

<b>Mass and Service Times and Intentions</b>			
<b>Saturday 31st December</b>	5.30pm Vigil Mass	Mary & Tommy Devine	<b>Mary, the Mother of God</b>
<b>Monday 2nd January</b> <i>Bank Holiday</i>	10.00am Mass	Molly, Owen, Patrick Ruddy	<i>St Basil the Great and St Gregory Nazianzen</i>
<b>Tuesday 3rd January</b>	10.00am Word and Communion Service		<i>The Most Holy Name of Jesus</i>
<b>Wednesday 4th January</b>	10.00am Mass	Margaret Faulder	<i>Weekday before Epiphany</i>
<b>Thursday 5th January</b>	10.00am Word and Communion Service		<i>Weekday before Epiphany</i>
<b>Friday 6th January</b>	10.00am Mass	James Chadwick	<i>Weekday before Epiphany</i>
<b>Saturday 7th January</b>	5.30pm Vigil Mass	Sarah & James Craik & family	<b>Epiphany of the Lord</b>



<b>Devotions this week</b>		
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Friday	9.20am - 9.50 am
Sacrament of Reconciliation	Saturday	5.00pm - 5.15 pm
The Rosary	Saturday	5.00pm

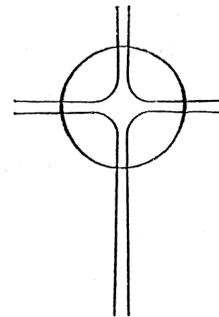
**Please pray for:**

- Peter Nixon and all who are sick, including and all who have died recently, including **Tommy Alderson** of Bridge View Nursing Home and whose Funeral Service will be held on Thursday 12th January at 11.15 am here at St Bede's Church.
- James Chadwick and all whose anniversaries occur at this time.
- Openness to the Word of God; Migrants and Refugees; Expectant Mothers.

**Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions for January 2017**

Christian Unity. That all Christians may be faithful to the Lord's teaching by striving with prayer and fraternal charity to restore ecclesial communion and by collaborating to meet the challenges facing humanity.

**Thanks** for offertories 17.12.16 £301.90  
25.12.16 £971.82  
December SOs £784.67



# ST BEDE'S BEDLINGTON

Catholic Row, Bedlington, NE22 6HS  
Tel: 01670 823258 / [bedebedlington@live.co.uk](mailto:bedebedlington@live.co.uk)  
Parish Website: [www.stbedesbedlington.co.uk](http://www.stbedesbedlington.co.uk)  
Parish Priest: Fr Peter Stott Tel: 01670 513 410  
[morpeth.strobertnewminster@rcdhn.org.uk](mailto:morpeth.strobertnewminster@rcdhn.org.uk)

Mary's destiny had been revealed to her by the Angel Gabriel. Joseph too had been foretold in a dream of the virgin birth. But just in case there were any malingering doubts, to have a gang of excited shepherds gate-crash the stable retelling the news that the angels had brought to them out on the hills, must have been wonderfully reassuring for the new parents. Mary certainly had plenty to ponder. For Mary there was a fast unravelling realisation that she was part of God's plan. The birth of the new baby represented a new and exciting beginning, not only for Mary, but for us all.

The first day of the year is the day the Church sets aside for honouring Mary. Mary represents true discipleship. Mary exhibits a life of hearing, seeing, and telling of God's marvellous deeds. Mary inspires us to consider deeply the significance of events in our own lives. How much in our lives is valuable and how much is not? Do we journey through life oblivious to the world around us, or do we resolve to make some kind of impact? If to date we have moved blinkered through life, wasting the opportunities that God has scattered in our path, now is the time to make a fresh start. Now is the time to make a fresh start based not on the values of our celebrity driven society, but on the model of Mary's selfless love.



If Mary had made a new year's resolution in that stable all those years ago, it probably would have been to make herself an instrument for God's will. As for our own resolutions, we could live another year of frustration and disappointment, or we could resolve to make Mary our model, and look harder for God's direction in our lives.

**Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God  
Saturday 31st December 2016**

**Tea and Coffee** is usually served after Mass every Saturday evening in the Hall. We will be back to normal next Saturday.

### Welcome

If you are new to our parish or you are a visitor to Bedlington and attending our church this weekend, we hope you feel very welcome amongst us. If you are new, do we have your contact details?

### Advent Alms

Advent Alms supports the work of St Cuthbert's Care. They have two Catholic Nursing Homes, one in Sunderland, Holy Cross, the other in Newcastle St Catherine's, which provide invaluable peace of mind to older people with no family and minimal income.



Combined efforts from parishes have raised over £17,000 towards their Hardship Fund and all ongoing support is greatly appreciated. If you would like to find out more about the work of St Cuthbert's Care, or are able to gift a little of your time to volunteer, please contact Nicola Milne on 0191 242 4809 or email Nicola on [nicola.milne@stcuthbertscare.org.uk](mailto:nicola.milne@stcuthbertscare.org.uk)

### Epiphany Carol Service

There will be an Epiphany Carol Service, at St Robert's Church, Morpeth on Friday 6th January at 6.30pm. ☆

We will have Tea and Coffee in the Church Hall afterwards.

We do hope you will be able to come along and continue the celebrations of the birth of Jesus Christ.



### Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

We have Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament every 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



### White Flower Appeal

The Annual White Flower Appeal will be held on Saturday 7th January at the Vigil Mass to support the work of the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children. In 2017 SPUC is commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the passing of the 1967 Abortion Act, during which time over 8.7 million unborn children have lost their right to life. SPUC works tirelessly to uphold the sanctity of human life. There will be a collection on the way out of church next week to support their work and if you can we ask you to support them.

### GIFT AID - Helping the Parish

If you are a UK taxpayer, the Parish can claim back from the Inland Revenue 25p of every £1 you give, at no cost or inconvenience to you. Setting up a Gift Aid arrangement helps St Bede's to increase its income, which is much needed for the upkeep of the church and the parish.



### Confirmation Programme

A joint area Confirmation programme is being arranged between St Paul's, Cramlington, St Paul's, Alnwick, St Aidan's, Ashington, and St. Bede's, Bedlington. This is due to begin in January and parish reps have met with staff from St Benet Biscop Academy, who will be coordinating this with Year 9 and above. More information soon about this.



### Getting Involved in Parish Life

What can you offer to your parish? Is there something not happening in the parish that you would like to see, or indeed like to lead? Are there ways you might be actively involved in the life of our parish? You might have skills yet unseen in our parish!! Whatever way you think you can be involved, whether in one of the parish ministries or if you think you are able to do something that would benefit the parish, please speak to Fr Peter

### Northern Catholic Calendar

Copies of the 2017 edition of The Northern Catholic Calendar are now available. This little book contains the lists of all parishes in the diocese, and contact details for all priests, deacons and religious as well as other organisations in the diocese. Price £2.50 per copy.

### Preparing for Baptism

For Baptism, one parent of the child to be baptised must be a baptised Catholic. Mass on a Saturday Evening / Sunday is expected; one of the godparents must also be a practising Catholic and we ask parents to attend the Baptism Preparation meeting. The next meeting will be held on Thursday 19th January at 6.30pm at St Bede's.

### Deputy Head Vacancy

St Bede's Primary School is seeking to appoint a new Deputy Head Teacher to begin in September 2017 and the advert is now out, on the diocesan website, parish website and school website. The closing date for applications is Monday 30th January at 12 noon. If you think you know a practising catholic teacher who would be ideal for our school, let them know about this vacancy for next year

### Disaster Emergency Collection

CAFOD is a member of the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) – a coalition of leading aid agencies which has launched an appeal to respond to the humanitarian crisis in Yemen. The civil war between the Houthi ethnic group and supporters of Yemen's government is now into its second year. The UN estimates that the conflict has killed more than 10,000 people, with 6,000 people killed this year alone. The resulting humanitarian crisis is significant. More than 7 million in Yemen do not know where their next meal will come from. CAFOD's partner in Yemen is providing humanitarian assistance in the form of food, water, medical care and shelter. You can find updates on the situation and how CAFOD are responding to this crisis. You can download prayers to use from the CAFOD website. Should you like to support this appeal, you can donate online or send in donations to CAFOD, which will be used towards responding to this crisis.