

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



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

Parishes of the St Benet Biscop Partnership, Northumberland

Parish Priest: Reverend Father Peter J Stott

St Robert's Presbytery, Collingwood House, Oldgate, Morpeth, NE61 1QF
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Deacon: Reverend Stephen Boulter | ✉ stephen.boulter@diocesehn.org.uk

Parish Secretary: Mary Carter

Office Hours This Week: Tuesday and Thursday at St Robert's, 9.30am—3.30pm | Wednesday at St Bede's, 9am – 5.30pm

www.strobertainmorpeth.com | www.stbedesbedlington.co.uk | Northumberland Listening Service ☎ 07732 980740

Second Sunday of Easter – Sunday 27th April 2025



Pope Francis | 1936—2025



2025 | A Year of Jubilee | "Pilgrims of Hope"





During Lent, we are asked to pray for: Candidates for the Sacraments; Women; The Needy and Hungry of the World; Penitents and Wanderers. Please pray for those we know who are unwell, remembering especially the Holy Father Pope Francis, as well as the many who have no one to pray for them; for those in hospital and for all undergoing treatment for serious illnesses. We pray for all who have died recently, including **Teresa Anne Bryce** (Bedlington) whose Requiem Mass will be celebrated on

Friday 2nd May at 10am at St Bede's Church, followed by Burial at Bockenfield; for **Bernard Lawrence "Larry" Moran** (Bedlington) whose Requiem Mass will be celebrated on Friday 9th May at 10am, followed by Burial at Bedlington Cemetery; and for all whose anniversaries occur at this time.


Offertory Collection 19th / 20th April

St Bede's Church: **£283.12** / St Robert's Church: **£880.26**

Standing Orders or Payments by BACS

If you wish to set up a Standing Order or make a BACS payment please contact us with an email for the Bank details, or call to the Parish Office.

Contactless Donations

St Robert's Church has a DONA machine for contactless / mobile phone donations to St Robert's Church (near to the main door/cards) 



Holy Places Collection

The Collection for the Holy Places, on Palm Sunday, for the people of the Holy Land and the ancient and religious sites there, raised **£688.00** at St Robert of Newminster Church.

Saturday Evening Refreshments

Donations for the next three months on a Saturday evening tea and coffee (April—June) will go towards the Alan Shearer Centre in Newcastle, run by St Cuthbert's Care in Newcastle.

Welcome into the Catholic Church

Very many congratulations to **Gemma Philips, David Knight and Kelly Coffey** who were welcomed into the Catholic Church last weekend. Today during the 11am Mass (Sunday 27th April) at St Robert's Church, we celebrate the Adult Baptism of **Augustine Morrissey**. Very many congratulations to Augustine on this very special occasion.

Journey in Faith Group

The next meeting of the Journey in Faith Group will be held on Thursday 8th May at 7pm in St Robert's Presbytery, looking at "Our Call to Holiness" and "Living the Virtues".

* Thursday 15th May – "Family Life" and "Evangelisation"

* Thursday 22nd May – Last Session – Congratulations!



First Holy Communion Preparation

There is a First Holy Communion Preparation session in the diary for 6th May (Bedlington) and 8th May (Morpeth). The First Holy Communion Mass at St Bede's Church will be held on Saturday 10th May, and, as there are three children from only two families involved this year, the Holy Communion celebration will take place during the 5.30pm Vigil Mass. The Mass at St Robert of Newminster Church will be celebrated at 10am on Saturday 17th May, for the sixteen children at St Robert's making their First Holy Communion. The final catechesis sessions will be held on 3rd June (Bedlington) and 5th June (Morpeth). Please keep them all in your prayers.



First Holy Communion Gifts

There will be a sale of First Holy Communion Cards and small gifts on Sunday 27th April, after both 9am and 11am Mass. These sales are done for the convenience of parishioners and are not designed to make a profit. Any very small profits are returned to parish funds.

Tea and Coffee After Mass

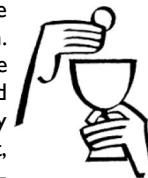
Tea and Coffee is served on a Saturday evening after Mass at St Bede's Church Hall and after the 9am Sunday Mass in St Robert's Church Hall. Everyone is invited in.

Welcome to Visitors

If you are on holiday and visiting our church during your holiday to the North East and Northumberland, then we hope you feel welcome here. If you're at Mass, introduce yourself to Fr Peter ... he loves to know where everyone's from!

** Breaking of the Sacred Host **

It has been noted that there are a few people who are breaking the host at Sunday Mass at St Robert's Church. **You are asked not to break the host**, because of the danger of the host falling apart / crumbs of the Blessed Sacrament falling away to the floor. Our hosts can easily break into pieces, so you are asked to consume the host, whole, in the form you receive it, immediately upon reception in your hand and to avoid the hosts, or parts of the sacred host falling away.



New to The Parish? Or a new house / contact details?



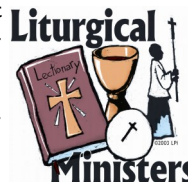
New parishioners are all very welcome, we are delighted that you are with us and we hope you feel at home in one of our churches. If you want to give us your details for parish records, please scan this QR code with your mobile or tablet and let us have your details for our parish register. If you have never given us your details before, please use this QR code to do so ... its very easy!

New Volunteers St Robert's Church

St Robert of Newminster Parish are looking for more parishioners to join the existing team of Welcomers for the 9am and 11am Sunday Masses. Also, if there is anyone who can read in public and wishes to go onto the Readers rota, for either of our Sunday Masses, please contact Father Peter or Elizabeth Dixon.

New Lay Leaders Course

A course to prepare new Lay Liturgical Leaders, to lead Services of Word and Communion, is being held by the Diocesan Liturgical Office and begins on **13th May in Newcastle**. Both St Bede's and St Robert's Parish could do with an extra leader or two - Bedlington only has one and at Morpeth there has been some standing down while others are going through illness and treatment. If you feel you could be the person able to lead Services of Word and Communion in our Church, please speak to Fr Peter. Fr Peter is asked to assess that those who do this are both willing, able and capable of leading these Services. The organisers also request that new candidates must be able to attend all six meetings that the diocese offers. There are six sessions, which helps new Liturgical Leaders of Celebrations of the Word and Holy Communion learn about this church ministry. The Course begins on 13th May 2025 and will be held at St Hilda's Diocesan Resource Centre, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE15 7PY. Please if you have the time for this, give it some thought and speak to Fr Peter as soon as possible as names have to be submitted by the end of April.



Divine Mercy Sunday Celebration

The Feast of Divine Mercy is the Sunday after Easter (27th April) and St Aidan's Church at Ashington will be holding a special afternoon of prayer to mark this, with ...

- 1.30pm Enthronement of Merciful Jesus and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Testimony and Confessions
- 2.15pm Chaplet of Divine Mercy and Mass
- 3pm Veneration of Image of Divine Mercy



St Robert of Newminster Bonus Ball

Numbers for the Bonus Ball Fundraiser will go on sale this weekend. Each number costs £10 for the 10 weeks of the draw. The first winning number will be the Bonus Ball taken from the National Lotto Draw on Saturday 18th May 2025. Each winner will receive £25. Good Luck.

St Bede's SVP

An annual report from St Bede's St Vincent de Paul Society has been posted on the Church noticeboard.

St Robert's SVP

The next meeting of St Robert's Conference of the Society of St Vincent de Paul will be on Wednesday 23rd April at 7.00 pm (note time!) in the upper Meeting Room of the Church Hall. The SVP are still looking for bicycles and there is a special request for a sewing machine if anyone has one they no longer need. Thanks to all who have already donated.

St Robert's Feast Day

A date for your diary: St Robert's Feast Day, 7th June. You are invited to an Organ Recital given by Mr Paul Richie in St Robert of Newminster Church at 2pm on Saturday 7th June, to celebrate the Feast of St Robert, followed by light refreshments in the Church Hall. Everyone welcome.

Preparing for Baptism

If you wish to organise a baptism, please discuss this with Fr Peter or Deacon Stephen. Please be aware that one parent must be a Catholic and you should be living in the parish. If you do not live within our parish you will be asked to speak to your own parish priest. The next Baptism Preparation Meeting will be held on May 8th at St Bede's Church. Parents should contact Fr Peter or Deacon Stephen so we can arrange to meet and make note of baby/parent/godparent details BEFORE the meeting. Please do not just turn up for the meeting, without speaking to Fr Peter or Deacon Stephen to confirm attendance beforehand.



The Partnership Sacrament of Confirmation 2025

- **A Parents' Meeting will be held at St Bede's on Friday 2nd May at 6pm.** Young Peoples Preparation will begin on Friday 9th May and take place each Friday at 5pm—7pm at St Bede's Church until Friday 13th June. Catechesis will involve five Sycamore Course videos and some sections of YouCat.
- Bishop Stephen will be with us at St Bede's Church, Bedlington on Friday 20th June to celebrate a Partnership Mass at 7pm for these young people.
- Any young people in Year 9 and above, who are Baptised and have celebrated their First Holy Communion, can be Confirmed. We currently have 33 names for this Course. Please scan this QR code to complete an Online Application Form.
- Any adults willing to help would be most welcome but must already possess a Diocesan DBS Certificate (if no DBS please consult Fr Peter asap)



St Robert's Bonus Ball

We will begin another Bonus Ball very soon, giving you the opportunity to take part in this Parish Fundraiser and the chance of a little flutter! Numbers will be on sale from next Sunday 27th April, following the 9am and 11am Masses. Each number costs £10 and that number will be yours for the 10 weeks. The winning number will be the Bonus Ball, taken from the National Lotto Draw on Saturday evening starting on Saturday 17th May 2025 and finishing on Saturday 19th July 2025. Each winner will receive £25. Good Luck.

Month of May Rosary Chain

As we approach the month of May, you will have the opportunity to take part in the Rosary Chain. All you have to do is sign the form at the back of St Robert's Church, to sign up, stating that you will say one decade of the rosary each day during the month of May. When all Mysteries / 20 decades are filled, we will be saying a complete Rosary each day.



Marys Meals: Pray in May

Pray for the children who eat Marys Meals. Throughout the month of May you are asked to pray for Marys Meals and the children who benefit. Since their humble beginnings, Marys Meals – named after Mary, the mother of Jesus – has been built on a foundation of prayer and the many little acts of love from all who support them. Throughout the month of May you are invite to pray that the work of Marys Meals continues to flourish and grow, and that more children will see their lives transformed by receiving our nutritious school meals. There is a range of resources on their website to help you get involved: Pray; Donate; Volunteer; Pray for Children of Southern Africa; Invite them to give a talk. You can also sign up for our mailing list to receive fortnightly prayer emails throughout May. While Marys Meals recognises the important place of prayer in their work, Mary's Meals consists of, respects, and reaches out to people of all faiths and none. www.marysmeals.org.uk



The National Shrine of Our Lady

The National Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham has a national fundraising campaign to support Jubilee initiatives and ongoing projects at the Shrine and Basilica in Norfolk. If you wish to make a donation, to support the Basilica and Shrine and help promote devotion to Our Lady of Walsingham, the details are:-

Account: Walsingham Trust
 Bank Name: Lloyds Bank
 Sort Code: 30-99-77
 Account No: 28909560



Assisted Dying Bill

The Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill is to be debated back in the House of Commons for its Third Reading on 16th May, delayed by three weeks for further consideration. It has undergone significant changes since an initial vote in Parliament in November. Some of the safeguards that were there to protect the vulnerable in such difficult situations have been eased, or taken away, making this Bill slightly more worrying. While we know our two local MPs David Smith MP and Ian Lavery MP are probably going to vote against this Bill, it is still good for us to be persistent in our lobbying of Parliament to encourage more to oppose this Bill.

Coffee Morning: Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre

Peter Smith will be holding a Coffee Morning with a Cake Stall and Raffle in St Robert's Church Hall, Morpeth on Saturday 3rd May 2025, from 10am—12noon, to help raise much needed funds towards supporting medical / nurse training & equipment at the Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre in Tanzania. It would be wonderful if you could support the event. Many thanks. Peter



Christian Aid Week - 11th to 17th May

Christian Aid Week this year runs from Sunday 11th to Saturday 17th May. As usual the Week begins with an Ecumenical Service where we come together to pray for those in need and for the success of the week. This year the service will be held in St Robert's Hall (NOT Church) at 4pm on Sunday 11th May. Please come and join us. We are also looking for more volunteers to distribute envelopes for the house to house collection. If you could help with this please put your name and contact details on the list at the back of St Robert's Church. Thank you.

Narthex Committee

There will be a meeting of the Narthex Committee on Monday 12th May at 7pm in the Presbytery.

The Online Update Service—Emails from DBS

The Update Service is a free online subscription service that allows you to keep your enhanced DBS certificates up to date. It also enables the Diocese, with your consent, to complete your three yearly DBS check. Your Update Service Subscription requires an annual renewal. When this is due you will receive an email from DBS which will help you to do this. If you do not renew your subscription, it will lapse and subsequently, when your DBS is due for checking, a full application will need to be completed including identity verification. If you need any further information regarding this, please speak to your Parish Safeguarding Representative.

The School for Synodality

On 26th October 2024 Pope Francis received the recommendations of the Rome Synod Assembly and declared them part of the Magisterium of the Church (*the official teaching of the Church*). The Final Synod Document is a beautiful, if densely written, expression of the three year global process in becoming a missionary, synodal Church. However, it's not necessarily easy reading! The School for Synodality is offering a series of webinars to explore the FSD section by section with expert guests from around the world, including Archbishop Jason Gordon of Trinidad and Tobago. Watch live on Wednesday nights 7.30-8.30pm from 21st May - 25th June or at any time afterwards via youtube. Suitable for small groups or individual reflection. Find out more and register at <https://www.schoolforsynodality.org.uk/our-resources/final-document-book-club-2025>.

Loudfence Alnwick

Loudfence is an event to enable and empower faith communities to begin addressing the harm caused by abuse perpetuated by anyone in faith based settings. On 1st May Bishop Stephen Wright will attend a liturgy of prayer and reflection, at St Paul's Catholic Church, Alnwick and afterwards we will all be invited to tie messages of support around the outside of the church.

Foodbank Donations

Foodbanks in both Morpeth and Bedlington are appealing for a variety of foods for their clients who are in need. If you can help in any way bring items of non-perishable food to church and place in the boxes in the Church porches.

CAFOD Myanmar Earthquake Appeal

Following the devastating earthquake in Myanmar, CAFOD is responding through the Catholic Church there, to support families affected by the disaster. Any donations you make for the Myanmar Earthquake Appeal will provide essentials like water, food, solar lights, and mosquito nets. Please give to CAFOD's Myanmar Earthquake Appeal in church or you can donate online at cafod.org.uk/myanmar or by calling 0303 303 3030. You can also text EARTHQUAKE to c70450 to donate £10. Donations can be handed in to the Presbytery marked CAFOD MYANMAR or EARTHQUAKE.

Masses, Intentions and Services This Week

	St Robert of Newminster Church, Morpeth	St Bede's Church, Bedlington
Saturday 26th April 2025 <i>Easter Saturday</i>	9.40am The Rosary 10am Mass: Paul McCole & Fr Lawrence Jones 10.30am - 11am Adoration and Confessions	5pm - 5.20pm Confessions 5.30pm Vigil Mass: People of the Parish
Sunday 27th April Feast of Divine Mercy Second Sunday of Easter	9am Mass: People of the Parish 11am Mass: Thanksgiving - Lyn Cole <i>Mass with Adult Baptism of Augustine Morrisey</i>	1pm Baptism: Myles Edward Doyle
Monday 28th April <i>St George, patron of England</i>		9.25am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 10am Mass: Private Intention (PB)
Tuesday 29th April <i>St Catherine of Siena</i>	9.25am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 10am Mass: Mary Keane	9.25am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 10am Service of Word and Communion
Wednesday 30th April <i>Weekday of Easter / St Pius V</i>	9.25am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 10am Service of Word and Communion	9.25am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 10am Mass: Special intention (DS)
Thursday 1st May <i>St Joseph The Worker</i>	9.25am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 10am Mass: Roger Adamson	9.25am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 10am Service of Word and Communion
Friday 2nd May <i>St Athanasius</i>	9.25am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 10am Service of Word and Communion	9.25am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 10am Requiem Mass: Teresa Ann Bryce <i>Followed by Burial at Northumberland Woodland Burial Site</i>
Saturday 3rd May <i>St Philip and St James</i>	9.40am The Rosary 10am Mass: Peter Shepherd 10.30am - 11am Adoration and Confessions	5pm - 5.20pm Confessions 5.30pm Vigil Mass: People of the Parish
Sunday 4th May Third Sunday of Easter	9am Mass: Helen and Douglas Cone 11am Mass: People of the Parish	1pm Baptism: Benjamin Paul Vasey

The Holy Father Pope Francis' Intentions for April 2025

For the use of the new technologies: Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.



St Robert's Church Ministries		Readers	Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Welcomers
27 th April	9am	Alma Zyba Andrew Gorman	Chris Smith Carol Power	Linda Hood Andrea Mitchell
27 th April	11am	Gail Swift Jan Holland	Josh Marshall Gillian Davison	Gail Swift Christine Watson
5 th May	9am	Donald Marr Trisha Walker	Damian Butler Marian Bell	Andrea Mitchell Pat Rathbone
5 th May	11am	Bernard Cudd Betty Lewins	Josh Marshall Gillian Davison	Julie & Tom McMorro
St Robert's Counting Teams		29 th April: K Brown, S Garbutt		6 th May: J Carr, J Shepherd, J Rice

7 Bridges Sponsored Walk

The Seven Bridges Sponsored Walk this year will take place on Sunday 1st June, starting at 2pm at the Blue Bridge on the Low Stanners and finishing at the Low Ford Bridge on the Mitford Road. If you wish to take part please take a Sponsor Form from the back of church and sign the participants form, so that we have an idea for the catering following the walk back at the Church Hall. Any queries please contact Elizabeth Dixon ☎ 01670 516584.

"Come to the Well"

"Come to the Well" is a monthly prayer meeting held at St Robert of Newminster Parish Hall. The next gathering will be on Thursday 1st May at 7pm. Everyone Welcome.

Stella Maris Pilgrimage to Holy Island

Catholic maritime charity Stella Maris will hold its annual Pilgrimage to Holy Island, Lindisfarne, on Saturday 31st May 2025. Now in its 21st year, this year's Pilgrimage is held as part of the charity's activities for the Jubilee Year of Hope and will include special prayers for seafarers and fishers who find themselves trapped in modern slavery. Through the work of its chaplains and volunteer ship visitors, and the generosity of its supporters, Stella Maris continues to bring much-needed hope to exploited and abused fishers, by providing pastoral and practical care, and by advocating on their behalf. As with previous years, the Pilgrimage will begin with Prayers on the Green at 12noon. Mass will be celebrated at 2pm, led by Bishop Paul Mason, Stella Maris Bishop Promoter and Bishop of the Forces.

Newsletter Via Email

If you wish to receive the Newsletter via email, please send an email to the Parish Email address and we will add you to the mailing list.



Live Simply Award CAFOD

Encouraged by our late Pope Francis' call to care for our planet and put faith into action, our Parish is applying to work towards the "LiveSimply" award. The "LiveSimply" award is an opportunity for Catholic communities to answer the call for us to care for our common home and stand in solidarity with our sisters and brothers around the world, to change some of the ways we do things and to encourage others to live a more simple life. Our Catholic High School, St Benet Biscop Academy, has already worked hard to promote this award and other parishes within the partnership are also talking about it. We are looking to set up a focus group to take ideas forward within our own parish community. It is difficult to choose a time to suit all so in the first instance we plan to **meet at 10.30am on Thursday 8th May in the upstairs meeting room of the Church Hall**, if you are interested in getting involved and this time doesn't suit please contact Carmel Copeland (075790487333) or Lynda Edwards (07966788635) to register your interest.



Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

The next Parish Pastoral Council Meeting at St Robert's will be held on Monday 19th May at 7pm in the Parish Hall.

Diocesan Vision Meeting

The next Meeting to discuss the Diocesan Vision will be held on Monday 2nd June at 7pm in the Parish Hall. All Welcome.

St Bede's Parish Meeting

There will be a Parish Meeting at St Bede's on Monday 9th June at 7pm. All Welcome.