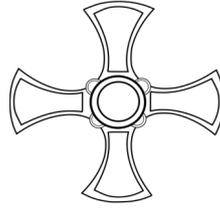


**Saint Bede's
Catholic Church**
Catholic Row
BEDLINGTON
NE22 6HS



**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 19th June 2022 - Corpus Christi

The uncanny thing about being out of shape is that none of us consciously allow ourselves to become that way; it's something that creeps up on us. The extra pounds that pile on around our waistlines are the result of making wrong choices on a daily basis. Just as we can become physically unfit so we can become spiritually unfit. None of us make bad choices on purpose, but nonetheless if we make choices on a daily basis that are not based on God's values we can easily feel weighed down, dissatisfied and unhappy. The feeding of the five thousand is prophetic. Jesus is showing us that God's reign is about satisfying both human spiritual and physical need. The importance of the miracle is not so much about the multiplication of food, but the message that God can provide for all our needs.

On the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, we are reminded that in just the same way as we care for our physical diet, we need to make Jesus part of our spiritual diet both in communion and in our daily choices to live as Christians so that we might be spiritually whole. We are invited to feel alive and rejuvenated and ready to impact the world around us.

Jesus was all about sharing. He gave his time, his love and finally his body and blood. When we receive Holy Communion in Mass our action is twofold. The Eucharist is a banquet for the multitudes in which we remember Jesus' sacrificial self-giving. More than this, we remember the promise that anyone who eats his bread and drinks his blood will share eternal life.



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 A Deeper Understanding between Christians and Jews; Those who suffer Persecution, Oppression and Denial of Human Rights, Europe; Human Life; and Seafarers: 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 those still struggling with the COVID-19 pandemic; for all who have died recently, including Father Michael Keoghan, retired, whose Requiem Mass will be celebrated on Monday 27th June at Our Lady and St Joseph's Church, Brooms: for **Janette Dodds** [Morpeth] whose Funeral Service will be held at 11am on Thursday 23rd June at St Robert's Church; and for all whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Offertory Collection 11th / 12th June

St Bede's Church - £n/a / St Robert's Church - £353.13

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.

Counting Teams at St Bede's

Is it possible to restart the Counting Teams each week at St Bede's Church? Would Counters please let Fr Peter know if they are able to begin. We must also remember the diocesan guidelines that there should always be at least two people counting at the same time.

Lay Training Fund

We were supposed to take the Lay Training Fund recently, but it was missed! As this Fund remains open until 3rd July if you have a collection envelope in your box and you wish to make a donation, please bring it any time over the next three weeks.

Day For Life Collection

Sunday 19th June is the Day for Life and a collection will be taken. The focus of the Day for Life this year is older persons. The COVID pandemic highlighted the desperate plight of many older people, especially those in care homes and those struggling with long-term chronic conditions such as dementia. They carried the highest burden which included prolonged isolation, the distress for families being unable to visit, delayed medical interventions and tragic, isolated, deaths followed by shortened, minimal, funeral rites. Many family members and friends continue to bear the wound of deep grief which hurts and is still in need of healing. "We invite people to think again about the value and worth of older persons in families, in society, and to make practical choices to build bridges between the generations." [Rt Revd John Sherrington, Bishop for Life Issues] The proceeds of the Day for Life collection to be held in parishes in England and Wales assists the work of the [Anscombe Bioethics Centre](#) and other life-related activities supported by the Church.

Peters Pence

The Holyday of Ss Peter and Paul will be celebrated on Wednesday 29th June. The Collection for Peters Pence will be taken at Sunday Masses on Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th June.

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. We have a rota of volunteers but if anyone else would like to sign up to take a turn in future they would be most welcome. If anyone would be willing to begin making / serving tea and coffee after the 11am Mass please contact Fr Peter.

First Holy Communion Masses

Congratulations to Finlay Barnes, Isaac Fletcher, Florence Hall, Finlay Makepeace, Samuel Murdie, Remy Perkins, Max Smith, Jack Stewart, Edward Snowdon, Thomas Snowdon and Audrey Younes-Chehayeb who celebrated their First Holy Communion at Mass yesterday, Saturday at St Robert of Newminster Church. We look forward to next Saturday when the children from St Bede's Church will celebrate this special occasion. Please pray for all the families involved. Please note that if there are any queries about these celebrations, please speak to Fr Peter



No Confessions at St Robert's Church

Please note that there are No Confessions at St Robert's for the next two Saturdays, due to the celebrations of First Holy Communion on 25th June at St Bede's Church and an Ordination to the Diaconate at Hartlepool on 2nd July. Confessions on a Saturday evening at St Bede's Church remain unchanged.

Catholic Women's League

The next meeting of the Catholic Women's League will be held on Thursday 23rd June at 10.30am in St Robert's Church Hall.



Could you be an Altar Server?

If any young people 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

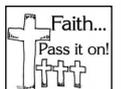


Bishop Seamus Cunningham

Bishop Robert Byrne would like to invite you to a Mass to mark the 80th birthday of Bishop Seamus Cunningham. This will be celebrated on Thursday 30th June 2022 at 12.05pm at St Mary's Cathedral. All are most welcome to attend.

Parish Catechists for First Holy Communion

If there are any parishioners willing to prepare children for the Sacraments who are not at our catholic schools, or who perhaps are a little older than normal, please contact Fr Peter as soon as possible.



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.**



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.

Bonus Ball

Many thanks to everyone playing in the Bonus Ball. Week 3 winner was David Shearer and Joan Offen with number 1, winning £25.00, congratulations.



Diocesan Synod Submission

Bishop Robert has written to inform us that the Diocesan Submission for the Synod 2021-2023 is now available and we have a link to this on the front page of St Robert's Parish Website.



Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

It is more than five years since our Ministers of Holy Communion were originally commissioned or re-commissioned. In previous years we have only ever renewed their Commitment. So this weekend, 18th/19th June, on the Feast of Corpus Christi, we will celebrate the Rite of Recommissioning of all our Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion at all Masses.

Head of Safeguarding

Meriel Anderson has been appointed to the role of Diocesan Safeguarding Co-ordinator/Head of Safeguarding. Meriel will start in post immediately. The Diocese is now advertising for a new Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor to replace Meriel. See the www.rcdhn.org.uk for full details of the advert.

New Volunteer at St Robert's Church

Grateful thanks are extended to Raymond Simpson who has offered to be a keyholder for St Robert's Church. This means that we can now keep our church open throughout the day and that Raymond will close Church between 4.30pm and 5pm each day. We began this week, so St Robert's Church is now open from Adoration until closing. It is only because of Raymond's volunteering that we are able to do this. Many thanks.

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.

Thanksgiving Mass for NHS

Bishop Robert Byrne invites you to attend a Mass of Thanksgiving for NHS Staff, Chaplains and Care Workers at 7.00pm on 14th July, the Feast of St Camillus, at St Mary's Roman Catholic Cathedral, Clayton Street West, Newcastle. This Mass will be the opportunity to express the gratitude of the Diocese to medical, nursing and healthcare staff and chaplains as we continue to emerge from the COVID Pandemic. All welcome.

Certificate in Pastoral Ministry

Are you currently involved in Church ministry but wish you knew more about your faith? Do you sometimes lack confidence and feel you could benefit from further training and formation? Do you want to grow in your faith and ministry and perhaps find new ways to share your gifts with others? The Certificate in Pastoral Ministry is an online, two-year learning experience created with the busy person in mind. It will take you on a journey of discovery about key aspects of the Catholic faith while helping you to reflect upon your own ministry and the ministry of others. To find out more join online for one of the information evenings: Tuesday 14th June 2022 or Wednesday 22nd June 2022 from 7:30pm - 9:00pm. To register your interest for one of the information evenings, or for further information please email adminfaith.mission@diocesehn.org.uk.

Welcome! Or Welcome Back!

The Bishops have invited people to return to Sunday Mass in person, so if you are returning you are most welcome back to our church. Although there are no covid restrictions, we continue to provide hand sanitiser and we encourage you to use it on entry to Church and to use the bottles in the benches whenever you feel necessary, but especially when coming forward for Holy Communion. We encourage anyone who is feeling unwell not to attend. If you are new to the parish you are very welcome and we hope that the 'locals' will help you feel welcome in our church and encourage you to be part of what happens in our church and in our parish.

Newsletter Items

If you have any notices to go into this Newsletter can they please be sent to the parish email address (see front page of this Newsletter) by 7pm on a Thursday evening for inclusion in the newsletter.

We need your help

We are actively looking to recruit volunteers for all areas within Parish Ministry. We need Catechists, Altar Servers, Readers, Musicians, Tea/Coffee Makers, Livestreaming Operatives! (St Robert's) and general helpers around the parish. If you have a specific talent you can share with the parish community, have a word with Fr Peter. Your help would be much appreciated!

Coming into the Church

Each year we normally have one or two people who make the big decision to "convert", to change their whole way of life and become a catholic. Most people come to this decision only after a lot of thought and some prayer. Perhaps that person is you? We invite you to consider making this change? This year we're inviting all who wish to become Catholic to join the Sycamore Course from September through to Easter. If interested or mildly thinking, please let Fr Peter know.

Sycamore Course

We will run a Sycamore Course from September onwards, right through to Easter. The Sycamore Course is an informal course about the Christian faith and its relevance for life today. It gives people space to meet others, share ideas, explore their beliefs, and think about questions that really matter. Each Sycamore session involves a short film and time for discussion. People can be themselves without any fear of being judged. There's a real sense of community, a spirit of friendship and some great conversation. Everyone is welcome. The Course explores the richness of the Christian tradition from a Catholic perspective, connecting the core Christian message with a vision of the sacramental and moral life. This will be our Journey of Faith for this coming year, so all enquirers are asked to take part. We also encourage any other members of the Parish to come along to deepen their own knowledge about the Christian and Catholic tradition. It will also be particularly helpful to parents wanting their children baptised and to parents of the First Holy Communion groups, past, present and future. This will run for approximately 20 weeks, so is quite a commitment, but hopefully those attending will gain something from it.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

In this Year of the Eucharist it is very good that we have the opportunity for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. At the moment Adoration is held Monday - Friday 9.25am - 9.55am between our two churches. A wonderful time of SILENCE in church for quiet prayer



Masses and Intentions this week

	St Robert of Newminster Church Morpeth	St Bede's Church Bedlington
Saturday 18th June <i>Weekday</i>	10am Mass: First Holy Communion Mass	5.00pm - 5.20pm: Confessions 5.30pm Vigil Mass:
Sunday 19th June Corpus Christi	9am Mass: Jerome Thompson 11am Mass: People of the Parish	1.30pm Baptism Emma Nora Anne Vasey
Monday 20th June <i>St Alban</i>		9.25am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 10am Mass:
Tuesday 21st June <i>St Aloysius Gonzaga</i>	9.25am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 10am Mass: Peter Shepherd	9.25am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 10am Service of Word and Communion
Wednesday 22nd June <i>SS John Fisher and Thomas More</i>	9.25am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 10am Service of Word and Communion	9.25am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 10am Mass: Jim Craik
Thursday 23rd June <i>The Nativity of St John The Baptist</i>	9.25am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 10am Mass: Intentions of Ann Roberts 11.00am Funeral Service Janette Dodds 7pm Divine Mercy Devotions	9.25am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 10am Service of Word and Communion
Friday 24th June <i>The Sacred Heart of Jesus</i>	9.25am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 10am Service of Word and Communion	9.25am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 10am Mass: John Carter
Saturday 25th June <i>The Immaculate Heart of Mary</i>		10am Mass: First Holy Communion Mass 5.00pm - 5.20pm: Confessions 5.30pm Vigil Mass: People of the Parish
Sunday 26th June Thirteenth Sunday Yr C	9am Mass: Joe McKee 11am Mass: People of the Parish	



The Holy Father Pope Francis' Intentions for June 2022

Families: We pray for Christian families around the world; may they embody and experience unconditional love and advance in holiness in their daily lives



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.**



Diocesan Vacancies

Safeguarding Advisor – full-time, permanent. Closing date for applications: 27 June 2022
Refugee Project Co-ordinator – part-time (18 hours), initial 12-month contract. Closing date for applications: 4 July 2022
Please visit www.diocesehn.org.uk for full details or contact 0191 243 3301. There are also many vacancies advertised on the Education section of the diocesan website for those looking for jobs.

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**

Bishop Paul McAleenan who has special responsibility for migrants and is Chair of the Office for Migration Policy at the Catholic Bishops' Conference made this statement on June 14th 2022:

The UK's plans to forcibly deport to Rwanda some of those seeking refuge in our country is shamefully illustrative of what Pope Francis has called the 'loss of that sense of responsibility for our brothers and sisters on which every civil society is based'. The plan is presented as a humanitarian response to combat people trafficking and smuggling yet the result will compound the suffering of those who are already victims. Crime is defeated by confronting the perpetrators not by punishing victims. This scheme will increase the difficulties of those hoping for a new beginning, and it does nothing to address the problems which cause people to flee their homes.

Migration is a complex issue, but it is not resolved by delegating our roles and responsibilities to other countries. Our starting point should be the innate dignity of every person, created in the image and likeness of God. Our Christian faith demands that we respond generously to asylum seekers whose dignity must be protected and upheld.

Whether or not the flight to Rwanda takes off today we are now in a new situation. With greater force we insist that asylum seekers are not commodities for profit, nor are they problems to be rejected and deported by government. Instead we should be guided by the four verbs provided by Pope Francis in our approach to migrants and refugees, 'Welcome, protect, promote and integrate'.