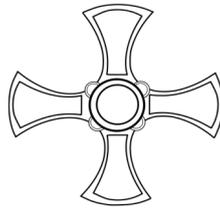


**Saint Bede's
Catholic Church**
Catholic Row
BEDLINGTON
NE22 6HS



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

PARISHES OF THE BRINKBURN PARTNERSHIP, NORTHUMBERLAND

Parish Priest: Father Peter J Stott

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

Parish Deacon: Reverend Stephen Boulter

St Bede's Presbytery, Catholic Row, Bedlington, NE22 6HS
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www.strobertsmorpeth.com | www.stbedesbedlington.co.uk | Northumberland Listening Service 07732 980740

Sunday 23rd May 2021 - Pentecost Sunday

The disciples who for weeks had hidden away for fear of the Jews, suddenly started behaving in an astonishing way. They came out of hiding and started teaching in many languages. What had got into them? Quite simply, the Holy Spirit had got into them as Jesus had promised. Those previously terrified people were suddenly filled with courage, energy, inspiration, purpose and conviction.

What is truly exciting about the Pentecost story is that we too have been given that very same Spirit in our baptism. So if we have received the same Spirit as was breathed into those first disciples, why can't we rush round doing amazing things too? One answer might be that we haven't really tried yet. One answer might be that to date we haven't really been tested? Another answer perhaps is that we can't quite place our faith in it. How sad though if the Pentecost story is simply a story contained by the past. How sad if we don't believe the men and women of our own time whose inspirational lives and huge courage point to the work of the Holy Spirit ... men and women who far from being super human were born just the same as the rest of us.

The Holy Spirit is given to all of us, and with it comes the power to transform the world ... the first disciples knew it ... now it's our turn.



NEWSLETTERS AND MISALLETTES: If you are holding this Newsletter, or a Mass Sheet, as a paper copy in Church on Sunday, please remember that you MUST take it away with you. COVID-19 guidelines state that because you have handled it, you cannot just put it back on the table at the back of Church. It's handy to have a Newsletter at home and good to reflect on today's readings in the Missalette! If you do not wish to keep it, please leave it in your bench and it will be immediately destroyed by those who will tidy and clean the Church after Mass.



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 family members, parishioners, those we know who are unwell; we pray for those in hospital, recovering from or awaiting surgery; and at this difficult time of Pandemic we pray for all suffering from COVID-19; please remember all who have died recently; and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Collections, Standing Orders and BACS Payments

Thank you to all who are regularly contributing to our collections now that Mass has resumed. If you are not attending Mass yet, you can drop your Offering or Offerory Envelopes at the Presbytery or 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.



Copies of the Mandates for setting up a New Standing Order are available on our parish websites. Please contact the Parish Office at Morpeth for more details.

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

Vacancy for a Parish Secretary

With the help of the Diocesan Human Resources Department, an advert has gone live for the post of **Parish Secretary at St Bede's**. Full details are now on the Diocesan Website - www.rcdhn.org.uk Closing date for Applications is 1st June. Full Job Description and all information on how to apply is available on the website and from the Human Resources Department ... human.resources@diocesehn.org.uk or post to Amy Rossiter, Human Resources Officer, Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle, St Cuthbert's House, West Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE15 7PY.

Organ Fund

If you wish to make a donation towards the costs of the refurbishment of the Organ at St Robert's Church, please use the bank details in this newsletter. Any contribution towards this will be greatly received. If handing into the Presbytery, or making a BACS donation, please indicate your name and "Organ" somewhere, so that it can be identified.



Thanks to our Stewards

I continue to be very thankful for the two teams of stewards at St Bede's and St Robert's Churches, who do a magnificent job welcoming you into Church. It's not a glamorous role, but one which we need to have at this time. They welcome you into Church, invite you to sanitize your hands, make sure you are complying with the UK Law by wearing a face covering and then sign you in and lead you to your seat. After Mass, after inviting you forward for Holy Communion, they sanitise each bench that has been used at Mass, as well as the many "touch points" that those at Mass have touched during their time in Church. They have given of their time since last Summer to be at Church early, and they stay behind afterwards for at least fifteen minutes for the cleaning. Very many thanks to all our stewards, your volunteering is greatly appreciated. Without your help we could never have opened our churches. *Fr Peter*



Booking for Mass

Each week more and more people are trying to book for Sunday Mass, but our places remain limited. At the moment, and until 21st June at least (Step 4 of the Roadmap), we are still bound by our limited availability (36 at St Robert's / 35 at St Bede's; more, if families/households sit together), so we ask that you book for the Vigil / Sunday Mass, so that we know how many will be attending.



To book your place at the Vigil Mass at St Bede's Church
Please call St Bede's Presbytery ☎ 01670 823 258
any evening from 6.30pm - 8.30pm

To book your place at Sunday Mass at St Robert's Church
Please call St Robert's Presbytery ☎ 01670 513 410
Monday - Friday, 11am - 6pm

Please note: we do ask that everyone uses the same system to book, so please, it is preferred for you to ring to book your place. Please use the above numbers. If you book a place at Mass, but then find that you are unable to attend, we ask that you please call us or send an email, as soon as you know you are unable to attend, so that where possible we may be able to offer that place to someone who is waiting to come to Mass. By booking and not turning up you are actually preventing other people from attending.

Updated Covid-19 Notes

The Bishops' Conference of England and Wales have issued updated guidance now that the Government Roadmap is in Step 3. The information that directly affects us is given below ...

- The Bishops' emphasise two important things that we must continue to do when coming to Church ... sanitize our hands and wear face coverings, "to help reduce aerosol and droplet spread". In addition, the Bishop's have recommended that ...
- The cleaning of Church benches etc with detergent is the standard to continue to make sure that all touched surfaces are clean for those entering our churches.
- Congregational singing is not permitted in Church,
- We are unable to exchange a physical sign of peace.
- Holy Communion remains under one kind, but the priest can now announce "The Body of Christ" for each communicant
- We can now have votive candles once again, and we are now allowed to use incense once again.
- Thirty people are allowed at Baptisms and Weddings and increased numbers are now allowed at Funerals based on the capacity of the Church.
- Altar Servers and Sacristans are able to perform their ministry

Bishops' Reflection

The Bishops of England and Wales reflection on returning to Mass, following their recent Easter meeting is now available. "The Day of the Lord" can be accessed on the Bishops' Website - cbcew.org.uk - or via our Facebook page.

Weekday Masses

There is still no obligation to attend Sunday Mass, and it is also difficult to attend on a Sunday based on our restricted number. But we do have space at our weekday Mass at either St Bede's or St Robert's Churches. There is space, it is safe. Booking is not necessary for weekday Masses, but we ask that you give your details to the steward on arrival so that we know how many people are in church.

St Robert's Parish "You Tube" Channel

If you are unable to get to Mass you are now able to watch Mass from St Robert's Church on YouTube, which can be accessed on the internet, using a computer, tablet or your smartphone. Masses at St Robert of Newminster Church can now be viewed either LIVE or as a recording on the Parish YOUTUBE site - <http://bit.ly/StRobert> ... 10am on Tuesday and Thursday and 9am and 11am on Sunday. Links to this are also on our website and Facebook page.



Contact Tracing App

Please remember that you can check in for the Track and Trace system using the QR code that we have available in both Churches. When you come to Church, open the app on your phone and scan the code to record your presence.



Consent for the Live streaming

Please note: we have to make everyone aware that Livestreaming is taking place at St Robert's Church. As some people may appear on screen during Mass we have to inform you that if you are a Reader, an Altar Server, or even a Minister of Holy Communion, and you appear on screen you must be informed that that is happening in St Robert's Church because "If a person is potentially identifiable from their image being captured on a recording / stream at Mass, this is possibly personal data and Data Protection regulations apply".

Appeal for "IT support"



Thank you to those who offered to help with this appeal. No one has yet offered for I am Mass! Can you work a Tablet and an App for a remote camera? Are you able to work on a laptop. If anyone would be interested, please speak to Fr Peter.

Mass by Telephone

If you are unable to access the internet but still wish to be able to hear Mass, the Diocese of Middlesbrough has a system to allow people who do not have internet access to listen to Mass over the telephone. If you would like to access, the telephone number to call is (☎ 01642 130 120).

Children's Liturgy of the Word

While we are unable to hold Children's Liturgy in Church, St Robert's Parish Children's Liturgy of the Word via Zoom is held on a Sunday morning at 10am. The new link for the Zoom Children's Liturgy <https://zoom.us/j/99442437827?pwd=Q0FIMm8wVG9NY055NmJkRzhDbGUUT09>. If you have the "Zoom App" or downloaded the software, the Meeting ID is: 994 4243 7827 and the Passcode is : 017486. Grateful thanks to our Children's Liturgy team for coordinating this.



"Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem"

We must continue to pray for peace in the Holy Land. The ceasefire announced on Friday is so important for the lives of so many. Please continue to pray that this ceasefire will last and that all affected by the 11 days of fighting in Israel and Gaza will have the opportunity to rebuild their lives. Pray also all those who have their lives, or been injured, during the eleven days of fighting and for those whose homes have been destroyed.



Bishops' Pastoral Letter For Pentecost

Today at Masses throughout England and Wales a Pastoral Letter for the Feast of Pentecost on the Environment, is being read at all Catholic Churches.

Feast of St Bede

Tuesday 25th May is the Feast of St Bede. We pray for everyone in St Bede's Parish on that day and ask for the prayers of St Bede and God's blessing on the parish community as we begin to move forward and rebuild in the coming months.



The Wednesday Word

Wednesday Word Reflections on the Sunday readings for both adults and children can be accessed at wednesdayword.org This a wonderful resource to help focus on our Sunday Readings. Edited by Dom Henry Wansborough OSB of Ampleforth Abbey it is a wonderful resource for both parishes and for Schools to help focus on the forthcoming Sunday readings.



Sacrament of Reconciliation

Confessions are now possible, in a socially distanced manner, but we haven't fixed a set time yet for Confessions. If anyone needs confession, please speak to Fr Peter. If anyone needs to speak to a priest about anything that is urgent or bothering, please ring and have a chat and speak to Fr Peter and we see what we can do to help those in spiritual need. At all times, Fr Peter is available for those who need to talk! Hopefully we can resume as normal in several weeks time,



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. Please feel free to print off copies for yourself and if possible pass them on to others.



Mary's Meals

Mary's Meals regularly asks us to support them with funds for their work, and all that we donate helps them tremendously. However, they also know that they can't do without our prayers and they are aware that many people support their mission through prayer. They would like to invite you to receive their monthly prayer email 'Loaves and Fishes', which focuses on the different ways we can reflect on and pray for their work. To sign up to their mailing list, visit - marysmeals.org.uk/prayer - and sign up to receive the email



First Holy Communion Preparation

The First Holy Communion preparation is taking place in our schools this year. But it is important that our children also remember that they are preparing for two sacraments - the Sacrament of Confession and the Sacrament of the Most Holy Eucharist in Holy Communion. Although we have restrictions at the moment, I do encourage parents to try to book in for Mass with their children. If it is impossible to get in for Mass, then please try to log on for the Children's Liturgy at 10am on a Sunday (see above for details). Please don't hesitate to speak to Fr Peter if there are any problems.



Sacrament of Confirmation

We have to begin thinking about the Sacrament of Confirmation for the young people in our Partnership. We will be aiming to reach all the young people in Year 9 and above at the time of Confirmation. Please begin the conversations at home with your son or daughter as we start to think of how we will prepare for this.

Preparing for Baptism

We are very grateful to our Baptism catechists who have agreed to lead some preparation meetings for those parents preparing for Baptism. If the Government roadmap progresses as planned, there will be a Baptism Preparation Meeting in July at St Robert's and one in September at St Bede's Church. Parents are asked to contact us to make arrangements.

Praying with Mary during May

The Vatican's Pontifical Council for the New Evangelisation is urging us to join with people throughout the world to pray for end to the Covid-19 pandemic. Marian Shrines throughout the world have been leading on this initiative thought May. Further information with a list of Shrines taking part and a Liturgy are available on www.pcpne.va The prayers will be broadcast live on the official channels of the Holy See.



As part of the Rosary Stronghold Mission across England, Wales and Scotland, a National Rosary Day of Prayer has been arranged for the intentions of our young people and for the mission of our Catholic schools and youth associations. This will take place on **Monday 24th May, the Feast of "Our Lady, Mother of the Church"** and Bishop Robert is encouraging all our schools to take part in this.



On Sunday 30th May, there will be a National Rosary Relay Rally across the Dioceses of the British Isles. The allocated Rosary Hour for Hexham and Newcastle Diocese is from 4pm - 5pm. Bishop Robert is encouraging us to pray together at this time.



Food Donations

As you are unable to leave donations in Church, due to the Diocesan Health and Safety restrictions, there is still a great need for this food. The most useful items are: tinned fish, tinned tomatoes, tinned chickpeas, biscuits, rice, sugars and toilet rolls. Toiletries such as shampoo, shower gel, deodorant and toothpaste are also very useful. Please do not donate tinned meat or baked beans. All donations can be left with Donald Marr at 3 Cottingvale, Morpeth. Please phone ☎ 01670 505573 before, to arrange a drop off time, and leave a message if there is no reply. Alternatively, you could leave donations with Gerry and Eileen Harber, 22, Dacre Street, Morpeth Please phone ☎ 01670 517829. Thankyou.



Masses and Intentions this week

	St Robert of Newminster Church Morpeth	St Bede's Church Bedlington
Saturday 22nd May <i>Weekday of Easter / St Rita</i>		5.30pm Vigil: Special Intention [FS] (MB)
Sunday 23rd May Pentecost Sunday	9.00am Mass: People of the Parish 11.00am Mass: Dcd Mbrs of the Cole Family	
Monday 24th May <i>Mary, Mother of The Church</i>		10.00am Mass: Kathleen Torkington
Tuesday 25th May <i>St Bede</i>	10am Mass: Joseph McCole	
Wednesday 26th May <i>St Philip Neri</i>		10.00am Mass: John & Catherine McGinn
Thursday 27th May <i>Our Lord Jesus Christ, Eternal High Priest</i>	10.00am Mass: Patricia Jameson	
Friday 28th May <i>Weekday</i>		10.00am Mass: Fr Ronnie Richmond [NBF]
Saturday 29th May <i>St Paul VI</i>		5.30pm Vigil: Juliana Orlanda
Sunday 30th May The Most Holy Trinity	9.00am Mass: People of the Parish 11.00am Mass: Dolly Brew	

The Holy Father Pope Francis' Intentions for May 2021

The World of Finance: Let us pray that those in charge of finance will work with governments to regulate the financial sphere and protect citizens from its dangers.



The Year of St Joseph



Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ became man.

Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage,
and defend us from every evil. Amen.

COVID-19 In India - CAFOD Appeal

India is facing a devastating second wave of coronavirus. The country has confirmed more than 20 million cases and more than 200,000 deaths, with some reports concerned that the number of deaths is just the tip of the iceberg, because of under reporting. The pandemic has put a strain on the medical infrastructure of the country, with hospitals unable to cope with the influx of patients. Our Catholic aid agencies will be distributing medical kits and setting up temporary treatment centres as well as providing PPE to frontline health workers. You can help by donating online at www.cafod.org.uk/News/Emergencies-news/India-coronavirus-response



Becoming a Catholic

If anyone at Bedlington or Morpeth is thinking about becoming a Catholic, please contact Fr Peter as soon as possible. I would like to try and plan our Journey in Faith programme for later in the year, so that we can prepare our new candidates for Reception into the Church, so I ask those interested to speak to Fr Peter as soon as possible.



Hassockfield / Medomsley Appeal

In October this year, the UK government plans to open an Immigration Removal Centre at Hassockfield on the site of the former Medomsley Detention Centre, near Consett, Co Durham. This will be for 80 women seeking asylum in the UK. A campaign group has described this proposal as "inhumane, unjust and incompatible with our faith which calls us to recognise the intrinsic dignity of each person. These women are not criminals to be locked up, but people like ourselves who have the right to a place of safety and to be treated with respect and compassion". An interfaith prayer service will take place on Sunday 23rd May at 3.00pm as part of a united faith response against Hassockfield. The Youth Ministry Team will join with the Faith Witness and will go live at the same time on YMT's Facebook page.

Northumberland Listening Service

The Northumberland Listening Service has been running for several years, set up by the local catholic parishes in Northumberland. 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.

