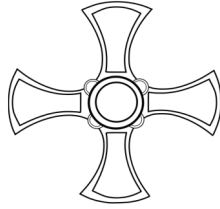


**Saint Bede's  
Catholic Church**  
Catholic Row  
BEDLINGTON  
NE22 6HS



**Saint Robert of Newminster  
Catholic Church**  
Oldgate  
MORPETH  
NE61 1QF

## Parishes of the St Benet Biscop Partnership, Northumberland

**Parish Priest: Reverend Father Peter J Stott**

St Robert's Presbytery, Collingwood House, Oldgate, Morpeth, NE61 1QF  
01670 513410 | morpeth.strobertnewminster@rcdhn.org.uk | peterjstott@aol.com

**Parish Deacon: Reverend Stephen Boulter**

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

**Parish Secretary: Mary Carter**

Office Hours | Tuesday and Thursday, 9.30am—3.30pm at St Robert's | Wednesday, 9am – 5.30pm at St Bede's

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

## Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2022 - Seventh Sunday of Easter

In these final chapters of John's Gospel, Jesus is trying to sum up what his life and mission is all about. He speaks at length of the bond between him and his Father and it is from this bond of love that he is 'sent'.

Jesus tells us that we too are 'sent' to continue his mission. Friendship with Jesus is being with him, and being sent in his name. Our mission is to place his love and message at the centre of the world. In following him in mission and love, we too are 'being sent'.

On this Sunday we celebrate World Communication Day, and it feels a timely opportunity to consider the task we have been set. The first disciples continued Jesus' mission without planes, trains, without a postal service, without TV or radio and without the internet. Yet thanks to these early disciples we know Jesus' name throughout the entire globe two thousand years down the line. We have a much easier job than the early disciples had. Now all we need is a little bit of their sense of mission.



How should it feel to be entrusted with such an important job? Well for most of us, it is something we don't think about nearly enough. We are told not to let the world tie us down, but that's most definitely easier said than done. In truth we are very much of this world. We spend most of our lives worrying about work, money, illness, relationships and commitments. It's very hard to rise above worldly concerns. In fact for most of us it just seems impossible.

Today's gospel reminds us that Jesus' love for his disciples does not fade. It endures eternally. He asks the Father to protect and guide. He entrusts us, his friends and companions, to the loving care of his Father. If we are really to believe this, we should leave the house every morning with a lot more on our minds than simply catching the early bus or answering our emails on the train.

Today is an invitation not to think of ourselves on the outside looking in, but to be as much a part as we can in impacting the world as much as those early disciples did.

**Please take this Newsletter home with you so that you know what's happening in your parish this week**



At this time of the Church's year, we are asked to pray for new Members of the Church; Vocations; The Right Use of the Media; the Church; Human Work: 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; for many people who have COVID-19 at the moment; for all who have died recently, including: **Michael Doherty** [Craster] whose Funeral Service will be held at St Robert's Church on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May at 12noon; for **Alice Wallace** [Appleby Bookshop, Morpeth] whose Funeral Service will be held at the West Road Chapel and Cemetery on Monday 6th June; and for all whose anniversaries occur at this time.

**Offertory Collection 21<sup>st</sup> / 22<sup>nd</sup> May**

St Bede's Church - £210.75 / St Robert's Church - £402.54

**Parish Standing Order Mandates**

If you wish to donate via a monthly Standing Order directly from your bank account to our bank account, rather than putting into the collection each week at church, copies of the Parish Standing Order Mandate are available at the back of Church.

**World Communications Collection**

Today [Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> May] is World Communications Day when we pray for the work of communicating the message of the Gospel around the world. There will be a Retiring Collection at all Masses. In addition to promoting the Church's and the Bishops' message in the local, regional, national and international mass media, the Bishops' Conference Media Office helps journalists with their queries and to a better understanding of the Church's activities and witness. It also runs the Bishops' Conference website, which has been a primary source of information throughout the pandemic. As we emerge from the pandemic, communications will become even more important as we seek to re-establish more regular patterns of worship and continue to promote our Gospel values. Further details will be posted on the diocesan website.



**May Rosary Service**

The Catholic Women's League will be leading a Rosary Service to honour Our Blessed Lady and you are warmly invited and encouraged to come to Church and be part of this Service at 2pm, **TODAY**, Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> May, in St Robert's Church. Come along and pray the Rosary for Peace in the world.



**Platinum Jubilee Prayers**

During Mass next weekend we will say special prayers for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth as she celebrates her Platinum Jubilee. These prayers have been prepared by the Bishop's Conference of England and Wales



**Jubilee Tea Party**

The CWL are holding a Tea Party to celebrate Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee on Saturday 4th June from 2pm in the Church Hall. If you would like to celebrate with us, limited tickets are available from Anne Beattie or Elizabeth Dixon at a cost of £5.00



**Civic Service of Evening for the Jubilee**

To mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, there will be a Civic Service at St James Church Morpeth on Friday 3rd June at 6pm. This Service will be Evensong according to the Book of Common Prayer of 1662.



**Ecumenical Pentecost Service**

To celebrate the Feast of Pentecost the Churches in Morpeth will be celebrating a joint Service for Pentecost next Sunday, 5th June, at the New Life Centre in Dacre Street, Morpeth at 6pm. Everyone is very welcome to attend.



**Bonus Ball**

The Bonus Ball begins this weekend, with the draw taking place on Saturday 28th May. Many thanks to all who have signed up. The weekly winner will receive £25. Good luck to those taking part.



**The Three Cs**

The next Meeting of the 3Cs will be on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May, 2pm - 4pm. Come along to enjoy Coffee / Tea, a Chat and Conversation with God.

**Wedding Service**

On Friday 10th June at 3pm we will celebrate the Wedding Service of Matthew Bliss and Natasha Junker at St Robert of Newminster Church.

**Do you play the Organ or any other Instrument**

If you play the organ or any other instrument and would be willing to help out voluntarily at St Bede's to support our Vigil Mass, your help would be greatly appreciated. Likewise at St Robert's, we're always on the lookout for more people to be involved, but no one ever comes forward. If interested and willing to play, let us know.

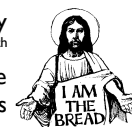


**First Confessions**

We offer our congratulations to Finlay, Isaac, Florence, Finlay, Samuel, Remy, Max, Jack, Edward, Thomas and Audrey who celebrated their First Confession at St Robert's Church on Monday evening and to Harry, Thomas, Lucy, Adam, Jessica, JT, Henry, Jack, Jack, Aleesha, Aidan, Sadie and Faith who celebrated their First Confession at St Bede's Church on Wednesday, which was also the Feast of St Bede, who was professed by St Benet Biscop, so two great saints guiding them! The Sacrament of Reconciliation is a wonderful way to keep in touch with God and to keep peace in our daily lives. Please try to celebrate this Sacrament regularly.

**First Holy Communion Masses**

First Holy Communion Masses will be held on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> June at St Robert's Church at 10am and Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June at 10am at St Bede's Church. Please pray for all the families involved. Please note that if there are any queries about these celebrations, please speak to Fr Peter



**Pilgrimage to the Holy Land**

There are now only 16 people [+ Fr Peter] travelling on the Pilgrimage to the Holy Land in October. As this is a very low number (*the pilgrimage was originally priced on 45 people travelling!*) the Tour Operator is trying to get another pilgrimage to travel with us - this other group had their own Holy Land Pilgrimage cancelled last week when BA cancelled their flight. There is still space for anyone else who might like to travel with us. Please contact Tangney Tours on ☎ 01732 886666 for further details or to book seats. If we are unable to increase numbers within three weeks, a discussion will be had about the viability of the pilgrimage and it may be cancelled.




**Corpus Christi Procession**

There will be a Diocesan Eucharistic Adoration and Procession on the Feast of Corpus Christi, Sunday 19th June at 3pm at Ushaw College. Woodland Rd, Durham DH7 9RH. (For Sat Nav, please use DH7 7DW), from 3pm - 4.30 pm. Free entry into Ushaw from 2.30pm. There is no charge for this event. Donations to the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle are welcome. Booking is required via this link: <https://bit.ly/3FCZ6TF> Bishop




Robert hopes this will be the highlight of the Eucharistic Year with many clergy and faithful taking part. The Festival programme includes a blessing of the newly restored Pugin Altar by Bishop Robert, a Eucharistic procession around the grounds of Ushaw (weather permitting) and Benediction. We ask the main organiser in your parish / group to book on behalf of the people attending in their group, parish or partnership using this link: <https://bit.ly/3FCZ6TF> or visiting [www.diocesehn.org.uk](http://www.diocesehn.org.uk). There are limited places available at this event. We recommend booking early to avoid disappointment. A confirmation email will be sent when your booking is confirmed. Ushaw has limited parking available. Groups are invited to travel by coach or car share, where appropriate. Please advise at time of booking and check confirmation of booking before arranging transport. Accessible parking is available at the venue.




**Could you be an Altar Server?**  
If any young people, those who have made their 1st Holy Communion, or those preparing to, are willing to become Altar Servers at either St Bede's or St Robert's Churches, please contact Fr Peter. Many Thanks to those who have already responded

**Newsletter by Email**  
Could you help us offset our carbon footprint by receiving the Newsletter by email. You will receive the e-version newsletter on a Friday evening rather than waiting for the paper copy at Sunday Mass. Email us with your details.



**St Robert's Hymnbook Amnesty**  
Do you have one of our green hymnbooks at home? You may have accidentally removed a hymn book from the church ... we've all done it! If you have one (or more!) hymn book(s) at home, do please return to the church. Hymn books are expensive and we prefer not to have to buy more. Thank you.


**Parish Catechists for First Holy Communion**  
I am very grateful to the parishioners at both St Bede's and St Robert's Churches who have offered to help with this and to enable us to continue to prepare our children as we did before the covid pandemic hit us. There is still time for others to get in involved; just contact Fr Peter.



**Teas and Coffees**  
Teas and Coffees are now available after the Vigil Mass at St Bede's Church and also after the 9am Mass at St Robert's. All Welcome.

**The Wednesday Word**  
The Wednesday Word is a great way to reflect on the readings for Sunday. Their website contains both Parish leaflets and leaflets for School. Check out their website [wednesdayword.org.uk](http://wednesdayword.org.uk)


**The Relics of St Bernadette**  
The Relics of St Bernadette will be brought to the United Kingdom later this year from Lourdes. There will be a National Pilgrimage to various sites in the UK and these relics of Saint Bernadette will be brought to St. Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle upon Tyne on 1<sup>st</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup> October. More details will follow later.



**Parish Finance Committees**  
Do you have any background in finance or accounting that would be a great asset to our Finance Committee at St Robert's? Please speak to Fr Peter if you feel you could offer your help. Likewise, if there is anyone with similar financial experience or background at St Bede's Parish, and you would be willing to get involved in your parish at Bedlington, please speak to Fr Peter.

**Preparing for Baptism**  
The next Baptism Preparation Meeting will not be held until July. Parents requesting Baptism for a child are asked to contact us to make arrangements to attend this Meeting. Please telephone the Presbytery to speak about Baptisms, it is so more personal than an email. **Better still, speak to Fr Peter or Deacon Stephen after Sunday Mass.**


**Rainbows Bereavement Support**  
Do you work in a school? This may be of interest to you! The last two years have been difficult and some children will have lost close family and friends. Some teachers and schools might be wondering what to do to help children in these situations. Could Rainbows Bereavement Support help your school? Rainbows offers training in bereavement and loss, guidance to ensure appropriate bereavement policies and procedures are in place, aimed to help grieving children and young people from 4 - 19years of age. Email [rainbows.northeast@btconnect.com](mailto:rainbows.northeast@btconnect.com) for more information or check out [rainbowsgb.org](http://rainbowsgb.org)



**Pray In May for Mary's Meals**  
'Mary's Meals' is a mission carried out in Our Lady's name to feed children a daily school meal in some of the world's poorest communities. During May, we are asked to pray for the children who eat Mary's Meals. [www.marysmeals.org.uk](http://www.marysmeals.org.uk)



**Sunday Obligation to Return**  
The Obligation for Sunday and Holyday Mass will be reinstated next week, Pentecost Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> June. In a document entitled '**Returning to Mass: An Invitation from the Bishops of England and Wales**', they state, "In the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, the Lord's Supper, the Lord Jesus entrusted to us the precious gift of Himself. With humility, we glory in being a Eucharistic people for whom attendance at Mass is essential. Looking forward to the forthcoming feast of Pentecost, we now invite all Catholics who have not yet done so to return to attending Mass in person. As the Church needs the witness of the presence of each person, so too each believer needs to journey in faith and worship with their fellow disciples. Nourished by our encounter with the Risen Lord Jesus, fed with His Word and His Body and Blood in Holy Communion, and supported by the presence of each other, we receive strength week by week, to serve the Lord and glorify Him with our lives." The Bishops have stressed that those who still do not feel safe enough to return to Mass should not do so. All other Catholics are subject to the precept to attend Mass in person on Sundays and Holydays of Obligation. Live streaming of Masses has been a great benefit to many during the pandemic, and will continue to be for those genuinely unable to attend Mass. The Bishops remind us, however, that watching a live streamed Mass does not fulfil the obligation.




**Confessions**  
If you have been away from Church throughout the pandemic, you may feel the need to go to Confession before receiving Holy Communion once again. Please remember that we have Confessions on a Saturday morning at St Robert's Church and a Saturday evening at St Bede's Church. You can also ask anytime if you need to go to Confession.

**When you can't fulfil your rota**  
Please note that it is not fair on the other members of your team - Cleaning, Counting, Welcoming or Reading - when you are unable to fulfil your duty and when you do not find your own replacement. It is your responsibility to find a replacement for you if you cannot come along. Please do not think that the others on the team can just fill in! This is particularly important for the Counting Teams who should always have at least two members present at all times, according to diocesan guidance, which states, "a single person must not do the count on their own and ideally there should be a rotation of teams. The reason for this is two-fold. Firstly it distributes the work amongst more people and means that we are not relying on just one or two people to give up their time each week. It also ensures we have cover if someone has to drop out unexpectedly. Secondly by having at least two people doing the count each week it helps to protect the counters from any unfounded accusations from other parishioners."

**New Parishioner and Updated Information**  
Are you new to the Parish? Have you completed the "Keeping in Touch" form with your details? Are you a regular parishioner who has moved house and need to update your details? Please complete one of the forms available at Church and send back to us. If you want this form emailed to you, please let us know and then you can complete it on your own computer and email it back to us.

**Morpeth Fair Day - 12th June**  
Advance Warning ... Please note that it is rumoured that the organisers of Morpeth Fair Day have made an agreement with Northumbria Police about parishioners vehicle access to St Robert's Church Grounds on Morpeth Fair Day. We have still not received anything in writing from Police or organisers concerning this. In the meantime prepare for restricted access to church grounds on 12<sup>th</sup> June.

**Stella Maris (Apostleship of the Sea)**  
Stella Maris is holding a Day of Prayer & Pilgrimage to the Holy Island of Lindisfarne on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2022, led by the Rt Rev Paul Mason. The pilgrimage starts at 12 noon. All are invited. Please check tide times. Celtic Prayers on the Green 12noon; Concelebrated Mass in St Mary the Virgin Church 3pm; Saturday Safe Crossing Times 9:10am - 5.05pm. Parish groups, families & individuals all welcome. For further information please contact Regional Port Chaplains Paul Atkinson (07906 212 426) or Peter Barrigan (07713 924 504)



# Masses and Intentions this week

	St Robert of Newminster Church Morpeth	St Bede's Church Bedlington
<b>Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> May</b> <i>Weekday of Easter</i>	9.40am The Rosary <b>10am Mass:</b> Thanksgiving for daughter's birthday MG 10.30am—11am Adoration and Confessions 12.30pm Baptism Sofia Patricia Vescio	5.00pm - 5.20pm: Confessions <b>5.30pm Vigil Mass: People of the Parish</b>
<b>Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> May</b> <b>7<sup>th</sup> Sunday Easter</b>	<b>9am Mass:</b> Dolly Brew <b>11am Mass:</b> People of the Parish	
<b>Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May</b> <i>Weekday of Easter</i>	<b>12 Noon Funeral Service Michael Doherty</b>	9.25am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament <b>10am Mass:</b> For Vocations to the Priesthood
<b>Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> May</b> <i>Visitation of Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	9.25am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament <b>10am Mass:</b> Eric Parker	9.25am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 10am Service of Word and Communion
<b>Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> June</b> <i>St Justin</i>	9.25am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 10am Service of Word and Communion	9.25am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament <b>10am Mass:</b> For young people that they may come to Mass
<b>Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June</b> <i>Ss Marcellinus and Peter</i>	9.25am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament <b>10am Mass:</b> Peter Shepherd 7pm Divine Mercy Devotions	9.25am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 10am Service of Word and Communion
<b>Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June</b> <i>St Charles Lwanga &amp; Companions</i>	9.25am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 10am Service of Word and Communion	9.25am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament <b>10am Mass:</b> For the Bishop and Priests of the Diocese
<b>Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June</b> <i>Weekday of Easter</i>	9.40am The Rosary <b>10am Mass:</b> Thomas Foster Beattie 10.30am—11am Adoration and Confessions	5.00pm - 5.20pm: Confessions <b>5.30pm Vigil Mass:</b> People of the Parish
<b>Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June</b> <b>Pentecost Sunday</b>	<b>9am Mass:</b> Helen & Douglas Cone <b>11am Mass:</b> People of the Parish	

## The Holy Father Pope Francis' Intentions for May 2022

Faith-Filled Young People: We pray for all young people, called to live life to the fullest; may they see in Mary's life the way to listen, the depth of discernment, the courage that faith generates, and the dedication to service.



## 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 available as a recording on the above Parish YOUTUBE site anytime. 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.**



## Donations for Food Banks and Refugees

The Diocesan Justice and Peace Group need donations to support refugees and asylum seekers. If you can help with any of the following items, please leave in the box in the Church porch. Tinned Tomatoes; Chickpeas; Tinned Fish (e.g. tuna); Biscuits, Rice, Sugar, Toilet Roll, Shampoo, Shower Gel, Soap, Deodorant, Toothpaste, and Toothbrushes. Local Foodbanks also need some support. We now have an extra box [with a red lid] at the entrance of St Robert's Church for the Wansbeck Valley Foodbank and the food bin for the Matthew Project is at the entrance of 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.



## Prayer Vigil at Derwentside Immigration Removal Centre

A monthly interfaith prayer vigil has been held outside the barrier to the Derwentside Immigration Removal Centre since August. During the last few weeks, women have been moved into the Centre which is now England's main IRC for women and will eventually detain 80 women who are seeking asylum. The prayer vigils will continue. Please participate in the prayer vigil if you can. The next vigil is planned for Sunday 5th June at 3.00pm. The postcode for the centre on Corbridge Road, Medomsley is DH8 6QY. To avoid disruption to local residents, park away from the site if you can. For more information, contact Liz Archibald at [lizarchibald.justiceandpeace@gmail.com](mailto:lizarchibald.justiceandpeace@gmail.com)

## Society of St Gregory Summer School

This will take place at Belsey Bridge Conference Centre, Ditchingham, Norfolk, NR35 2DZ from 3<sup>rd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> August. The theme is Talking, Listening, Responding: the call to be a synodal church. This is a residential summer school. Invited speakers include Bishop Peter Brignall, Dr Sue Price (Margaret Beaufort Institute), Maria Hall (Pontifical University of Maynooth), Bob Hurd, Deacon Peter Tibke. There will be talks, workshops, liturgies, music, shared meals and social time. Further details and booking forms are available at [www.ssg.org.uk/summer-school-2022/](http://www.ssg.org.uk/summer-school-2022/).

## Vacancies

The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle has the following vacancies:  
**Property Surveyor** – full-time, fixed term contract – 2 years. Flexible working is available. Closing date for applications: 1<sup>st</sup> June 2022.  
**IT Project Manager** – full-time. Fixed term contract – 12 months. Closing date for applications: 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2022. Please visit [www.diocesehn.org.uk](http://www.diocesehn.org.uk) for full details or contact ☎ 0191 243 3301

## A prayer for Ukraine

Loving God, we pray for the people of Ukraine, for all those suffering or afraid, that you will be close to them and protect them. We pray for world leaders, for compassion, strength and wisdom to guide their choices. We pray for the world that in this moment of crisis, we may reach out in solidarity to our brothers and sisters in need. May we walk in your ways so that peace and justice become a reality for the people of Ukraine and for all the world. **Amen**

