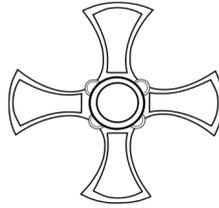


**Saint Bede's
Catholic Church**
Catholic Row
BEDLINGTON
NE22 6HS



**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 27th December 2020 — Feast of The Holy Family



NEWSLETTERS AND MISALLETTES: If you are holding this Newsletter, or a Mass Sheet, as a paper copy in Church on Sunday, please remember that you **MUST** take it away with you. COVID-19 guidelines state that because you have handled it, you cannot just put it back on the table at the back of Church. Its handy to have a Newsletter at home and good to reflect on today's readings in the Missalette! If you do not wish to keep it, please leave it in your bench and it will be immediately destroyed by those who will tidy and clean the Church after Mass.



During Advent and Christmastime, please pray for: Openness to the Word of God; Migrants and Refugees; and Expectant Mothers. 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 **Mary Roll** (Bedlington) whose Requiem Mass will be celebrated at St Bede's Church on Wednesday 30th December; for **John Mills** of Choppington, whose Requiem Mass will be celebrated on Friday 8th January at St Bede's Church; for **Anne Restighini**, who died on Wednesday; for all who have died recently and those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Morpeth Churches Together

The Clergy and Ministers of the church communities in Morpeth have put together a Christmas Message which can be accessed on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/p-Atop6h8UM> or check out the Parish Facebook page where it can also be accessed.

Collections, Standing Orders and BACS Payments



Many thanks to all who are regularly contributing to our collections once again. You can place your offering in the baskets at the back of Church at Mass; you can drop your Offertory Envelopes through the Presbytery letterbox or 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, copies of the Mandates are available on our websites or send an email in to the office and we will send a mandate 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.

giftaid it

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

Silent Nights in Bethlehem - Friends of the Holy Land Appeal

Christmas 2020: the hotels are empty. The streets are silent. There are usually over a million pilgrims and tourists in the Holy Land at this time of year. But coronavirus restrictions have completely shut down the Holy Land's tourist industry. No Christmas tourism means no income for 80% of the people in Bethlehem. There is no Furlough Scheme in the West Bank and many people have been left with no job, no income. You can support a Holy Land family through the crisis this Christmas with a gift of £20, £50, £100, or whatever you can afford. Until the pilgrims and tourists return, it may be the only lifeline they get. Thank you so much. For more information about us, please visit: www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk/



Pilgrimage to the Holy Land 2021

- 10 Day Pilgrimage, 12th - 22nd October 2021.
- Flights - Newcastle via Heathrow to Tel Aviv with British Airways.
- Accommodation: 3 nights in Bethlehem, 3 nights in Tiberias and 4 nights in Jerusalem
- £1,827 per person
- Insurance and Single Supplement are extra.
- Information from Fr Peter or from Tangney Tours, ☎ 01732 88 66 66, during office hours, after Christmas.

Christmas Thank You

This Christmas has been nothing like we have ever had before, but I hope you have had time to reflect and celebrate the Nativity of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. I would like to thank you for the cards and gifts that I have received at Christmas. Your kindness and generosity is greatly appreciated. I would also like to thank all who have prepared our churches for the Christmas Masses. A lot of work has been put into cleaning and decorating both St Robert's and St Bede's and I am very grateful to all who have contributed to this.

Thank You very much. *Father Peter*



New Years Day Mass

Mass on Friday 1st January 2021, the first Mass of the New Year, The Feast of Mary Mother of God, will be celebrated at 10.30am at St Bede's Church, Bedlington. Open to all, but please remember to book your seat.

St Bede's Change of Mass Time

Please note that as from Friday 15th January, the time of Mass on a Friday at St Bede's Church will go back to 10am, rather than 7pm.



Message from Bishop Robert Byrne

"I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all your hard work for your parish and the diocese in this time of pandemic. To those who have helped to keep our churches open for Mass and those who have reached out to the less fortunate I want to say a big thank you. It is by our faith and unity that we can be a sign to the world of the love Christ showed us in becoming one of us in the holy season. I would like to wish you and your family a happy and peaceful Christmas and a blessed New Year".

Bishop Robert Byrne

Feast of the Epiphany

The Feast of the Epiphany will be celebrated on Wednesday 6th January. Although normally a Holyday of Obligation, there is still no obligation attached to these Masses at the moment, but there will be Mass at 10am at St Bede's and 12.30pm Mass at St Robert's on that day, under the current restrictions.



St Robert's Church Organ Repairs

Repairs to the Church Organ at St Robert's Church are due to begin on Tuesday 5th January 2021. It will be dismantled and the main parts taken away for cleaning and refurbishment. This work will affect the times of weekday Mass at St Robert's Church. We will announce later the actual changes to Mass. The contractors will be on site for one week, and then return to rebuild the organ and then put everything together on 15th February for three weeks.

Mass Intentions

We have a very long delay at St Robert's Parish for Mass Intentions, with dates now only available for March, as January and February are full. We ask for your patience. At St Bede's, please hand in Mass Intentions as normal, but please note that they are being sorted from St Robert's through the Parish Office there, for the time being. This should not make any difference to the way Masses are offered at St Bede's Church.



The Year of St Joseph

At the beginning of December, Pope Francis announced a Year of St Joseph, which will run from 8th December this year until 8th December 2021. Pope Francis published an Apostolic Letter, "Patris corde" "With a father's heart" - In which he describes St Joseph, the guardian of Our Lord as beloved, tender and loving, obedient, accepting father; one, who is both courageous and industrious, content to live and work "in the shadows" while he protected and provided for our Lord and Our Lady. The Letter concludes with a special Prayer to St Joseph...



Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ became man.

Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage, and defend us from every evil. Amen.

Masses and Intentions this week

	St Robert of Newminster Church Morpeth	St Bede's Church Bedlington
Saturday 26th December <i>St Stephen</i>	10.00am Mass: Jerome & Sylvia Thompson	5.30pm Vigil: Tony Robinson
Sunday 27th December The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph	9.00am Mass: People of the Parish 11.00am Mass: Molly McKee	
Monday 28th December <i>The Holy Innocents</i>		10.00am Mass: Brimolly, Owen & Patrick Ruddy
Tuesday 29th December <i>St Thomas Becket</i>	10.00am Mass: Jacob Conroy (MB)	
Wednesday 30th December <i>Octave of Christmas</i>		10.00am Mass: Marie Davies 11.30am Requiem Mass: Mary Roll
Thursday 31st December <i>Octave of Christmas</i>	10.00am Mass: Michael Lillico	
Friday 1st January 2021 Mary, Mother of God		10.30am Mass: Private Intention
Saturday 2nd January <i>St Basil the Great / St Gregory Nazianzen</i>	10.00am Mass: Ken Wilson	5.30pm Vigil: Bridgie & Jim Kiernan
Sunday 3rd January 2nd Sunday after Christmas	9.00am Mass: People of the Parish 11.00am Mass: Jim McKee 12.00pm Baptism: Jessica Ridley	



The Holy Father Pope Francis' Intentions for December 2020
For a Life of Prayer: We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.



Digital Copies of the Catholic Newspapers

The Universe and The Catholic Herald are offered special deals for those who might want to take out a subscription to their digital online version of these Catholic newspapers. 'The Catholic Herald' can be contacted on subscriptions@catholicherald.co.uk or contact **Rebecca Everitt**, rebecca@catholicherald.co.uk. 'The Universe' is offering a FREE trial subscription between now and the new year. To take up their free offer just go to thecatholicuniverse.com/subscription-trial

Ask your MP to oppose introducing assisted suicide

The assisted suicide lobby have launched a large campaign to put pressure on the Government to reconsider the legalisation of assisted suicide. It is vital that it is clear to the Government that the public want them to continue to hold strong against this pressure from assisted suicide campaigners and reject their demands. Right To Life UK have set up an easy to use tool which will enable you to email your MP asking them to make it clear to the Government that it should not give into demands from the assisted suicide lobby to reconsider the legalisation of assisted suicide. It only takes 30 seconds to email your MP by visiting the link below: <https://righttolife.org.uk/StopAssistedSuicide>

Help protect babies with cleft lip, cleft palate and club foot

Sadly abortion is currently available in the UK, right up to birth, for babies with cleft lip, cleft palate and club foot. All of these conditions can be corrected. A cross-party group of MPs from the three largest parties in the UK Parliament have come together to bring forward the Abortion (Cleft lip, cleft palate and club foot) Bill. The Bill will change the law to clarify that cleft palate, cleft lip, and club foot are not grounds for abortion in the UK. Can you help with getting your MP to support the Bill? Please visit www.standupandsmile.org.uk to email your MP asking them to support the Bill. It only takes 30 seconds. This Bill will be discussed again at the beginning of March 2021 in Parliament.

Diocesan Refugee Project

The Refugee Project which has just been making financial donations to refugees since March, is finally re-opening. It will now be sited at the SVP headquarters at Blackfriars, Newcastle. Donations of food would be gratefully accepted, as well as toiletries. There have been some changes in the food requested. Please donate tinned **fish, tinned tomatoes, sugar, rice, biscuits, tinned chickpeas. Please DO NOT donate tins of meat or baked beans.** As we are unable to store goods in Church at the moment, we have a temporary measure ... delivering the food to the home of Donald Marr, who is the parish representative for the project. Donald's address is 3 Cottingvale in Morpeth (*at the top of Cottingwood Lane*). If you are able to make donations of any of the above items, please phone Donald on ' 01670 505573, before delivery, to arrange a time to drop off items. Thankyou.

Supporting Asylum Seekers in our local community

Asylum Seekers in the Ashington area are supported through the charity 'Northumberland County of Sanctuary'. At this time of year they particularly need shoes for the children but cannot afford to buy them. County of Sanctuary tries to help people in as many ways as possible - be it language learning, bikes to be able to get around cheaply and children's shoes so that they are able to go to school and access good education. Donations can be made to their bank account: Account Name "Northumberland County of Sanctuary", Account No. 77748368, Sort Code: 30-65-22. Their Charity No is 1185663hb. Alternatively cheques can be sent to the treasurer: Peter Edge, 2 Hobberlaw Farm Cottages, Rugley Rd, Alnwick, NE66 2AQ. Please Contact Maura (☎ 01670 516452) or Gerry (☎ 01670 517829) for more information. Thank you for any support you can give.

