an ethically sourced vaccine as an alternative to one derived from foetal cell lines.
- The Government has given assurances that new foetal cell lines are not being used in the development of a Covid-19 vaccine.
- The Church teaches that, for grave reasons, a vaccine developed from cell lines taken from human tissue which comes from foetuses aborted in the past may be used in good conscience.
- It is for each Catholic, guided by the teaching of the Church, to make a judgement in conscience about whether to accept a Covid-19 vaccine.
- There must be fair access for all people to the vaccine.
- The vaccine must be safe to use and effective.

