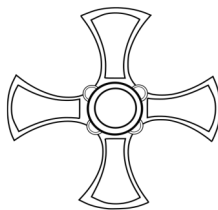


**Saint Bede's  
Catholic Church**  
Catholic Row  
BEDLINGTON  
NE22 6HS



**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](mailto:morpeth.strobertnewminster@rcdhn.org.uk) | [peterjstott@aol.com](mailto: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](mailto:bedlington.stbede@rcdhn.org.uk)

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

## **Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2021 - 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year**

We can't go through life without being part of a group, a club, or an organisation. Schools, the workplace, and organised religions are all like being part of a club. Clubs have something in common. When we're in a club we enjoy a sense of belonging, friends, shared values and an agreed way of doing things.

But being part of a group also has its dangers. We can tend to see our club as our territory, and woe betide anyone who treads on our patch. We see the newcomer as an outsider.... worse, a mistrusted outsider. A new teacher arrives in school with some radical new views. A new supervisor joins the workplace and changes the coffee breaks. In church, someone arrives from a different parish with their own ideas about how something should be done. We don't like it. Routine gives us a sense of security, and when that routine is changed, particularly by an outsider, we resist. If the outsider is successful at what they do, we resent it even more because we are left feeling threatened. Clubs can be good, but they are not good if we close ranks against someone else working to the same ends.

In today's gospel reading, the disciples complain to Jesus about an exorcist who is working as an outsider to their group. That the exorcist is working successfully is making them feel all the more threatened. Jesus' answer is very plain. "Whoever is not against us, is for us." In other words, if someone is working towards the same end, it doesn't matter whether or not they are in the same 'club', or whether their ways are quite the same as ours.



Jesus' lesson is very relevant to us today. Catholicism is not served by rejecting other religions. Accepting other Christian religions doesn't have to mean a watering down of our own beliefs. God is bigger than any 'club' and by following Jesus' example we are working 'for' each other and not 'against'.



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 **Ted Lewington** [Bedlington] whose Requiem Mass will be celebrated at St Bede's Church on Monday 27th September at 12noon; for **Bridget Wasylowski** [Guidepost] whose Funeral Service will be celebrated at 11am on Friday 1st October at St Bede's Church; and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

### 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

Following information received this week, there is very little change to our restrictions. We have been asked to maintain the one metre social distancing in Church, use of hand gel and face coverings. You must still book to come to Mass for a Saturday Vigil or Sunday Mass. These restrictions will be reviewed in early November. Two changes now allow us to sing (wearing face coverings) and we can also take the collection once again.

### Thanks to Stewards

Once again, I wish to offer a very sincere thank you to all our stewards, for their assistance since our churches reopened. We could not have reopened without our stewards' offer of help. Their cleaning of our Church after each and every Mass or service is also important and appreciated. This help will now have to continue as our covid-19 restrictions remain in place. I am hoping that stewards will be able to remain in place for the coming months, but if not, please let Fr Peter know.

### Can you help?

Are you able to become one of our stewards. At Bedlington we only have 9 stewards and 16 at Morpeth, so we could do with extra help at both churches. Please contact Fr Peter this weekend (a new rota will be produced before the end of the month) indicating which Church you are volunteering for, if you are able to offer help

### 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**

**\*\*\* In addition ..... Thursday and Friday 7pm - 9pm \*\*\***

### 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 in both Churches and as we encourage all in church to wear face coverings. If unsure, please speak to Fr Peter.

### Contact Tracing App

Latest guidelines from the diocese inform us that there is no longer any need to check in using the QR code.

### 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.

### Preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation

Our partnership parishes [Ashington, Amble, Bedlington, Longhorsley and Morpeth] need some adult catechists to help prepare our young people for the Sacrament of Confirmation. No one has yet come forward, although we know people have done this previously. Whether you have been involved before and wish to do so again or wish to get involved for the first time, please let Fr Peter know so that your name can be passed on to those who are coordinating this.

### Do you want to be Confirmed?

If you are a young person in Year 9 and above at St Benet Biscop 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.



### Opening our Halls

The latest guidelines concerning the covid-19 virus, reminds us that our Church Halls cannot be opened unless there has been a covid safe Risk Assessment. This can be carried out by a company called PBI at a cost of £300 for each Hall; or if there is a willing volunteer, an online course can be undertaken to allow that person to carry out a Risk Assessment, and this costs £170 per person. If you are a willing volunteer and would be able to do this, please let Fr Peter know. If you are in a parish group and eager to start meeting safely once again, following all covid safe restrictions, please let Fr Peter know ... it's no good opening up and spending up to £300, if there is no current need.

### New Altar Servers

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

### Bonus Ball at St Robert's

We will be running the Bonus Ball from October for 10 weeks. There are about 20 numbers still available. 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 2<sup>nd</sup> October until 4<sup>th</sup> 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.



### 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.

### Preparing for Baptism

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".

### The Wednesday Word

"Wednesday Word" Reflections on the Sunday readings, for both adults and children can be accessed at [wednesdayword.org](http://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.

### 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 22<sup>nd</sup> September at 7pm. If you are interested to find out more, you can enquire/register by email to [admin-faith.mission@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto: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. The SVP is the local contact with the Justice and Peace Group and will be delivering to the base in Newcastle. We are now collecting once again for the following items ...

**Tinned Tomatoes; Chickpeas; Tinned Fish (e.g. tuna); Biscuits** (Single packets are easier for us to distribute than tins or biscuit collections). **Rice** (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). **Sweet Treats; Toilet Roll, Shampoo, Shower Gel, Soap, Deodorant, Toothpaste, and Toothbrushes.** 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.

### CAFOD Harvest Fast Day (England and Wales)

By supporting CAFOD's Family Fast Day on Friday 1st October, you can support people around the world who are dedicating their lives to protecting God's creation. CAFOD's local experts are helping people all over the world to adapt to climate change and protect our common home. By donating to CAFOD this Family Fast Day you can help communities affected by the worst impacts of the climate crisis. Donate online through the CAFOD website or by using a CAFOD envelope. Take an envelope from the back of church and put into it whatever you save this Fast Day and return next weekend at Mass. Don't forget to fill out the Gift Aid section if you are a UK tax payer.



### Can you help with Livestream?

Are you able to assist with the tablet control of our Livestream of Masses. If you are able to help at the 9am Mass on a Sunday or at the 10am Mass on a Tuesday or Thursday, please let Fr Peter know as soon as possible.

### Extraordinary Ministers Renewal of Commitment

On the weekend of 2<sup>nd</sup> / 3<sup>rd</sup> October, all Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion throughout the Diocese are asked to renew their Commitment. This will take place at all three Masses - the Vigil Mass at St Bede's Church and the 9am and 11am Masses at St Robert's Church. Ministers are asked wherever possible, to be present, as this was missed last year. Please remember that you will have to book to attend Mass.



### Diocesan Days of Recollection

- Breaking the Word: A Day of Reflection for Readers at Ushaw College, Durham on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> 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 16<sup>th</sup> 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.

### Diocesan Vacancies

- Diocesan Department for Education  
Post of Senior Administrator – permanent, full-time. Closing date for applications – 4 October
- All Saints, Denton Burn, St George's, Bell's Close, Newcastle, St John Vianney, West Denton & St Cuthbert's, Throckley: Parish Secretary – 20 hours per week. Closing date for applications – 29 September.

For further information and details of how to apply please visit the website [www.rcdhn.org.uk](http://www.rcdhn.org.uk) or contact them on ☎ 0191 243 3301.

### 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 17<sup>th</sup> 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](http://cbcew.org.uk))

### Vatican Synod 2023

The Vatican recently released a preparatory document and handbook for the 2023 Synod on Synodality, to be reviewed by all Catholic dioceses in the world over the next six months. There is the 22-page preparatory document, "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, and Mission," and the 42-page vademecum, or handbook, for the diocesan phase of the synod. The handbook includes prayers, a description of synodality, the objectives of the synodal process, and the main questions to which the local Catholic communities are asked to give feedback. It underlines that dioceses should focus on "maximum inclusion and participation" among baptized Catholics in the diocesan synod process. The preparatory document has been released for a period of "pre-synodal discernment" that will influence a second draft of the text to be published before June 2023. According to the Vatican, the preparatory document is "a tool to facilitate the first phase of listening to and consulting the People of God in the particular Churches" for the diocesan phase of the synod. During the diocesan phase, each bishop is asked to undertake a consultation process with the local Church from Oct. 17, 2021, to April 2022. The handbook says that dioceses should organize local gatherings for "synodal consultation," and also enable individuals to give their feedback directly to the diocese. There was a zoom meeting recently for all Partnership Deans and Chairs from throughout the Diocese, and information will be released very soon from the Department of Faith and Mission on the way forward for Hexham and Newcastle, but access to these documents is now available on the Vatican website.



### 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

### University Catholic Chaplaincy

For our younger parishioners heading out to different universities, don't forget to check out the catholic chaplaincy, wherever it may be. Most universities have a chaplaincy, and they can be a real home from home, which is important if you are feeling out on a limb. They are places where you can pop in for a cup of tea, talk to other students and talk to the chaplain. A good chaplaincy will also organise social events, and will of course offer daily Mass. Many chaplaincies have a Website or a Facebook presence, so you can easily look it up before you actually go. This website [www.catholicsatuniversity.org.uk](http://www.catholicsatuniversity.org.uk) may be helpful if you don't know where to start.



**CATHOLICS AT UNIVERSITY**

Use this site to find your Catholic Chaplaincy

# Masses and Intentions this week

	St Robert of Newminster Church Morpeth	St Bede's Church Bedlington
<b>Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> September</b> <i>Weekday</i>		5pm - 5.20pm: Confessions <b>5.30pm Vigil Mass: No Intention</b>
<b>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> September</b> <b>26<sup>th</sup> Sunday Yr B</b>	<b>9am Mass:</b> Vera & Vic Edwards & Deceased of the Aitken Family <b>11am Mass:</b> People of the Parish <b>12.30pm Baptism:</b> Elijah Albie Sayer	
<b>Monday 27<sup>th</sup> September</b> <i>St Vincent de Paul</i>		<b>12noon Requiem Mass:</b> Ted Lewington
<b>Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> September</b> <i>Weekday</i>	<b>10am Mass:</b> Morton Stott (SK)	
<b>Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> September</b> <i>St Michael, Gabriel and Raphael</i>		<b>10am Mass:</b> <i>No Intention</i>
<b>Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> September</b> <i>St Jerome</i>	<b>10am Mass:</b> Morton Stott (GS)	
<b>Friday 1<sup>st</sup> October</b> <i>St Therese of the Child Jesus (Lisieux)</i>		<b>10am Mass:</b> <i>No Intention</i> <b>11am Funeral Service:</b> Bridget Wasykowski
<b>Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> October</b> <i>The Holy Guardian Angels</i>	<b>10am Mass:</b> Keith Smith (MM) <b>10.30am:</b> Adoration and Confessions	5pm - 5.20pm: Confessions <b>5.30pm Vigil Mass:</b> People of the Parish
<b>Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> October</b> <b>27<sup>th</sup> Sunday Yr B</b>	<b>9am Mass:</b> Michael and Pat Ibbotson <b>11am Mass:</b> People of the Parish	

## 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.

### Piety Stall at St Bede's Church

Would anyone like to take on the role of looking after the Piety Stall at St Bede's? There hasn't been one for many years, but experience tells us that it is good for a parish to have some piety goods - cards, rosaries, gifts, available for parishioners to purchase throughout the year and especially at various celebrations in the parish. If you think you could help, please let Father Peter know.

### CWL Thanks

Thank You to the members of the CWL and friends that took part in the "Medaille Trust Prayer Walk" this week and donated £135 for this very worthy cause. [Medaille Trust's mission is to provide refuge and freedom from modern slavery. They are one of the largest provider of supported safe house beds for victims of modern slavery in the UK. Medaille Trust began when one lady - Sister Ann Teresa SSJA said 'something must be done'. She gathered a group of friends from different Religious congregations and together they started tackling the scourge of modern slavery. What started in 2006 with a house for women trafficked into prostitution quickly grew into a national network supporting all people trapped in modern slavery - women, men and families. Medaille Trust is now one of the largest provider of supported safe house beds for victims of modern slavery in the UK. Their specialist teams support clients 24/7 on the road to restoration and independence.

