

# Masses, Services and Devotions

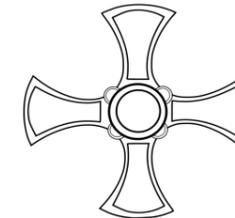
	St Bede's Church Bedlington	St Robert of Newminster Church Morpeth
<b>Saturday 5th January</b> <i>Weekday before Epiphany</i>	5.00pm The Rosary 5.00pm-5.20pm Confessions <b>5.30pm Vigil Mass:</b> Arkell & McAlroy families	9.40am The Rosary <b>10.00am Mass:</b> 10.30am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 11am - 12noon Confessions
<b>Sunday 6th January</b> <b>The Epiphany C</b>		<b>9.00am Mass:</b> Jim McKee <b>11.00am Mass:</b> Veronica Leyland <b>6pm Epiphany Carol Service</b>
<b>Monday 7th January</b> <i>Weekday after Epiphany</i>	9.30am Morning Prayer of the Church <b>10.00am Mass:</b> Betty Nicholson	8.30am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9.00am The Angelus 9.15am Service of Word and Communion
<b>Tuesday 8th January</b> <i>Weekday after Epiphany</i>	10.00am Service of Word and Communion 4.30pm: <b>RECEPTION OF THE BODY:</b> <b>Joan Molloy</b>	8.30am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9.00am The Angelus <b>9.15am Mass:</b> Sr Shelagh Doherty and Deceased Members of the Doherty and Devitt families
<b>Wednesday 9th January</b> <i>Weekday after Epiphany</i>	<b>10.00am REQUIEM MASS:</b> <b>Joan Molloy</b>	8.30am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9.00am The Angelus 9.15am Service of Word and Communion
<b>Thursday 10th January</b> <i>Weekday after Epiphany</i>	10.00am Service of Word and Communion	8.30am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9.00am The Angelus <b>9.15am Mass:</b> James Keir Craig 7.00pm Divine Mercy Devotions
<b>Friday 11th January</b> <i>St Aelred of Rievaulx</i>	9.15am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament <b>10.00am Mass:</b> Alice & James Devlin	8.30am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9.00am The Angelus 9.15am Service of Word and Communion <b>11.30am FUNERAL SERVICE:</b> <b>Margaret Whittle</b>
<b>Saturday 12th January</b> <i>St Benet Biscop</i>	5.00pm The Rosary 5.00pm—5.20pm Confessions <b>5.30pm Vigil Mass:</b> People of Parish	9.40am The Rosary <b>10.00am Mass:</b> In thanksgiving to St. Jude & all the Saints 10.30am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 11am - 12noon Confessions
<b>Sunday 13th January</b> <b>Baptism of the Lord</b>		<b>9.00am Mass:</b> Helen & Douglas Cone <b>11.00am Mass:</b> Sulek and Raczylid families, Julia & Antoni Sulek and Kif Moffatt

### The Pope's Intention January 2019

Evangelization – Young People: That young people, especially in Latin America, follow the example of Mary and respond to the call of the Lord to communicate the joy of the Gospel to the world.



**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 Stott**

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#### Parish Deacon: **Reverend Stephen Boulter**

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## Sunday 6th January 2019 - Feast of the Epiphany

It's funny how we are all a bit nicer on Christmas Day. Is it a pretence in order to get on with Great Aunt Ethel, or does Christmas really make us better people? For one day in the year we are a little more giving, a little kinder, a little more tolerant. For one day in the year we are a bit closer to what God means us to be. Then we pile Christmas into the recycling bins, go back to work and revert to type. If there was a star for us to follow, we've quickly confined it to the box room with the tinsel and fake tree. Perhaps the three wise men arrive after Christmas to make us think again. Today the three wise men teach us a lesson in keeping our Christmas star alive.



The wise men in the Epiphany gospel were visionaries with a star that they were determined to follow whatever the obstacles. The wise men began their quest with a hunger for the truth and a determination to find answers. When they finally found Jesus lying in a lowly stable they came away happier and wiser men as a result. Following their star had given the three men a focus in their life and new meaning. We don't know what happened to them next, but it is likely they spent their lives sharing the good news with everyone they met, Jews and Gentiles alike. Following their star helped the Magi to be the people God had meant them to be. Sadly the same cannot be said for our own lives. We live our lives trying to be all things to all people. We live our lives dizzy with trying to live up to other people's expectations. We very rarely get time to be ourselves. We very rarely get that Epiphany moment of our own or get to know what God really wants of us.

So how do we follow our star? Firstly we have to have a vision. The new year stretches ahead like a clean sheet of paper. What does God want of us? Some people agonise over this question, but for many of us it's simply a case of looking at our talents and using them to make the world a better place. For others it might be about looking around and choosing one other person to build up. If we have impossibly busy jobs our vision might be a small one, if we have lots of free time we might be able to set a life changing goal. Having a vision is all well and good, but next we have to make plans and put those plans into action. This might involve sitting down and identifying obstacles. Remember that obstacles aren't always put in our way by other people. More often than not obstacles exist in our own minds and in our own character traits. As we travel towards our goal we have to determine in whom and in what to trust. When things get tough, it is easy to listen to a well-meaning friend encouraging us to take an easy way out, or adopt a more comfortable goal. "King Herods" don't always come in the obvious guise of a pantomime baddie. Lastly, we have to be able to recognise Jesus in our lives, and once we have found him, allow him to navigate.



Please pray for: The Harvest, the Fruits of Human of Work, and the Reverent Use of Creation; Students and Teachers; The Spread of the Gospel; Justice and Peace in the world; Prisoners and their Families; All Victims of War; Young People; Prisoners and their families.

Please pray for those who are sick, including Fr Jim Doherty; for all who have died recently, including **Joan Molloy** of Stakeford, whose Body will be Received into St Bede's Church on Tuesday at 4.30pm and whose Requiem Mass will be held on Wednesday 9th January at St Bede's Church at 10am; and for **Margaret Whittle** of Morpeth whose Funeral Service will be held on Friday 11th January at 11.30am at St Robert's Church; and for all whose anniversaries occur at this time.

#### Offertory Collections 29th / 30th December

St Bede's: £n/a / St Robert's: £ £1,104.26  
Christmas Offering St Robert's £564.40

#### Tea and Coffee after Mass

We have tea and coffee available after the Vigil Mass at St Bede's each Saturday evening. We also have tea and coffee available after the 9am and 11am Masses at St Robert's on Sunday morning.

#### White Flower Appeal

White Flower Appeal™ 2019  
Please give generously



**Next weekend** we have the Annual White Flower Appeal for the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children. There will be a Retiring Collection at all Masses for those who wish to support this collection. SPUC is currently campaigning to stop the decriminalisation of abortion, which means taking abortion outside the law. This is the most dangerous threat to unborn children and their mothers in decades. Are you prepared to stand up for the rights of the unborn and those parents who feel pressured into listening to voices that promote abortion? 552 recorded abortions are carried out in the UK on a daily basis. Please take a postcard next week and send to our MP Ian Lavery.

#### Newsletter Items

Please drop in a note at the Presbytery or e-mail items for the parish newsletter by 7pm on Wednesday to the parish office email address at St Robert's.

#### Mass Intentions

Please note that we have no Sunday 9am dates available at St Roberts Church for Mass Intentions until mid-late March.



#### Epiphany Carol Service

TODAY (Sunday) we commemorate the Solemnity of the Epiphany, the day the Lord Jesus was revealed to the world in the visit of those three Wise Men. To mark this great Feast, we will be celebrating an Epiphany Carol Service at St Robert's Church at 6pm, because, believe it or not,

Christmas is not yet over! Indeed for many people, today is their main celebration! We still need to celebrate this incredible event of Jesus' light shining forth to the nations of the world. We hope you will be able to come along and join in this special celebration. Refreshments will be served afterwards in the Hall.



#### Crib Donations: Friends of the Holy Land

Bishop Seamus has asked that the Crib Offerings this year be sent to the Friends of the Holy Land to enable them to give hope and practical support to the most vulnerable Christians in and around Bethlehem



#### "EDGE" - Middle School Journey of Faith

Edge resumes on Thursday 10th January at 6pm. If you have children of Middle School age, please try to encourage them to come along, even if its only for a taster evening, to see if they enjoy it. You never know ... they might decide they like it!

#### Youth Alpha

Our Partnership is beginning a Youth Alpha Course in February for all young people who are in Year 9 and above. Further details very soon.

#### St Robert's SVP

The next meeting of the St Robert's SVP Conference will be on Wednesday 9th January at 7.30pm.

#### The Northern Catholic Calendar

The 2019 edition of The Northern Catholic Calendar is now available at the back of Church, price £3 each.

#### SVP - Sudan Crisis Appeal

Many thanks to everyone who has contributed to this worthy appeal. The main beneficiary will be the baby feeding stations in the Sudan, Africa. St Bede's SVP will be forwarding a cheque for **£200.00**

#### Flower Arrangers Rota

There will be a meeting on Wednesday 16th January at 7pm in St Robert's Presbytery, for those who might be interested in being involved with / included in a Flower Arranging rota for Church. Come along if you are interested. There's no commitment at this moment. This is just a chance to see what is possible.



#### First Holy Communion preparation

Preparation for First Confession and Holy Communion continues next weekend at both St Bede's Church and St Robert's Church ... 4.15pm Catechesis at St Bede's on Saturday; and immediately after the 9am Mass at St Robert's Church on Sunday. The Theme for this preparation is "God helps me to get it right". We congratulate those children who are using their "Passports" and getting them signed each week that they are at Mass.



#### First Confessions

We will be celebrating First Confession on Wednesday 23rd January at 6pm at St Bede's Church and 24th January at 6pm St Robert's Church. Parents are asked to let the catechists know at which church their children will be celebrating their First Confession.



#### Baptism Preparation Meetings

The next Baptism Preparation Meeting will be held at St Bede's Church on Thursday 17th January at St Bede's Church, Bedlington at 6.30pm and then the February Preparation Meeting will be held at St Robert's. Any parents who are wishing to organise a Baptism should contact either Fr Peter or Deacon Stephen to make arrangements to attend this meeting. Once that has been arranged then a date can be considered for the Baptism.



#### Northumberland Listening Service

A free and confidential Listening Service, is available for those who wish to talk about issues such as Loss and Bereavement, Stress, Anxiety, Relationship Difficulties, Loneliness or other concerns. To make an appointment please telephone 07732 980740.

#### Prayers for a New Bishop

It is very likely that a new Bishop will be appointed for our Diocese this year. Please pray, asking the Holy Spirit to guide the process of appointment and to pray for the Holy Father Pope Francis, the Apostolic Nuncio Archbishop Adams and all who are involved in seeking a successor to Bishop Seamus, who offered his resignation to the Holy Father in July 2017.



#### Journey in Faith

The next Journey in Faith Meeting will be held on Thursday 17th January 2019 at 7pm in the Presbytery at St Robert's.

#### Hall Committee

The next meeting of St Robert's Hall Committee will be held on Thursday 10th January after the 9.15am Mass.

#### Partnership Spirituality Network Meeting

The next meeting of the Partnership Spirituality meeting to plan further services between our partnership Churches will be held on 21st January 2019, 10.30am at St Bede's, Bedlington

#### Wansbeck Valley Food Bank

Now that Christmas is over and we are settling into our New Year, there is still a great need for us to support the work of the Wansbeck Valley Food Bank. If you wish to help, you can donate items of food, by placing them into the Food Bank Box in the Church Porch at St Robert's Church. They are requesting the following ... Tinned rice pudding, Tinned fruit, Tins or packets of custard, Packets of dried potato, tins of hot dogs, Long life milk, Jars of jam, marmalade etc. Thank you for your help.



#### The Matthew Project

At St Bede's we have a large bin for the Matthew Project, which is administered by Bedlington Christian Fellowship, and donations can be placed in the bin in the church entrance. Thank you to those who support.

#### Christmas Thanks

Deacon Stephen and Sandra would like to thank everyone for the many cards and gifts received at Christmas. We are very grateful for your kindness.

#### Churches Together in Bedlington

Churches Together have organised a quiz to be held at Holy Trinity Church, Bedlington, between 7pm— 9pm on Friday 18th January. All are welcome to attend.

#### Diocesan Vacancies

The Diocese has the following vacancies:

**Health and Safety Officer** - required to co-ordinate all aspects of health and safety across the Diocese, ensuring that all Diocesan properties and activities conducted in and around them are safe and without risk as far as reasonably practicable. Based at the Diocesan Offices in Newcastle with extensive travel throughout the Diocese. Closing date: 11th January.

**Administrator** for St John XXIII Parish, Washington and St Joseph's Parish, Birtley ... 16 hours per week, 12 month fixed term contract. Closing date: 15th January.

**Administrator** for the Department for Safeguarding ... a full-time post on a 12 month fixed term contract. The closing date: is 16th January. For further information and details of how to apply please visit the diocesan website [www.rcdhn.org.uk](http://www.rcdhn.org.uk) or contact 0191 243 3301, email [human.resources@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:human.resources@diocesehn.org.uk)