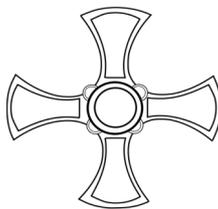


**Saint Bede's
Catholic Church**
Catholic Row
BEDLINGTON
NE22 6HS



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

PARISHES OF THE BRINKBURN PARTNERSHIP, NORTHUMBERLAND

Parish Priest: Father Peter J Stott

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Sunday 22nd November 2020 — Christ the King

If we are honest none of us relish the idea of judgment or accountability. Perhaps we have this uncomfortable feeling that we are not really doing all we could or all we should. The even more frightening realisation is that if we suspect we are not doing all we could we probably aren't!

On the Day of Judgment, we will be assembled and the good will be told "Inherit the Kingdom prepared for you I was hungry and you gave me food, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me." The criteria for final judgement is crystal clear, we will be simply judged on very simple acts of love and compassion. We are asked to see Jesus in the beggar on the street, the starving children on



our TV sets, the refugees in our city hostels and the sick or vulnerable people in our parishes and communities. It sounds easy, so why do we so often fail to respond?

We fail to respond to need, when we find it difficult to share our resources or our time. We fail to respond when we cannot recognise need or when we jump onto some kind of moral high ground. We fail to respond when we are so wrapped in our own lives that opportunities to recognise need in others simply passes us by. Worst of all, we fail to respond when we simply can't be bothered.

Today's gospel is like a sneak preview of an exam paper, but having a sneak preview isn't enough, if we want to pass the test, we need to respond to the needy on a daily basis in order to recognise Jesus in our lives.



Please pray for: Students and Teachers; The Spread of the Gospel; Harvest; the Fruits of Human Work; The Reverent use of Creation; Justice and Peace in the World; All Victims of War; Young People; Prisoners and their families. Please pray for family members, parishioners, those we know who are unwell; for those in hospital, recovering from or awaiting surgery and for all suffering from COVID-19. We pray for all who have died recently, including; **Marguerite Anderson** who has died and whose Requiem Mass will be celebrated at St Robert's on Wednesday 2nd December; for **Father Stephen Johnson**, retired, whose Requiem Mass will be celebrated in St Joseph's, Hartlepool on Tuesday; for **Father Derek Peel**, retired, who died on Friday afternoon; and for all who have died recently and those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Remembering the Faithful Departed

In this month of November we pray for the souls of all the Faithful Departed. As we are unable at the present moment to pray together for those who have died, perhaps we could all find some time to pray the Rosary for the intentions of all who have died, or even have a wander around one of our cemeteries to remember and pray for those who have died.



An Act of Spiritual Communion

As you are unable to attend Mass in Church at the moment this prayer for an Act of Spiritual Communion may be helpful. *My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen. (Saint Alphonsus Liguori)*

Masses Online

During these weeks of lockdown, you can still access Mass online, if you have internet access. Two online services stream masses throughout the day - www.churchservices.tv and www.mcnmedia.tv Other parishes stream live on Youtube - you just need to search for the parish name on YouTube to find them. You can also go to <https://mass-online.org/daily-holy-mass-live-online/> to find many links to Masses online worldwide. Unfortunately, we have no livestream facilities at either St Bede's or St Robert's Churches.

National Youth Sunday YMT Appeal

Today is the Feast of Christ the King and a day of prayer for all our Young People, National Youth Sunday. There is usually a collection for the work of our diocesan youth team, YMT, but we are unable to have a collection. Like all of us **Youth Ministry Team** YMT have faced challenges in reaching out, however, they have been communicating with young people through social media and using new ways of creating online resources. If you would like to make a donation to their work, you can send a cheque to Youth Ministry Trust, Emmaus Youth Village, Pemberton Road, Consett, DH8 9BA or make a BACS payment to: Account Name: Youth Ministry Trust; Account: 21172654; Sort Code: 40-34-45

Clergy Training Fund

The Clergy Training Fund is held throughout November. If you wish to make a donation to this, please put in an envelope and post through Presbytery letterbox, or make an online donation using our bank details and them let us know in the Parish Office that you have done this. Collection closes next Sunday



CWL Advent Service

Every year the Catholic Women's League hold their Advent Carol Service, which is a great way to stop and reflect on the season of Advent and what Advent helps us prepare for. This year we are unable to meet together in Church as we will still be in national lockdown, but there will be an online version on Zoom which will be held on Sunday 29th November at 2:00pm. To access the event please email dixonzil@yahoo.co.uk to obtain the passcode so that you can participate.



Advent Alms

Next Sunday we begin the Season of Advent and our four weeks spiritual preparation for our celebrations for the birth of Jesus at Christmas. Throughout Advent the Advent Alms collection will be open and as usual, all donation go towards the work of St Cuthbert's Care. Envelopes for Advent Alms can be dropped off throughout Advent. This year, St Cuthbert's Care Administrators have a video link on the diocesan website for their appeal ... rcdhn.org.uk



Advent Prayer Resources

The Diocesan Vicariate for Faith and Mission have produced a series of Advent Prayer Resources which can be accessed online via the diocesan website rcdhn.org.uk

Collections, Standing Orders and BACS Payments

Now that we are in another lockdown, you can drop your Offertory Envelopes through the Presbytery letterbox or 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. It is very much appreciated.

If you wish to set up a Standing Order, Mandates are available on our websites or email in to the office and we will send one back to you. Alternatively, it is possible for you to make a donation by BACS, directly from your own bank account; if so please use the bank details underneath. If you have set up a new Standing Order in the last few months, can you please inform the Parish Office so we can identify your payment on the Bank Statement. If you make or have made an online BACS payment, it would be helpful to let the Parish Office know so that we do not confuse it with a Standing Order. If you are setting up a new Standing Order and pay tax, please remember to request from us a copy of the **Gift Aid form** that enable us to reclaim 25% extra from the Inland Revenue from your donation.



giftaid it

Morpeth

Sort Code 40-34-18
Name of Account "DHN Morpeth St Robert of Newminster"
Account Number 32010755

Bedlington

Sort Code 40-34-18
Name of Account "DHN Bedlington St Bede"
Account Number 81163620



SVP Donations



The SVP would like to thank those people who have very kindly made donations to the SVP. Since March this is the only income we have received. If any other people are able and would like to make a donation, please put it in an envelope marked for SVP, and post it through the Presbytery letter box. Thankyou.

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. *A limited number of paper copies are available in both churches, which can be picked up if you come to church.*



Keeping us updated with your contact information

If you are reading this and realise that you have not updated a recent change of address, telephone number or email address, please send an email to the parish with your updated information. If you have recently moved into the parish and haven't yet given us your details, please let us know your details by email.



St Robert's Bonus Ball



Congratulations to Mr Ivan Brown, who won the second draw for the Bonus Ball, with number 13. £25.00 to him and Good Luck to everyone in Week 3.

The Great Adventure: Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible

"Many people want to read the Bible because they know it is God's Word, but they give up because it seems so complicated. Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible helps you to get the 'big picture' of the Bible by showing how fourteen narrative books of the Bible tell the complete story from Adam and Eve to Christ and the Church." This new, free, online course is starting in the Autumn and will run across 8 sessions during November 2020 and February 2021. To register or for more information, please email adminfaith.mission@diocesehn.org.uk.



Marys Meals - "Double the Love"

Marys Meals is delighted to announce that the UK Government has pledged to double any donation made to Marys Meals before 31st January 2021, up to £2m. So if you make a donation anytime before the end of January, your donation will be doubled. You can read more about this on Marys Meals' website www.marysmeals.org.uk/doublethelove #UKAidMatch



An Act of Perfect Contrition

For those who are unable to celebrate this Sacrament it is possible at the moment to make an Act of Perfect Contrition, as given in the Catechism [§1452] for these times. To make an act of Perfect Contrition, we simply need to turn to God and be, as it were, overwhelmed by God's mercy, acknowledge our sins, and then express in our own words or in the words of the traditional Act of Contrition, the sorrow we feel for our offences against the goodness of God. When we do that in all sincerity of heart, we may rest assured that God forgives our sins and that we come away from that Act of Perfect Contrition freed from those sins.

Volunteers for the Reopening of Churches

If anyone would like to volunteer as a steward / cleaner to help those who are already fulfilling this role, help would be greatly appreciated for the new rota for January onwards. We are likely to need volunteers for some months yet, so if you would be willing to help, please let Fr Peter know as soon as possible so that the paperwork can be completed quickly.

The Wednesday Word

The Wednesday Word website contains reflections on the forthcoming Sunday readings for both adults and children and can be accessed at wednesdayword.org Using this website can be a good way to prepare for Sunday Mass and reflect on the readings.



Children's Liturgy in Lockdown



There will be a diocesan "Zoom" meeting for those who are involved in Children's Liturgy who would like to explore how we might offer virtual presentations to our young parishioners. It will be held on Wednesday 2nd December at 6.30pm. If

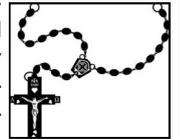
you would like to take part please contact the Diocesan Vicariate for Faith and Mission by e-mail: adminfaith.mission@diocesehn.org.uk. You will be sent a link to attend using a computer, laptop, tablet or smartphone

Help protect babies with cleft lip, cleft palate and club foot

Sadly abortion is currently available in the UK, right up to birth, for babies with cleft lip, cleft palate and club foot. All of these conditions can be corrected. A cross-party group of MPs from the three largest parties in the UK Parliament have come together to bring forward the Abortion (Cleft lip, cleft palate and club foot) Bill. The Bill will change the law to clarify that cleft palate, cleft lip, and club foot are not grounds for abortion in the UK. Can you help with getting your MP to support the Bill? Please visit www.standupandsmile.org.uk to email your MP asking them to support the Bill. It only takes 30 seconds.

Catenian Appeal for rosaries

Through the Catenian Association rosaries are sent to missions in Africa, the indigenous people of Australia, to people in prison in the UK and some distributed through Missio to other countries. Since the work started in 2002 over 666,000 rosaries have been distributed - and amazing number! If you have any rosaries that you don't need they will be very much appreciated by Catholics in these situations. The rosaries for prisons have to be special plastic ones that are purchased at £26 per 100, so any financial contributions towards these would be appreciated. Because of the lockdown restrictions prisoners are spending 23 hours per day in their cells and so some would benefit more than ever from the chance to pray the rosary in this time. Contributions of rosaries or any financial contributions can be put through the letter box of the presbytery or at 22 Dacre Street, Morpeth. Thank you very much for your previous support to this cause and for any more that you can give.



Compass in Advent ...preparing for Christmas

Our lives are being turned upside down at the moment due to Covid-19. You are invited to join this online conference to reflect on some of the characters in the Christmas story whose lives were also radically changed and to contemplate on "How is God speaking to us through these stories today?" Each Friday we will focus on one set of characters. The meeting will also include a sharing of a contemporary story of vocation/call. There will be time for sharing, questions and discussion.

Who? - Young adults 18-35

When? Fridays - 27th Nov, 4th, 11th, 18th Dec

Time? 7pm for one hour

To obtain the Zoom link: please email CompassInAdvent@gmail.com for the link and for any other information. Facebook event: <https://bit.ly/CompassInAdvent> [Compass is a project of CVP (Catholic Vocations Project). CVP is supported by a group of religious women and men in the UK who are interested in promoting a culture of vocation in our Church.]

Statement on the Covid-19 Vaccination

Bishop Richard Moth, Chair of the Department of Social Justice, has prepared a statement on the production and use of a Covid-19 vaccination. This statement has been approved for publication by the Bishops of the Department at their recent meeting and goes out in their name. The full statement can be viewed by following the link: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2020/09/Covid-19-Vaccination-240920.pdf>. There are several key points that we are asked note regarding this statement:

- A vaccination against Covid-19 is, in principle, a social good to protect people from harm.
- The Bishops urge the Government to develop an ethically sourced vaccine as an alternative to one derived from foetal cell lines.
- The Government has given assurances that new foetal cell lines are not being used in the development of a Covid-19 vaccine.
- The Church teaches that, for grave reasons, a vaccine developed from cell lines taken from human tissue which comes from fetuses aborted in the past may be used in good conscience.
- It is for each Catholic, guided by the teaching of the Church, to make a judgement in conscience about whether to accept a Covid-19 vaccine.
- There must be fair access for all people to the vaccine.
- The vaccine must be safe to use and effective.

Congratulations ...

To Marian Bell who recently passed the "Certificate in Catholic Healthcare Chaplaincy" with a Distinction. Marian would like to thank everyone who offered her their encouragement and prayers for her studies. Marian is Deputy Lead Chaplain for the Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust and is also the Bishop's Healthcare Advisor for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle.

Masses and Intentions this week

	St Robert of Newminster Church Morpeth	St Bede's Church Bedlington
Saturday 21st November <i>Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	Mass: Ken Wilson (AB)	
Sunday 22nd November Our Lord Jesus Christ the King	Mass: Jim McKee	
Monday 23rd November <i>St Clement / St Columban</i>		Mass: Bridgie McDonnell
Tuesday 24th November <i>St Andrew Dung Lac and Companions</i>	Mass: Dorothy Devitt & Dcd Devitt and Doherty families	
Wednesday 25th November <i>St Catherine of Alexandria</i>		Mass: Ken Wilson
Thursday 26th November <i>St Leonard of Porto Maurizio</i>	Mass: Jake Conroy (D&MW)	
Friday 27th November <i>Weekday</i>		Mass: Jim Craik
Saturday 28th November <i>Weekday</i>	Mass: John Devitt & Dcd Devitt and Doherty families	
Sunday 29th November First Sunday Advent B	Mass: Dorothy & Samuel Dutton	



The Holy Father Pope Francis' Intentions for November 2020

Artificial Intelligence: We pray that the progress of robotics and artificial intelligence may always serve humankind.



Young Adult Essay Writing Competition

An essay competition for youth on the theme 'The Future of Interreligious Dialogue' has been announced by the World Council of Churches (WCC). It is timed to mark the 50th anniversary of the WCC's Office of Interreligious Dialogue and Cooperation. The competition aims to encourage people under the age of 30 with interests in the field of interreligious relations and engagement to develop and share their ideas. The five best essays will be published in the 2021 issue of Current Dialogue, the WCC's journal for interreligious encounter. The deadline is 15th January 2021. For a list of subject themes, rules and word length visit www.ctbi.org.uk/essay-competition-future-of-interreligious-dialogue/

Silent Nights in Bethlehem - Friends of the Holy Land Appeal

Christmas 2020: the hotels are empty. The streets are silent. There are usually over a million pilgrims and tourists herein the Holy Land at this time of year. But coronavirus restrictions have completely shut down the Holy Land's tourist industry. No Christmas tourism means no income for 80% of the people in Bethlehem. There is no Furlough Scheme in the West Bank and many people have been left with no job, no income. You can support a Holy Land family through the crisis this Christmas with a gift of £20, £50, £100, or whatever you can afford. Until the pilgrims and tourists return, it may be the only lifeline they get. Thank you so much. For more information about us, please visit: <https://www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk/>



Northumberland Listening Service

The Northumberland Listening Service has been running for several years, set up by the local catholic parishes in Northumberland, and has helped many people during that time. 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.

Safe Families UK

Martin Dickson, Director of Church Relationships at Safe Families has written to thank parishioners who support their work. He says, "At St. Robert of Newminster Morpeth and St. Bede's Bedlington we want to celebrate that you have 4 volunteers with Safe Families and have supported 11 families and 24 children." Thank you to those concerned. If you would like more information about the work of Safe Families or are interested in supporting them as a volunteer, go to their website 'safefamilies.uk'

