



Offertory Collection

Saturday 24th February: £249.64

Change of Mass

Please note: There is a Service of Word and Communion on Monday 5th March as Fr Peter is celebrating a Requiem Mass at Morpeth.

Stations of the Cross & Benediction

We will celebrate Stations of the Cross followed by Benediction, every Sunday afternoon during Lent here at St Bede's at 4.00pm. Stations of the Cross are also celebrated at St Robert's Church at Morpeth, every Thursday evening at 7.00pm and Saturday morning at 10.30am., immediately after the 10am Mass.



Partnership Stations of the Cross

Throughout Lent, there will be Partnership Stations of the Cross to which we invite you to participate and to move around the partnership churches. These will be held on:

- ◇ Wednesday 7th March at 7.00pm at The Sacred Heart & St. Cuthbert, Amble
- ◇ Thursday 22nd March at 7.00pm at St. Robert of Newminster, Morpeth

Meditation on the Passion of Christ

There will be a special evening Service 'No Greater Love Than This' a meditation in song and picture, on the Passion of Jesus Christ, to be held here at St Bede's Church, Bedlington on Wednesday 14th March at 7.00pm.

Family Fast

CAFOD Lenten Family Fast Day was on Friday 23rd February. If you still wish to make a donation, there are CAFOD envelopes on the table in the Narthex. Please your donations in the basket in the Narthex.

Churches Together Lenten Lunches

Bedlington Churches Together are serving Lenten lunches each Thursday at 12 noon during Lent at **Trinity Church**. Please come along and support us. [Soup and a bun will be provided by churches as follows: 8th March by Bedlington Christian Fellowship; 15th March and 22nd March by Trinity Church.

Lenten Lunches at St Robert's.

Lenten Lunches are served each Friday during the Season of Lent at St Robert's Church, Morpeth at 12noon. All welcome. All funds raised will go to CAFOD and Mary's Meals.



"Open Our Hearts Lord"

There is to be an afternoon of prayer and reflection as we journey through Lent, on **Tuesday March 6th**, from 2pm -4pm in St Robert's Hall, Morpeth. Everyone is welcome. If attending please let St Robert's know on ☎513410.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

We have Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on a Friday morning before Mass and it is a wonderful time for quiet prayer. Please come along if you are able to. *It is important when coming into the Narthex on a Friday morning not to talk too loudly as your voices are easily heard in Church.*

Service of Reconciliation

There will be a Partnership Service of Reconciliation, with several priests available for Confession, on Friday 23rd March at 7pm at St Bede's, Bedlington. This is a good opportunity for people from across the partnership to come together and to join in this a special service seeking forgiven and peace from the Lord.

Marriage Preparation Course



A Marriage Preparation Course is being held at St Robert's on Saturday 17th March from 10am to 5pm. This will be led by Lyn and Ben Cole from St Robert's who have recently undergone extensive training with Marriage Care. It costs £50 per couple for the Marriage Preparation, and the parish will cover the costs of the day, as well as a Buffet Lunch, for those from the parish. Those getting married this year are asked to confirm their attendance at this meeting.

Rosary on the Coast

We have signed our Partnership up to take part in "Rosary on the Coast". This is being held on Sunday 29th April around the British coast. Our Partnership will meet at St Bartholomew's Anglican Church at Church Point, Newbiggin, but the Rosary will be prayed together outside, as an Act of Witness. Many thanks to the Churchwardens at St Bartholomew's for allowing use of their Church. You can find full details of this initiative on the website www.rosaryonthecoast.co.uk and why we are doing this in the UK. We hope you will feel able to join in this great act of witness,



Life Teen Group Volunteers

Fr Peter would like to organise a "core group of adult volunteers", especially some young adults, who would be willing to help run a Life Teen Group for year 7 and above and also some catechesis for Years 5, 6, 7 and 8. We need parishioners who are able to share their faith with our young teenagers and present the material from Life Teen, and to support the work of our new Youth Coordinator on Life Teen. We need to start this as soon as possible, so that we can support our young people in their faith. A meeting will be held on Monday 19th March at 7pm. In St Robert's. In the meantime, if you are interested please speak to Fr Peter.

Holy Week and Easter

This year we will be sharing our celebrations with the people from St Robert's Parish, Morpeth.

- The Mass of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated at 7pm at St Robert's Church Morpeth and we encourage parishioners from St Bede's, Bedlington to go to Morpeth to join in the celebration there.
- Good Friday Services at 3pm will be held in both St Robert's and St Bede's, and both Fr Peter and Deacon Stephen will be able to lead these services.
- The Easter Vigil will be celebrated at St Bede's, Bedlington at 8pm and the parishioners from St Robert's are encouraged to attend the Vigil Mass at Bedlington.
- There will be only the 9am and 11am Masses on Easter Sunday at St Robert's. No 6pm Mass.

Preparing for Holy Week and Easter

Many thanks to those who attended the meeting to discuss practical preparations for Holy Week and Easter. We will be putting up a list of the various "jobs" that need to be done at our Masses. For those people who would like to get involved as musicians or in helping to lead the singing, there will be some practices for the music ...

- Wednesday 7th March, 7pm at St Robert's Church
- Wednesday 14th March, 7pm at St Roberts Church.
- Wednesday 21st March, 7pm practice at St Bede's Church with all singers attending (with organist)
- Tuesday 27th March, 7pm practice at St Bede's Church with all singers, organist and instrumentalists attending in preparation for Holy Thursday and Easter Vigil Masses.

Opportunity for Confession during Lent

We have Confessions regularly on a Saturday evening from 5pm—5.20pm. Have you thought of making that extra effort during Lent to go to Confession? Have you asked yourself when was the last time you were at Confession? Is it more than six months? Is it more than a year ago? Are you a young member of the Parish who hasn't been to Confession for some time? Confessions are also available on a Saturday morning between 11am and 12 noon at St Robert's Church, Morpeth Why not come along and experience God's love for us in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Lenten Alms: Donations for Lent in the box please, supporting the work of St Cuthbert's Care

Minsteracres Quiet Days

Coming up at Minsteracres, quiet days of reflection during Lent:

- Wednesday 7th March – Kathryn Turner;
- Wednesday 14th March – Sr. Anne McCarthy RSCJ;
- Wednesday 21st March – Sr. Sheila McNamara RSCJ;
- Karen Kilby will lead a day on the theme 'Love and suffering' on Saturday 10th March, 10.00am - 4.00pm, with lunch provided.

Please contact 01434 673248 to book a place.

Justice and Peace Refugee Project

The Justice and Peace Project in Newcastle is helping many asylum seekers and refugees and is seeking support in terms of food items and men's clothing. Food items needed are: tinned corned beef, fish, tinned tomatoes, chick peas, rice, cooking oil, sugar, biscuits. Men's clothing, trainers, boots, jackets, sweaters. Please leave donations in the bin labelled 'Justice and Peace donations' in the Narthex. Many thanks.

Northern Men's Pilgrimage

The annual Northern Men's Pilgrimage to the National Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham will take place on Friday and Saturday the 29th / 30th June and Sunday 1st July. The cost which includes coach travel, bed, breakfast and evening meals plus a traditional Sunday lunch before the return home is £150. A deposit of £50 is needed to secure a place. For details contact John Ross Tel 0191 4404391 or John Robertson Tel 0191 4877790.

Novena to St Joseph for Mill Hill Missionaries

The National Novena to St Joseph will take place from 10th—18th March 2018 at St Joseph's Church in Maidenhead and Herbert House, Freshfield, Liverpool. Each year Mill Hill Missionaries prepare for the Feast of St Joseph, their Patron, with a special Novena of Masses and prayers to ask God's blessing for their Society and the missionary outreach of the Church, as well as for the intentions of all those who support their work. You are invited to send in your petitions and/or to request a Novena booklet to enable you to join in from home by praying the daily Novena prayer. Please write to Fr Liam Cummins MHM, St Joseph's Missionary Society, 58 Cookham Road, Maidenhead, SL6 7HT, or email: novenahm@gmail.com

Altar Servers for Holy Week

Altar Servers are asked to let Deacon Stephen or Fr Peter know if they are able to serve any of the Holy Week Masses and Services.



Masses and Services Times and Intentions

Saturday 3rd March	5.30pm Mass	Margaret Faulder	3rd Sunday Lent
Sunday 4th March	4.00pm	Stations of the Cross and Benediction	
Monday 5th March	10.00am Service	Service of Word and Communion	Weekday of Lent
Tuesday 6th March	10.00am Service	Service of Word & Communion	Weekday of Lent
Wednesday 7th March	10.00am Mass	Mary Richardson	<i>Ss Perpetua & Felicity</i>
Thursday 8th March	10.00am Service	Service of Word & Communion	<i>St John of God</i>
Friday 9th March	10.00am Mass	Hazel McDonald	Weekday of Lent
Saturday 10th March	5.30pm Mass	Ralph Slmpson	4th Sunday Lent

Devotions this week

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Friday	9.20am - 9.50am
Sacrament of Reconciliation	Saturday	5.00pm - 5.15pm
The Rosary	Saturday	5.00pm
Stations of the Cross and Benediction	Sunday	4.00pm

Please pray for:

- all who are sick, especially the housebound and those in hospital,
- all who have died, including **Rosemary McCafferty** whose Requiem Mass will be celebrated here on Friday 16th March; and all whose anniversaries occur at this time



Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions for March 2018

Formation in Spiritual Discernment: That the Church may appreciate the urgency of formation in spiritual discernment, both on the personal and communitarian levels.

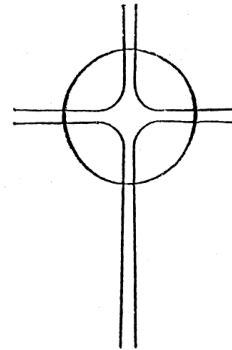
Baptism Preparation



The next meeting for Baptism Preparation will be held on Thursday 19th April at 6.30pm. Any parents wishing to organise a Baptism should make an appointment to discuss this with Fr. Peter. For Baptism, one parent of the child to be baptised must be a baptised Catholic. Mass on a Saturday Evening or a Sunday is expected. One of the godparents is also expected to be a practising Catholic. We ask parents also to attend the Baptism Preparation meeting. These meetings alternate between Morpeth and Bedlington. Parents should meet with Fr Peter to complete the paperwork. After the Baptism Course, the parents should then make an appointment to fix a date for a Baptism. PLEASE NOTE: dates are not usually given before the Baptism Preparation Meeting.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

Booking forms for the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes are now available from the Parish Office. The Pilgrimage is from 27th July to 3rd August, with a direct flight from Newcastle Airport. 2018 marks the 160th Anniversary of the Apparitions in Lourdes to St Bernadette. See Fr Peter for further details or for a Booking Form. The pilgrimage has a Youth Section for all 15 to 25 year olds. The pilgrimage also runs a special section for those who need care and assistance. Please speak to Fr Peter for further details.



ST BEDE'S BEDLINGTON

Catholic Row, Bedlington, NE22 6HS Tel: 01670 823258

Email: bedebedlington@live.co.uk

Parish Website: www.stbedesbedlington.co.uk

Parish Priest: Fr Peter Stott

Tel 01670 513410 Email: peterjstott@aol.com

Parish Deacon: Rev Stephen Boulter

Christian writers tend to see the episode when Jesus overturned the Temple traders' tables as a sign of the human side of Jesus. He was genuinely angry and lashed out at those who were abusing the real purpose of the Temple.

One such writer, Origen, points out that each one of us has to allow our own tables to be overturned if we are to worship God in spirit and in truth. And Lent is the time for clearing the decks of those obstacles that prevent us from serving God to the best of our ability.

If we're honest then we'll admit that there are many things that get in the way of our spiritual life. We know how we'd like to be, but we never seem to get round to it. It's not that we're headline sinners. It's just that we tend to drift. Perhaps we need to allow Jesus to overturn the tables of our lives and to chase out what is getting in the way.

Origen points out that the cattle in the Temple represent attachment to earthly things, since they require constant husbandry and need looking after at all times. The sheep symbolise the senseless way in which we act, wandering without rhyme or reason. The doves conjure up images of empty and unstable thoughts, or 'flightiness', while the coins of the moneychangers portray all that we strive for but which brings us no good.



Jesus says that for true worship to happen in the Temple all these things need to be cleared out. And the same is true of our lives. Lent gives us the chance to reset our sense of values, to ask ourselves whether all the effort we put into getting and having, into consuming and spending, into keeping up appearances is really doing us any good. And St Paul hints that if we go with the flow then we are probably missing the boat. For what God asks of us seems foolish to those who do not believe. Whereas, in fact, God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom.

Third Sunday of Lent - 4th March 2018