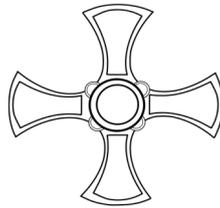


**Saint Bede's
Catholic Church**
Catholic Row
BEDLINGTON
NE22 6HS



**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

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Sunday 12th September 2021 - 24th Sunday of the Year

Today Peter recognises Jesus as the Son of God, but he completely fails to grasp the implications. He certainly doesn't understand the necessity for Jesus to die on the cross and he tells him so. Jesus puts Peter straight. "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me." "For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake and for the sake of the gospel will save it."

Taking up our crosses is essential to being a Christian, and far from being a burden, it can be the source of huge happiness and fulfilment. Taking up our crosses, means understanding the needs of others, and putting the needs of others first. We need to forget about our own problems and look to the problems of others. We don't have to look far. The news is full of other people's problems at the moment, and it certainly puts our own problems into perspective. Taking up our crosses means imagining how others feel and how we would like to be treated if we were in their shoes. Empathy is key to taking action. Taking up our crosses means giving up our time and our skills and our money for the happiness of others. Jesus didn't need to choose the road to Jerusalem and crucifixion, but he did. In the same way, Christians need to be pro-active about choosing their crosses. Do we see the need of others and take action, or do we sit back and leave things to others? Being pro-active requires us to be strong, caring and deeply discerning.



There are an estimated 2.1 billion Christians on our planet. How very different the world would be if each and every one of us picked up our crosses.



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 **Dorothy Marshall** (Fontburn Gardens, Morpeth) whose Funeral Service will be held at 12noon on Wednesday 15th September at St Robert's Church; **Dan McLaughlin** [Morpeth] whose Requiem Mass will be celebrated at 10am on Monday 20th September; for Mary McDonald sister-in-law of Deirdre Cooper who died recently; and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Collections and Offerings

Many thank to all who contributed during August to our collections:

St. Bede's Church Bedlington

Loose Collection - £573.70 / Standing Orders - £1,089.00

St. Robert of Newminster Church, Morpeth

Loose Collection - £1,162.70 / Standing Orders - £3,371.92

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. Bank details and Standing Order forms are available by ringing the Parish Office. Further information on any of the above is available from Fr Peter.



Diocesan COVID-19 Restrictions

Our diocesan 'covid-safe' restrictions were reviewed on Friday, by the Bishop and his Episcopal Council. We have been told that changes have been made, which will come into effect on the weekend of 18th/19th September, but we are unable to tell you what those changes are because they are not being sent out until early in this coming week. We are informed that until Friday the current restrictions remain in place.

Contact Tracing App

For weekday Mass we ask you to check in 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.*

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

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

Limited Numbers for Baptisms and Funerals

Please note that as our covid restrictions continue, this will also affect the people attending Baptisms and Funerals in coming weeks, as we have limited seating available (18 benches, with 5 adult seats) and as we encourage all in church to wear face coverings. If unsure, please speak to Fr Peter.

Education Sunday

Sunday 12th September is a Day of Prayer for Catholic Education. If you have a Collection Envelope for Education Sunday please use it or use an ordinary Envelope marked "Education".

Annual Mass Count

It seems a little unusual, especially when we are not back to normal, but we are asked to take our Annual Mass Count over four Sundays, beginning on the weekend of 18th / 19th September.

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.

Preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation

The Brinkburn Partnership is to lead preparation sessions for those wishing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation at the next available opportunity. We need volunteers from our partnership parishes to be catechists to help with these sessions. If you are willing to volunteer for this role, please contact Father Peter as soon as possible and pass on your contact details.

Do you want to be Confirmed?

If you are a young person in Year 9 and above at St Benet Bishop or King Edward VI Schools or equivalent and wish to be take part in the preparation and then receive The Sacrament of Confirmation, please contact Fr Peter, or Deacon Stephen and we will pass on an application form which should be returned as soon as possible.

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 if available. If anyone is willing to join our team at St Bede's or at St Robert's, please contact Fr Peter.

Bonus Ball at St Robert's

During the current pandemic we have been unable to arrange fund-raising activities. However, we would like try once again running the Bonus Ball from October for 10 weeks.

If you wish to play, please put £10.00, your name and telephone number into an envelope marked 'Bonus Ball' and leave it at St Robert's Presbytery before the end of this month. This will cover the ten weeks Bonus Ball from the National Lotto Draw on Saturday 2nd October until 4th December. Unfortunately, you will not be able to choose your number - they will be allocated and you will be phoned with your lucky number. The weekly winner will receive £25. Don't forget that you have to be in it to win it. Good Luck.



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 this 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".

Becoming a Catholic

If anyone is interested in becoming a Catholic, please speak to Fr Peter as soon as possible. This will help decide whether there is a need to have a Journey in Faith Group this year.

First Steps – Exploring the Catholic Faith Online

The Diocese is offering an online course Are you wondering about your relationship with God and not sure where to start? Join an online journey this Autumn and see if the Catholic Church can help your relationship grow. This may be the right path for you. It may even help you take the next steps towards coming into the Church. This will meet weekly via Zoom and you are invited to come along to find out more. Starts Wednesday 22nd September at 7pm. If you are interested to find out more, you can enquire/register by email to admin-faith.mission@diocesehn.org.uk

Food Donations

The Diocesan Justice and Peace Group need donations of Food and Toiletries to support refugees and asylum seekers. Their stocks are running low and demand is increasing. The project is currently supporting on average 300 clients each week, who all receive a bag of food. 102 of them are destitute and also receive a supermarket voucher. They have also been notified that new sites in Byker, Shieldfield and Grainger Town, Newcastle will introduce 400/500 new asylum seekers to the area as well as some Afghan refugees so the demand on the project resources and services will increase. We have seen thousands of people being flown into the UK from Afghanistan in recent weeks amid desperate scenes and they have left their homes with very little. Some of those people may end up in the North East. But there also many refugees and asylum seekers already in the North East who need support. Our help is needed. For the last eighteen months we have been unable to have a donations box in church but we are beginning once again, as there is an urgent appeal for Food and Toiletries, listed below.

- Priority Items: **Tinned Tomatoes; Chickpeas; Tinned Fish** (e.g. tuna)
- **Biscuits:** Single packets are easier for us to distribute than tins or biscuit collections.
- **Rice:** Please continue to collect. Preferably not microwave rice, as not all our clients will have access to a microwave. Standard sized rice bags ideally.
- **Sugar:** Please continue to collect. Standard 1kg size bags ideally. We regularly run short of sugar.
- **Sweet Treats**
- **Toilet Roll:** (Priority item); Please continue to collect other toiletries so people can be offered personal hygiene items of their choice whenever possible: **shampoo, shower gel, soap, deodorant, toothpaste, and toothbrushes** in particular.

Items can be left at either St Robert's Church or St Bede's Church, but they can only be left when the Church is open at Mass times. Boxes are available.

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. The emergency lockdown have had a massive impact on their fundraising activities and the charitable donations they rely on to meet the daily running costs of the Home. They are appealing for urgent donations to help them continue with their work of caring for the Elderly and to enable them to carry out essential fire prevention upgrades to their Home. In these uncertain times, small acts of kindness can make a huge difference in helping the Little Sisters Home.



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

Diocesan E-Newsletter

The latest edition of the Diocesan E-Newsletter has lots of information about what's going on in and around the diocese. Check it out on the diocesan website www.rcdhn.org.uk

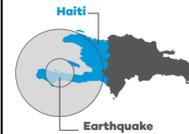
Diocesan Days of Reflection

- Breaking the Word: A Day of Reflection for Readers at Ushaw College, Durham on Saturday 9th October 2021 from 10.30am - 3.30pm
- Called to the Supper of the Lamb: A Day of Reflection for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion at Ushaw College, Durham on Saturday 16th October 2021 10.30am - 3.30pm

These days are only optional and it is not obligatory for anyone to book on them at the moment.

Mary's Meals- Haiti Earthquake Appeal

Following the recent 7.2 magnitude earthquake in Haiti, around half a million children need emergency humanitarian assistance. 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. These partners are already co-ordinating 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



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*)

Masses and Intentions this week

	St Robert of Newminster Church Morpeth	St Bede's Church Bedlington
Saturday 11th September <i>Weekday</i>	10am Mass: Sheila Keenan (AB) 10.30am: Adoration and Confessions	5pm - 5.20pm: Confessions 5.30pm Vigil Mass: People of the Parish
Sunday 12th September 24th Sunday Yr B	9am Mass: Helen and Douglas Cone 11am Mass: People of the Parish	
Monday 13th September <i>St John Chrysostom</i>		10am Mass: <i>No Intention</i>
Tuesday 14th September <i>The Exaltation of the Holy Cross</i>	10am Mass: Cone Family	
Wednesday 15th September <i>Our Lady of Sorrows</i>	12.00pm Funeral Service: Dorothy Marshall [Followed by Burial at Fairmoor Cemetery at 12.45pm]	10am Mass: Fr Bill O'Gorman (NBF)
Thursday 16th September <i>St Cornelius and St Cyprian</i>		
Friday 17th September <i>Weekday</i>		10.00am Mass: Fr Michael Sharratt (NBF)
Saturday 18th September <i>Weekday</i>	10am Mass: Morton Stott (RH) 10.30am - 11am: Adoration and Confessions	5pm - 5.20pm: Confessions 5.30pm Vigil Mass: <i>No Intention</i>
Sunday 19th September 25th Sunday Yr B	9am Mass: People of the Parish 11am Mass: Molly McKee 12.30pm Baptism: Harry Wood	



The Holy Father Pope Francis' Intentions for September 2021

An Environmentally Sustainable Lifestyle: We pray that we all will make courageous choices for a simple and environmentally sustainable lifestyle, rejoicing in our young people who are resolutely committed to this.



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



Sycamore Course

The Sycamore Course is designed to help people develop their faith and Fr Peter is wondering about starting this course to help people in our parishes deepen their faith and come together once our covid restrictions come to an end. Would there be any interest from members of the parish to come together to take part in this course? Please contact Fr Peter to let him know if you are interested.

The diocese is also offering the Sycamore Course online and details can be found on the diocesan website under the Faith and Mission Vicariate tabs.

Change of Mass

Please note that there is No Mass at St Robert's Church on Thursday 17th September, as Fr Peter will be attending the Requiem Mass of Father Michal Sharratt at Ushaw College.

CAFOD responding to multiple emergencies

CAFOD and its international Caritas partners are responding to significant crises across the world. They are assisting in Haiti, in Afghanistan, in Tigray in Ethiopia, South Sudan and north-east Nigeria. Further information on their work is 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.

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