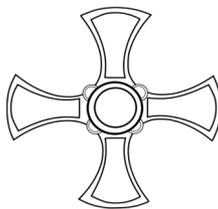


**Saint Bede's
Catholic Church**
Catholic Row
BEDLINGTON
NE22 6HS



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

PARISHES OF THE BRINKBURN PARTNERSHIP, NORTHUMBERLAND

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Parish Deacon: Reverend Stephen Boulter

St Bede's Presbytery, Catholic Row, Bedlington, NE22 6HS
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Sunday 15th November 2020 — 32nd Sunday Year A

We can nag our children endlessly about homework, buy them every book and piece of equipment they might conceivably need and pack their school bags every night, but at the end of the day we can't go to school and do the work for them. At exam time we can borrow essays and pick each other's brains, but at the end of the day no one can sit the exam for us. A job interview looms and we run round seeking help and advice, but the final preparations have to be ours and ours alone. It seems there are certain things for which we alone must take responsibility.

In today's gospel, five wise bridesmaids and five foolish bridesmaids take their lamps and await the arrival of the groom. The groom is delayed, and by the time he arrives, the foolish bridesmaids have run out of oil and are forced to ask the wise bridesmaids for a loan. "No," reply the wise bridesmaids, "there will not be enough for you and for us." It might seem as though the wise bridesmaids were being a little less than generous, but this isn't a lesson in sharing. The lesson teaches us that there are some kinds of oil we just can't borrow.



The foolish bridesmaids stand for all those who waste their lives forever accepting mediocrity. The foolish bridesmaids stand for all those who save their good intentions up for 'tomorrow and tomorrow and tomorrow'. The foolish bridesmaids stand for those who imagine that good deeds are the responsibility of others. The foolish bridesmaids stand for all of us who think there is plenty of time left to fill up on our spiritual reserves.

What would it cost to fill up our spiritual reserves right now? Perhaps not as much as we might think! No one is suggesting that we all rush off and become Trappist Monks, but at the same time, how much less mediocre our lives would become if we got into the very good habit of living each and every day as though it was our last.



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 **Piotr Sulek** [Morpeth] whose Requiem Mass will be celebrated on Monday 9th November at St Robert's Church; for **Frank Swales**, whose Requiem Mass will be celebrated on 12th November at St Robert's Church; **Margo Dewar**, [Mitford, Morpeth] who died on Monday and whose Requiem Mass will be celebrated on Monday 16th November at St Robert's Church; **Charlie Monaghan** [Bedlington] who died at the weekend and whose Requiem Mass will be celebrated on Wednesday 18th November at St Bede's Church; and **Anne Ingram** [Morpeth] whose Requiem Mass will be celebrated on Thursday 19th November at St Robert's Church; for **Fr Michael Horrax**, uncle of Trish Walker who died this week aged 96; 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, and on this **Remembrance Sunday we pray** for all the Dead of the two Great Wars and other wars and conflicts. It is sad that we are unable at the present moment to pray together for those who have died, but perhaps we could all pray the Rosary for the intentions of all 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)

Four weeks of lockdown

At the time of writing, there are some news reports suggesting that there will be a Government u-turn on the lockdown of Churches, if that will ever happen. Until we hear otherwise, we are unable to celebrate public Masses at this time of national lockdown, but Fr Peter will still celebrate daily Mass, fulfilling the Mass Intentions as shown on the Newsletter in coming weeks. Current "lockdown" will end on 2nd December, but we don't know what will happen after that and we still have to be aware of the need to control the virus throughout the nation. We will hopefully resume Mass quickly after lockdown, but wait to hear what other restrictions may be put in place from the beginning of December onwards.

Masses Online

During these four 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 and www.mcnmedia.tv Other parishes stream live on Youtube - you just need to search for the parish name on YouTube to find them. 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

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 and reflect on the readings.



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 Standing Orders; the amount received at St Roberts during October was **£3,557.92**. It is very much appreciated.



If you wish to set up a Standing Order, Mandates are available on our websites or email in 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.



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.

Masses and Intentions this week

	St Robert of Newminster Church Morpeth	St Bede's Church Bedlington
Saturday 7th November <i>Weekday</i>	Mass: Michael & Pat Ibbotson	
Sunday 8th November 32nd Sunday Year A	Mass: Mary McCole	
Monday 9th November <i>Dedication of the Lateran Basilica</i>	Requiem Mass: Piotr Sulek	
Tuesday 10th November <i>St Leo the Great</i>	Mass: Christine Davison	
Wednesday 11th November <i>St Martin of Tours</i>		Mass: Diane Lowther
Thursday 12th November <i>St Josaphat</i>	Requiem Mass: Frank Swales	
Friday 13th November <i>Weekday</i>		Mass: Jim Iveson
Saturday 14th November <i>Weekday</i>	Mass: Ken Wilson	
Sunday 15th November 33rd Sunday Year A	Mass: Helen & Douglas Cone	



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.



Pension Credits - A Message from Ian Lavery MP

According to Independent Age, there are an estimated 1,634 pensioners living in the Wansbeck Constituency who are entitled to pension credits but do not receive them, amounting to an unclaimed £2,700,000. For many, receiving pension credits, it can be the difference between being in poverty and being able to meet their basic needs. By qualifying for pension credits you also may be eligible for other benefits. Do you think you, or a person you know, may be eligible for pension credits that you are not receiving? My Labour Party office will be running a zoom surgery on November 3rd to consult people who believe they may be eligible for pension credit. If you wish to book a place, please get in touch with my office at ian.lavery.mp@parliament.uk. Please also include the following details in the email so we can check if it is likely that you are entitled to pension credits or not: whether you are single or in a couple; Dates of birth of those in your household; How much your current state pension is; If you have any private pensions and how much they are; If you pay rent; If you have any savings and if so how much. The standard minimum a single pensioner should have each week is £173.75 and a couple is £265.20 so if your only income is below these amounts then you will probably qualify. Please get in touch if you believe there is any chance that you or anyone you know are eligible as it may make a huge difference to their quality of life. Please share this post to reach as many people as possible so nobody misses out who may be eligible.



Little Sisters of the Poor Appeal

The Little Sisters have so far received **£21,536** from their appeal. Thank You to everyone who has supported. They need £1m for essential works to St Joseph's Home in Newcastle. All usual forms of fundraising are not possible at the moment, so if you can help please go online to make a donation <https://www.littlesistersofthepoor.co.uk/donate-here/>



Little Sisters of the Poor
Caring for the elderly - inspired by our faith

Marys Meals

The Government has pledged to double any donation made to Mary's Meals before 31st January 2021. Can you support their "Double The Love" campaign, helping to reach even more hungry children in Liberia. #UKAidMatch More details on their website www.marysmeals.org.uk



Supporting our Food Banks

Many of our local supermarkets have trolleys or shelves after the checkouts where you can leave donations of food for our local Food-banks. The demand at the moment for food from these charities is increasing because of the worsening financial situation that many people find themselves in due to the Coronavirus pandemic and the closure of some places of work.

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.

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