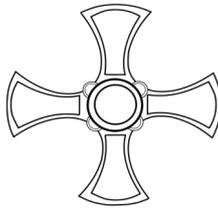


**Saint Bede's
Catholic Church**
Catholic Row
BEDLINGTON
NE22 6HS



**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

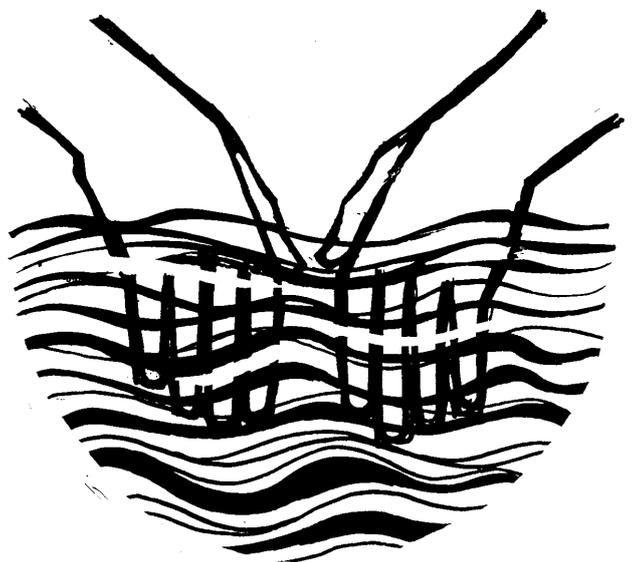
St Bede's Presbytery, Catholic Row, Bedlington, NE22 6HS
Tel 01670 823258 | Email bedlington.stbede@rcdhn.org.uk

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

Sunday 29th August 2021 - 22nd Sunday of the Year

Could it be true that at one stage or another we have all been guilty of hypocrisy? It's hard to get through life without finding that our actions and our words don't quite marry up. We know the tell tale signs all too well. We go to the polling booth to vote, or commit our opinions to 'Facebook', and experience a slight discomfort. It's a discomfort we know of old, but have become very good at ignoring. It's the discomfort that comes of saying one thing but doing another. It's the discomfort that comes of teaching something but not practising it. The discomfort is telling us that we might be guilty of hypocrisy. In today's gospel Jesus warns us against religious hypocrisy. Is there a danger that we have all become very good at saying the right things, but of doing something else?

Today we see Jesus voicing exasperation with rules that had become burdensome, unimportant and hypocritical. In biblical days there were a great many traditions and rules on the proper way to prepare food. There were rituals regarding the washing of hands, pots, and bowls. The Pharisees challenge Jesus on allowing his disciples to eat with dirty hands, but Jesus shocks the Pharisees by suggesting that their man made laws are irrelevant. Without actually throwing the rulebook out of the window, he suggests that we concern ourselves with matters of greater importance. Outer appearances are all well and good, but what lies beneath? What really matters is what comes from our hearts. "Nothing that enters one from outside can defile that person," he tells them, "but the things that come out from within are what defile."



Key to guarding against hypocrisy is to remember before condemning others, that our own hands mightn't be as clean as we think. The person who goes to church on Sunday and appears to be doing all the right things, is not necessarily a good person if he or she doesn't do good deeds during the rest of the week. Similarly, the person who breaks man made laws is not necessarily a bad person. Jesus tells us to use what is in our hearts when it comes to moral yard sticks, and not the rules made by others. What really matters is how well we listen to what is in our hearts, and how well we act upon it.



At this time of the Church's year, we are asked to pray for: Students and Teachers; The Spread of the Gospel; Harvest; The Fruits of Human Work; and the reverent use of creation; Justice and Peace in the world; all victims of war; Young People; Prisoners and their Families.. Please pray for those we know who are unwell, as well as the many who have no one to pray for them; for those in hospital, recovering from or awaiting surgery; and at this difficult time of the coronavirus we pray for all suffering from COVID-19; for all who have died recently, including **Fr Bill O'Gorman** whose Funeral takes place on Friday at Houghton le Spring; **Fr Michael Sharratt** who died on Wednesday 25th August; and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

We are Open for Mass

Our Churches are open and we are celebrating Mass and we encourage you to come back to join those who have already returned. We are still continuing with "covid-safe" controls until further notice. We therefore ask that you continue wearing a face covering in Church.



Contact Tracing App

We now only keep a record of all who come to Sunday Mass, so we ask that for weekday Mass you to check in for the Track and Trace system using the QR code that we have available in both Churches. When you come to Church, if you are using the NHS Covid App on your phone, scan the code to record your presence. **COVID-19 has not gone away and people are still contracting it. Please remember that if you have any symptoms of Covid-19 you should not attend Church.** *The classic signs of coronavirus reported since the start of the pandemic have been loss of smell or taste, a new persistent cough, and a fever. A headache, sore throat and runny nose are now also thought to be symptoms of the virus, instead of a cough and loss of smell or taste - though a fever is still common.*

Booking for Mass

You should continue to book for Sunday Mass, until further notice.

To book your place at the Vigil Mass at St Bede's Church,
Please call St Bede's Presbytery ☎ 01670 823 258

Monday - Friday, 6.30pm - 8.30pm

To book your place at Sunday Mass at St Robert's Church,
Please call St Robert's Presbytery ☎ 01670 513 410

Please note the times to ring St Robert's for booking a place at Mass have been changed to ...

**Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday
9.30am - 12noon**

If you ring out of these hours, your call may not be answered, and your booking may be missed

Diocesan COVID-19 Restrictions

A message from Bishop Robert Byrne: "I would like to remind clergy that, given the high transmission rates in the north east, Covid-19 restrictions in churches and parish halls remain in force in the Diocese. The Bishop's Council will meet next on 10th September and will receive advice from the diocesan Health and Safety Officer before deciding whether the current restrictions may be eased. I will advise you of the decision as soon as possible after that meeting. Until then no changes should be made in parishes."

Limited Numbers for Baptisms and Funerals

Please note that as our covid restrictions continue into the middle of September at least, this will also affect the people attending Baptisms and Funerals in coming weeks, as we have limited seating available and as we encourage all in church to wear face coverings. If unsure, please speak to Fr Peter.

"Sunday - It is our Day" - news from our Bishops

Our bishops are hoping that the Sunday Obligation will resume on Sunday 28th November. The full text of this statement is available on www.cbcew.org.uk ... but why wait until 28th November ... come back now, we are open! ?



Weekly Offering

Offertory Collections

Thank you to all who are regularly contributing to our collections at Mass each week. Alternatively 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. Further information on any of the above is available from Fr Peter.

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. Please feel free to print off copies for yourself and if possible print and pass them on to others.



The Wednesday Word

"Wednesday Word" Reflections on the Sunday readings, for both adults and children can be accessed at wednesdayword.org This is a wonderful resource to help focus on our Sunday Readings. Edited by Dom Henry Wansborough OSB of Ampleforth Abbey, it is a wonderful resource for both parishes and for Schools to help focus on the forthcoming Sunday readings.

Northumberland Listening Service

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

New Altar Servers

We are always looking for and encouraging new young people to join our team of altar servers in both parishes and to show a commitment to serving each week at Mass and at other times of available. If anyone is willing to join our team at St Bede's or at St Robert's, please contact Fr Peter.



CAFOD responding to multiple emergencies

CAFOD is responding to significant crises across the world this week. They are working with local Church organisations in Haiti to deliver emergency aid to people affected by the catastrophic earthquake and tropical storm. In the tragic situation in Afghanistan, they are working to ensure the safety of their local partners and their communities. They are supporting local aid workers to deliver urgent food and water supplies to hundreds of thousands of people facing extreme hunger in Tigray in Ethiopia, South Sudan and north-east Nigeria. You can read more about



how everyone can express solidarity with our sisters and brothers affected by these emergencies on the CAFOD website: <https://cafod.org.uk/News/Emergencies-news>. Your compassion, generosity and prayers have helped us all to stand together and enable us to continue to support communities in these difficult times. Thank you.

Thanks

Fr Peter would like to thank the keen bakers and gardeners of St Bede's Parish for the cake, pie, fresh vegetables, eggs and home-made jams received recently! It is very greatly appreciated. Many Thanks.

Preparing for Baptism

The next Baptism Preparation meeting takes place on 16th September at St Bede's Church. Parents requesting Baptism for a child are asked to contact us to make arrangements to attend this Baptism Preparation Meeting. Once parents have attended a preparation meeting, they are asked to meet with Fr Peter (or Deacon Stephen if for St Bede's Church) to make arrangements and set a date for the Baptism. Please note that one parent must be a baptised catholic for Baptism in the Catholic Church and it is also hoped that the catholic parent or even the whole family has been to Mass recently, especially as at the Baptism the parents will be promising to bring their child up "in the practice of the faith".

Food Donations

You are unable to leave donations in Church, due to the Diocesan Health and Safety restrictions, but there is still a great need for this food. You can visit the Justice and Peace section of the Diocesan website for further information on the great need in the North East. The most useful items are: **tinned fish, tinned tomatoes, tinned chickpeas, biscuits, rice, sugars and toilet rolls.** Toiletries such as shampoo, shower gel, deodorant and toothpaste are also very useful. **Please do not donate tinned meat or baked beans.** All donations can be left with Donald Marr at 3 Cottingvale, Morpeth. Please phone (☎ 01670 505573 before, to arrange a drop off time, and leave a message if there is no reply. Alternatively, you could leave donations with Gerry and Eileen Harber, 22 Dacre Street, Morpeth, (☎ 01670 517829). Thankyou.

Little Sisters of the Poor – Urgent Appeal

The Little Sisters of the Poor at St. Joseph's Home in Newcastle are finding the current economic climate increasingly more demanding.



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

The emergency lockdown measures we implemented to aid efforts to fight the COVID-19 pandemic and keep our residents safe has had a massive impact on our fundraising activities and the charitable donations we rely on to meet the daily running costs of the Home. We are appealing for urgent donations to help us continue with our work of caring for the Elderly and to enable us to carry out essential fire prevention upgrades to our Home. In these uncertain times, small acts of kindness can make a huge difference in helping our Home.

Catholic Awards for Young People

The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle offers our young people the opportunity to witness to their faith in their local and parish Communities by participating in two award schemes. Young people aged 10-18 years old (Year 6-13) can take part in the Faith in Action Award through their school, parish or organisation. The Faith in Action Award is accessible to, and inclusive of, all young people, regardless of academic ability. The Pope St John Paul II Award is a faith achievement award for young people between the age of 16 and 18. It is non-competitive, inclusive, flexible and voluntary. The Award enables participants to take an active part in the life of their Church – in the life of their community and society. It enables young people become more aware of the teaching and role of the Catholic Church in the world and to engage at a deep level with Christ. The Award was created to commemorate the late Pope Saint John Paul II who was so committed to young people and who had such belief and confidence in them. Further information from Fr Peter if interested.



Diocesan Vacancies

The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle has the following vacancies in both Departmental Offices and in parishes:

- **Senior Administrator**, Department for Education – permanent, full-time;
- **Administrator**, Department for Education (maternity cover), full-time, Closing date for applications – 2 September;
- **Cleaner**, Our Lady of Mercy Parish, Sunderland, – 16 hours per week;
- **Parish Secretary**, Newcastle (based at St Teresa's, Heaton), – 12 hours per week, Closing date for applications – 8 September;
- **Lay University Chaplain**, Sunderland, – full-time, Closing date for applications 12 September;

For further information and details of how to apply please visit the diocesan website www.rcdhn.org.uk or contact us 0191 243 3301

Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies 2021-2022

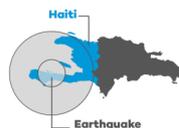
The Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies is managed and awarded by the Board of Religious Studies on behalf of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. The programme seeks to ensure that participants have a basic understanding of the central beliefs of the Catholic faith. This programme is available for catechists, lay leaders and other adults wishing to deepen their understanding of the Catholic faith and Catholic education, serving teachers in Catholic and other schools, and teachers in training preparing to take up posts in Catholic schools. The CCRS course programme is now available for 2021-2022 and there is a short presentation shown on the Diocesan website: www.edurcdhn.org.uk/courses/courses_ccrs.php If anyone would like further information, please contact Eamonn Difley at the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle, Department for Education on 0191 243 3313 or email education@diocesehn.org.uk

I believe
in God



Mary's Meals- Haiti Earthquake Appeal

Following the recent 7.2 magnitude earthquake in Haiti, around half a million children need emergency humanitarian assistance. Tens of thousands of homes have been destroyed and there is widespread fear of further damage and danger as aftershocks continue. People are in desperate need of food, safe water, and shelter. Mary's Meals has been feeding schoolchildren in Haiti for 15 years and work closely with four well-established and trusted local partners across the country. Many communities were already vulnerable as the country continued to grapple with ongoing political unrest and the long-term damage created by previous natural disasters, so this latest catastrophe has left hundreds of thousands of people in desperate need. These partners are already coordinating an emergency response, to deliver ration packs of essential food items to families in the worst affected areas. Please give if you can, to help families in desperate hardship recover from this crisis. www.marysmeals.org.uk



Young Peoples Prayer Group

Fr Peter will lead a period for prayer for young people, aged 16 - 25+ years, with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Rosary, time for private prayer, and even an opportunity for Confession, and ending with Benediction at 7.30pm in St Robert's Church on Monday 6th September.



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. It's 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.

Masses and Intentions this week

	St Robert of Newminster Church Morpeth	St Bede's Church Bedlington
Saturday 28th August <i>St Augustine of Hippo</i>	10am Mass: 10.30am: Adoration and Confessions	5pm - 5.20pm: Confessions 5.30pm Vigil Mass: Morton Stott (AC)
Sunday 29th August 22nd Sunday Yr B	9am Mass: Jean and William White 11am Mass: People of the Parish 1pm Nuptial Mass: Wedding of Katie Marshall and Josh Marshall	
Monday 30th August <i>St Margaret Clitherow, St Anne Line and St Margaret Ward</i>		10am Mass: Margaret and Ronnie Faulder
Tuesday 31st August <i>St Aidan and Saints of Lindisfarne</i>	10am Mass: Paul McCole	
Wednesday 1st September <i>Weekday</i>		10am Mass: Private Intention
Thursday 2nd September <i>Weekday</i>	10am Mass: Eilis and Charlie Glancy	
Friday 3rd September <i>St Gregory the Great</i>		
Saturday 4th September <i>The Translation of St Cuthbert</i>	10am Mass: Morton Stott (CWL) 10.30am - 11am: Adoration and Confessions	5pm - 5.20pm: Confessions 5.30pm Vigil Mass: Private Intention DD
Sunday 5th September 23rd Sunday Yr B	9am Mass: People of the Parish 11am Mass: Jan Jurek	



The Holy Father Pope Francis' Intentions for August 2021

The Church: Let us pray for the Church, that she may receive from the Holy Spirit the grace and strength to reform herself in the light of the Gospel.



YEAR OF 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.

Livestreaming Mass from St Robert of Newminster Church

Masses at St Robert of Newminster Church can now be viewed on YouTube at <http://bit.ly/StRobert>. Masses are streamed live at 9am on Sunday, 10am on Tuesday and 10am Thursday, or as a recording on the above Parish YOUTUBE site anytime. If anyone else wishes to be involved in controlling the livestream during Mass on a Sunday or at either of the weekday Masses, please let Fr Peter know as soon as possible



Diocesan Year of the Eucharist

Bishop Robert has announced a "Year of the Eucharist" will be celebrated in the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle and will be launched during Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral on Sunday 17th October 2021, simultaneously with the launch of the 2023 Synod of Bishops, "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, Mission."

The aims of the Year of the Eucharist are:

- To celebrate the Eucharist at the heart of the life and mission of the Church and to gather people back.
- To grow as a Diocese in our love and appreciation of the Eucharist.
- To deepen our appreciation of the liturgical celebration of the Eucharist through the rites.
- To revitalise and renew our faith through a deepening prayer and devotion of the Eucharist.
- To go out and serve the world through the nourishment of the Eucharist.

The Year of the Eucharist will be celebrated in Episcopal Areas, Partnerships, Parishes and Schools and will provide a framework of prayer for the Diocese's participation in the first stage of the Synod. (*more Synod Information on cbcew.org.uk*)

