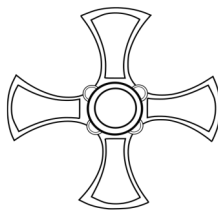


**Saint Bede's
Catholic Church**
Catholic Row
BEDLINGTON
NE22 6HS



**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

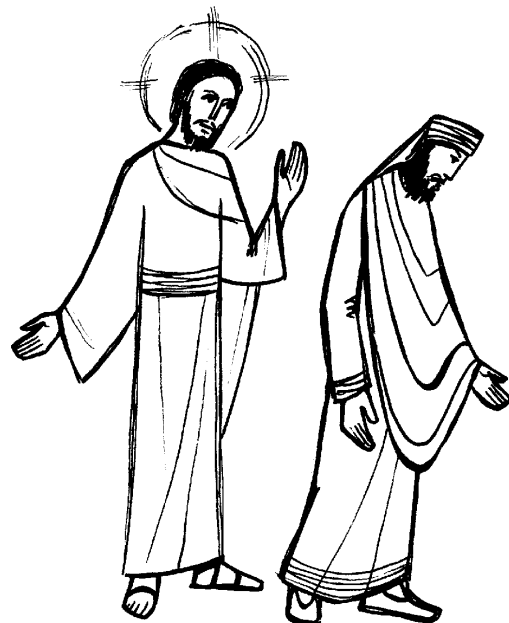
www.strobertsmorpeth.com | www.stbedesbedlington.co.uk | Northumberland Listening Service 07732 980740

Sunday 10th October 2021 - 28th Sunday of the Year

Have you ever backed away from an opportunity that could have changed your life? Have you ever turned down an invitation to take part in something because you felt inadequate or afraid?

In today's gospel story a man asks Jesus "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" The man is a good man, a man who has kept all the commandments from his youth. Jesus replies, "You lack one thing, go, sell what you own and give the money to the poor; then come and follow me." The rich man goes away sadly, because he has many possessions and cannot do what Jesus asks.

The rich man in the story represents all of us. In this country even the poorest of us is rich compared to those in third world countries. We are all more like the rich man in the story than we'd care to admit. Like the rich man we can't quite get our heads round what Jesus considers rich and what Jesus considers poor. Like the man in the story we have trouble leaving worldly concerns behind and placing complete trust in God. Like the rich man we have trouble stepping out of our comfort zones and taking risks. Like the rich man it is hard, almost impossible, to detach ourselves from material interests. In short, the story is uncomfortable for most of us because in it we hear Jesus asking us to do something that is frankly too difficult. Some of Jesus' disciples at the time obviously thought so too. "They were greatly astounded and said to one another 'Then who can be saved?'"



In this story we might feel that we are being set up for failure, but this is not the truth. Why would Jesus ask something that was impossible? In actual fact Jesus was inviting the man to be a disciple. He was giving the man a wonderful opportunity. Jesus had faith in the man. He has looked at the man and seen great possibilities. Jesus was giving the man the opportunity to take his faith to another level. How sad that the man's wealth proved too great a stumbling block. Today's gospel is an invitation for us all to take our faith up a gear, and to ask what stumbling blocks might be barring us from the opportunity of a lifetime.



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; pray for many people who have COVID-19 at the moment; for all who have died recently, including **Beatrice Buchta**, the mother of Bernadette Rich whose Requiem Mass is to be celebrated in Bolton on Monday 11th October; for **Ruben Maderazo** [Ashington] whose Requiem Mass is to be celebrated at St Aidans, Ashington on 15th October; for **Maureen Goonan** [Bedlington] whose Requiem Mass will be celebrated at St Bede's Church on Wednesday 20th October; for **Rita Barnes** [Choppington] whose Funeral Service will be held at St Robert's Church on 22nd September; 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.



Collections for September

At St Bede's Church the amount collected during September was ...
Loose Plate **£447.50** / SO's & Bank Transfers **£1,134.00**
At St Robert's Church the amount collected was ...
Loose Plate **£1,523.63** / SO's & Bank Transfers **£3,584.92**

Pastoral Letter

As Bishop Robert Byrne prepares to launch the Diocesan Year of the Eucharist next Sunday and as a Church we prepare for the International and Holy See's Synod 2021-2023, the Bishop has written a Pastoral Letter for all Masses this weekend, on both subjects.

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 9.30am - 12noon
and Thursday and Friday 7pm - 9pm**

Please remember that if you are travelling together to Mass in a Car, why not book together and sit together at Mass? At weekday Mass, if you are going for coffee with others from the same Mass, why sit apart in Church, sit together! If you are in a "social group" outside of Church, then surely you can sit together in Church? You also no longer have to wait outside until a specific time to come into church. So long as stewards are at the door, you can come into church.

Diocesan COVID-19 Restrictions

We have been asked to maintain the "one metre / 3 feet" social distancing in Church (*families and social groups or bubbles can all sit together*); we encourage use of the hand gel and recommend 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.

Limited Numbers for other Church Celebrations

As our covid restrictions continue for a few more weeks, this will also affect those who attend Baptisms, Funerals and Weddings in coming weeks. We have limited seating available in both Churches and everyone attending is also encouraged to wear face coverings. If unsure, please speak to Fr Peter.

Hand Gel in Church

You are asked to use the Hand Gel as you enter Church. Hand gel is also available in the benches and you are asked to use it, especially just before coming forward to receive Holy Communion..



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. Whether you have been involved before and wish to do so again or wish to get involved for the first time, please contact Fr Peter with your contact details, so that they 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. At the moment we seem to have ONE person from each Church that is interested, which isn't very many considering how many should be confirmed!!



Bonus Ball Week 1 Result



Congratulations to Neil McCole who won the first draw of the Bonus Ball last Saturday, with number 43, and who wins £25.00.

Preparing for Baptism

Parents requesting Baptism for a child are asked to contact us to make arrangements to attend the next Baptism Preparation Meeting to be held on 14th October at St Robert's Church. 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".



Can you help with Livestream?



Are you able to assist with the tablet control and laptop for the 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.

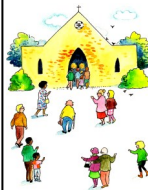
Extraordinary Ministers Role

It is now possible for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to resume their ministry of taking Holy Communion out to the Sick and Housebound, if Ministers feel comfortable resuming this ministry and if the sick and housebound, and their families, and those in Nursing Homes, are comfortable for it to resume. Guidelines suggest that multiple people in separate residences should not be visited in the same morning, to avoid any possible spreading of coronavirus. Hand Gel and face coverings should be used. Those going into Nursing and Care Homes must also follow the Home's 'covid guidelines' and probably take a lateral flow test before entering. Please check with the Homes and with those you are visiting, before resuming this.



Time of Weekday Mass at St Robert's Church

During the Covid pandemic we changed the time of Mass on a Tuesday and Thursday at St Robert's Church to 10am. Some people are apparently asking if it will be returned to 9.15am. The simple answer is that it will be celebrated at the most popular time that people ask for, either 9.15am or 10am. The 9.15am Mass suits some of those who drop off children or grandchildren at School, whereas the 10am Mass gives a more leisurely start to the day for the majority of those who come to Mass. If you attend the morning midweek Mass, please let Father Peter know which time you prefer and once we "get back to normal" we will consider the Mass times.



Wedding Anniversary Congratulation

Joan and Ken Offen celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary [60 years] on Thursday. We offer them both our prayers and our best wishes on this very special occasion.



Rosary Service

October is the month of the Holy Rosary and we are encouraged to pray the rosary a little bit more during this month. The Catholic Women's League are holding a Rosary Service on Saturday 16th October at 2:00pm, in St Robert's Church. Everyone is welcome to come along.



Month of the Holy Souls

During the month of November, to help us remember the souls of the Faithful Departed, paper notelets will be available in Church for you to write the names of your loved deceased relatives and friends. A basket or container will be available for you to place these pieces of paper. Holy Souls Envelopes will also be available if you wish to make a donation towards Masses for the Holy Souls, which will be offered throughout the coming year.



Remembering those who died since the Pandemic began

From Bishop Robert: Since the Pandemic began, the ways in which we have been able to say goodbye to our loved ones and to celebrate their funerals have been severely restricted. This applies to those who died with the Coronavirus and to those we have lost through other circumstances. Every family and parish is finding ways to express their loss. As part of our Diocesan family approach to these difficult times we shall especially dedicate the month of November to our remembrance.



- For November, every parish is invited to prepare a 'Book of Remembrance' to contain the names of all those who died during these difficult days.
- Each parish is asked to celebrate a special Mass for their dead using the Book of Remembrance as a focus.
- Each Episcopal Area, eg Northumberland, will have an opportunity to gather for another Mass for our Dead at which Bishop Robert plans to preside. Our Area Mass will be announced soon.
- These Books of Remembrance will then be brought to St Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle the following week, so that all those named may be remembered at a Solemn Requiem Mass celebrated by Bishop Robert at 11.00am on Saturday 27th November.
- Representation from the parishes will be invited to this Mass while respecting the ongoing need for distancing.

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 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 may be helpful if you don't know where to start.



CATHOLICS AT UNIVERSITY
Use this site to find your Catholic Chaplaincy

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 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.



Academy "Consultation" Process

St Robert's First School, Morpeth is to join the Bishop Bewick Catholic Education Trust, and to convert to Academy Status, along with all the other Catholic Schools in Northumberland, North Tyneside and Newcastle upon Tyne. Foundation Governors will be advised to approve this! The Bishop Bewick Trust is administered through Sacred Heart School in Newcastle. There has to be "consultation" before this happens, which began on 27th September for three weeks and you are invited to join in the consultation process by visiting the School Website www.st-roberts.northumberland.sch.uk or using this link <https://forms.gle/3Vq7ACRinSCz9GrVA>. St Bede's School at Bedlington joined the Trust earlier in 2021 and all other schools in the diocese are joining three other Multi Educational Trusts.

Using the Car Park at St Robert's

Parents and grandparents at St Robert's School have been reminded through the school newsletter that the car park should not be used for school drop off between the hours of **8.30am and 3.30pm**. It is also important to ask everyone to be very careful with the speed that you drive in and out of the car park. Some people drive too fast in our small car park. The car park is also pedestrian access to church and school and we must remember that accidents may be caused if people drive too fast into the car park.

St Roberts School Open Day

St Robert's First School will be holding an open day for any prospective parents to come and visit school on Thursday 14th October between 9.30am and 6.30pm. Please book a slot by contacting the secretary, Mrs Perkins on ☎ 01670 512031. If this date is not convenient for you they will be happy to arrange another date.

Admissions to Middle, High and Secondary Schools

The Online Portal for Admissions to Middle, High and Secondary Schools is now open from 12th September until 31st October 2021 for children transferring from First to Middle (current Year 4) – Middle to High (current Year 8) and Primary to Secondary (current Year 6). You will need to register as a new user if you haven't used the Portal before. All information is available on the Northumberland County Council website.

Diocesan Day of Recollection

"Called to the Supper of the Lamb": A Day of Reflection for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion at Ushaw College, Durham on Saturday 30th October 2021 10.30am - 3.30pm. Booking can be made by using this link ... <https://forms.office.com/r/hGQJf2UblJ> This day is optional and it is not obligatory for anyone to book on them at the moment.

Diocesan Sacristans Course

The course will look at the importance of preparing for the celebration of the Liturgy and the Sacramental Rites. We shall study the proper use and care of those things that are needed for worship in the Parish Church during the Liturgical Year. To be held at St Bede Chapel Road, Jarrow, NE32 3LX Tuesday 26th October from 10am - 3pm (Commissioning Mass at 12.15pm) The cost is £5.00. Participants will need to bring a packed lunch on the day.

Diocesan Readers Course

The course will look at the importance of the Word of God in the Liturgy. It will consider the need to reflect on the meaning of the sacred text and provide training to help improve technique in proclaiming it. To be held at St Joseph's Church, Thorneyholme Terrace, Stanley, DH9 0BL on Monday 8th November, 7pm-9pm and Saturday 13th November 10am – 3pm (A Commissioning Service will be held at 3.00pm) The cost is £10.00 and participants will need to bring a packed lunch on the Saturday. Places are limited on these courses and are subject to change, depending on the current Government Coronavirus regulations. Please telephone the Vicariate for Faith & Mission on 07375 934713 or email adminfaith.mission@diocesehn.org.uk

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

Masses and Intentions this week

	St Robert of Newminster Church Morpeth	St Bede's Church Bedlington
Saturday 9th October <i>St John Henry Newman</i>	10am Mass: 10.30am: Adoration and Confessions	5pm - 5.20pm: Confessions 5.30pm Vigil Mass: People of the Parish
Sunday 10th October 28th Sunday Yr B	9am Mass: Helen & Douglas Cone 11am Mass: People of the Parish	
Monday 11th October <i>St John XXIII</i>		10am Mass: Intentions of David & Gail Swift
Tuesday 12th October <i>St Wilfrid</i>	10am Mass: Deceased of the Fondé family	
Wednesday 13th October <i>St Edward the Confessor</i>		10am Mass: Intentions of David & Ace Oldroyd
Thursday 14th October <i>Weekday</i>	10am Mass: Morton Stott (AB)	
Friday 15th October <i>St Teresa of Avila</i>		10am Mass: Robert Keddy & Mary Keddy
Saturday 16th October <i>St Margaret Mary Alacoque</i>	10am Mass: Morton Stott (D&VS) 10.30am: Adoration and Confessions	5pm - 5.20pm: Confessions 5.30pm Vigil Mass: People of the Parish
Sunday 17th October 29th Sunday Yr B	9am Mass: George Beattie 11am Mass: People of the Parish	

The Holy Father Pope Francis' Intentions for October 2021



Missionary Disciples: We pray that every baptized person may be engaged in evangelization, available to the mission, by being witnesses of a life that has the flavour 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



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 Blackfriars in Newcastle. If you can help with any of the following items it would be greatly appreciated ...

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 only be left when the Church is open at Mass times. Boxes are available.

Local Food Bank Donations

We now have an extra box [with a red lid] at the back of St Robert's Church for the Wansbeck Valley Foodbank [financial donations can also be made online] and the food bin for the Matthew Project is now back at St Bede's Church. Donations of all non-perishable food items are welcome to be placed into the bins for those less fortunate than ourselves.

Prisons Week

Prisons Week runs from 10th - 16th October. Pact is a national charity that provides support to prisoners, people with convictions, and their families through a range of services, including: Prison-based family engagement workers; Prison visitors' centres, In-prison visitor support, supervised play, catering and enhanced family activities; Prison and community based relationship and parenting education programmes; Court and community family support; 'Through the Gate' and community based mentoring and befriending programmes; National helpline and digital information service. Their vision is of a society in which justice is understood as a process of restoration and healing, in which prisons are used sparingly and as places of learning and rehabilitation, and in which the innate dignity and worth of every human being is valued. Their mission is to support prisoners and their families to make a fresh start, and to minimise the harm that can be caused by imprisonment on people who have committed offences, on families and on communities. If you can support their work with a donation, please go online to www.prisonadvice.org.uk

World Mission Sunday Collection
Sunday 24th October

Clergy Training Fund
Opens on 31st October until 28th November