

Advent Service of Reconciliation

The Partnership Parishes will be celebrating an Advent Service of Reconciliation and all priests of the partnership will be present to celebrate this. It will be held at St Aidan's Church, Ashington on Friday 15th December at 7.00 pm, You are encouraged to come along and celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Advent 2017

Over the next month, many of us will be busy getting ready for Christmas. We all want to be prepared and ready for the Festival. As Christians, there is another dimension to our 2being prepared2. Alongside the presents and the turkey we also work on being spiritually prepared for this major feast which brings us to a manger in a small town 2,000 years ago. It is a very beautiful feast celebrating the birth of a baby whose life and death was to change the world.

Our Advent resources offer a variety of ways to help us to "be prepared" either on line or CD. Further ideas contact 0191 2433302 or email.

Children's Liturgy Study Day

The diocesan department for Liturgy have arranged a Study Day for Catechists on Saturday 3rd February from 10.30 am to 3.30 pm at St Hilda's Resource Centre in Newcastle. Booking is essential and because these places usually fill up very quickly. The parish office has the booking form if anyone is interested in attending, but be quick to let us know if you wish to go.

Tea and Coffee will be served after vigil Mass tonight in in the Parish Hall. Proceeds of our Saturday evening refreshments will be for the Diocesan Hospitalité of Our Lady of Lourdes.

SVP Christmas Appeal to help Baby Feeding Stations in Sudan

Every year St Bede's Conference supports this worthy charity. The retiring SVP collections this weekend and next will be donated to this cause. Last year over £33,000 was raised throughout the country. More information on notice board in Narthex.

The Matthew Project

A special request for Christmas

As you will know this project provides support for local families in need and thank you for your donations throughout the year. However, to make Christmas parcels more joyful please could you donate "luxury" items such as biscuits, tinned fruit and desserts, sweets and toiletries. Place donations in the designated bin in the narthex and note that the Christmas season can extend well into January! Many thanks for your support.

Knitters needed

Churches Together in Bedlingtonshire (CTiB) are involved with a charity sending knitted blankets and garments to people in need overseas. Currently donations are being sent to refugees in Eastern European countries. If you are able to donate your knitting skills please see the notice board in the narthex for further information or contact Diane Wallace at di.wallace@btinternet.com or 07941 338936.

Diocesan Vacancy

Refugee Project Worker, Newcastle upon Tyne for 18 hours per week. Closing date 6th December. Further details please visit website www.rcdhn.org.uk or contact 0191 2433301, email: human.resources@diocesehn.org.uk.

Nativity Plays

Years 5 and 6 at St Bede's Primary School will be performing a Nativity Play in Church on Tuesday 19th December at 5.00 pm and Wednesday 19th December at 2.00 pm. All are welcome.

Advance Notice—Christmas

- **St Bede's.** Bedlington, Saturday 23rd December - 4th Sunday in Advent, Vigil Mass at 5.30 pm; Sunday 24th December - Christmas Vigil Mass at **6.00 pm**.
- **St Robert's.** Sunday 24th December - 4th Sunday in Advent at Masses at 9.00 and 11.00 am. Sunday 24th December, Carols at 11.30 pm followed by Midnight Mass at **12.00 am** Monday 25th December Mass at **10.00 am** Friday 5th January 2018 Epiphany Carol Service at 6.30 pm.
- **Brinkburn Partnership.** For Mass times at other Churches in Partnership please see Brinkburn Partnership newsletter.

Partnership Newsletter

Copies of our Brinkburn Partnership newsletter edition for Advent and Christmas are now available in the Narthex. It contains all the times of Christmas Masses for Amble, Ashington, Bedlington, Longhorsley and Morpeth. Please take a copy. Further copies will be available.

Vocation Discernment

For those thinking about Priesthood (aged 16 and over). The next meeting will be on Tuesday 19th December 2017 (Christmas event) at St Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle between 6.30 and 8.30 pm, an evening of prayer and reflection with an opportunity to listen to speakers talk about their own discernment, faith journeys and vocations. Further details are available on the poster in church or from the diocesan vocations Promoter Fr David Smith on 0191 2676063.

World Gifts Catalogue

Are you struggling what to buy your best friend for Christmas? Does your dad want more socks that he doesn't need? Does your mum want more chocolates that she probably doesn't really want? We have received a number of World Gifts Catalogues from CAFOD. This gives you the opportunity to give a World Gift in the name of a family member or friend, while at the same time providing something that is much needed in more struggling parts of the world. There are many gifts that you can choose from. Please take a catalogue and think about what you can do to help someone else this year.

The Pope John Paul II Award Scheme

The Pope John Paul II Award Scheme is being launched once again for the current Academic Year. If there are any young Catholics in High School who may be interested in taking part in this Award Scheme, please contact Fr Peter or Joe Gallagher, our Parish Coordinator for the award.

Mass and Service Times and Intentions

Saturday 9th December	5.30 pm vigil Mass	Margaret Faulder	2nd Sunday of Advent
Monday 11th December	10.00 am Mass	David & Angela Robertson	Weekday of Advent
Tuesday 12th December	10.00 am	<i>Word and Communion Service</i>	Weekday of Advent
Wednesday 13th December	10.00 am Mass	Kevin & Sylvia Blackburn	St Lucy
Thursday 14th December	10.00 am	<i>Word and Communion Service</i>	St John of the Cross
Friday 15th December	10.00 am Mass	Joe & Mina Doyle	Weekday of Advent
Saturday 16th December	5.30 pm Vigil Mass	Jack Peace	3rd Sunday of Advent

Devotions this Week

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Friday 9.20 - 9.50 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 5.00 pm - 5.15 pm

The Rosary: Saturday 5.00 pm

Please pray for:

- all who are sick,
- all who have died.
- all whose anniversaries occur at this time.

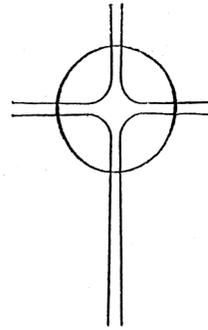
Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions for December 2017

Universal: For the elderly

That the elderly, sustained by families and Christian communities, may apply their wisdom and experience to spreading the faith and forming the new generations.

Offertory: Thanks for offertories: £268.50

Advent Alms Throughout Advent it is customary for us to support our local diocesan Charity, St Cuthbert's Care. They do great work in local communities throughout the diocese, supporting the elderly, the disabled, families and running day care centre, drop-ins, the Alan Shearer Centre and St Catherine's Care Home in Newcastle and Holy Cross Home in Sunderland. If you can support the work of St Cuthbert's Care in the weeks of Advent, please use a St Cuthbert's Care envelope, but if you cannot find one of them, place in an ordinary envelope making it clear that it is for Advent Alms: St Cuthbert's Care.



ST BEDE'S BEDLINGTON

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Email: bedebedlington@live.co.uk

Parish Website: www.stbedesbedlington.co.uk

Parish Priest: Fr Peter Stott

Rev Deacon: Stephen Boulter



**2nd Sunday of Advent
10th December 2017**