



The Catholic Parish of St Robert of Newminster, Morpeth

St Robert's Presbytery, Oldgate, Morpeth, NE61 1QF

Tel 01670 513410

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Parish Priest: Fr Peter Stott / **Retired Priest in residence:** Fr Jim Doherty

Masses and Services This Week			
Sunday 3 rd January	9:00am Mass 11:00am Mass 12.30pm Baptism 6:00pm Mass	Helen & Douglas Cone People of the Parish <i>Grace Ethal Vanderzee</i> Celebrant's Intentions	The Epiphany of the Lord
Monday 4 th January	9:15am Mass	Maurice Gleghorn	<i>Weekday after Epiphany</i>
Tuesday 5 th January	9:15am Mass	Kathy Heath	<i>Weekday after Epiphany</i>
Wednesday 6 th January	9:15am Mass 7.00pm Epiphany Carol Service	Lillian and Ronald Ellis	<i>Weekday after Epiphany</i>
Thursday 7 th January	9.15am Mass	Sr Carmel Joseph Isp 70 th Jub.	<i>Weekday after Epiphany</i>
Friday 8 th January	9:15am Mass	<i>No Intention</i>	<i>Weekday after Epiphany</i>
Saturday 9 th January	10:00am Mass Confessions 11am - Noon	<i>No Intention</i>	<i>Weekday after Epiphany</i>
Sunday 10 th January	9:00am Mass 11:00am Mass 6:00pm Mass	People of the Parish <i>No Intention</i> <i>No Intention</i>	The Baptism of the Lord

Ministries for Sunday 10 th January 2016 – The Baptism of the Lord			
Mass	9:00	11:00	18:00
Readers	K Wilson, A Gorman	V Shearer, B Cudd	L Cole, B Cole
Extraordinary Ministers	G Harber, M Bell, J Laidlaw	A Dawes, R Soulsby, D Shearer	S Smith, M Illingworth, A Smith
Altar Servers	E Boyle, I Golding-Douglass	A Kinghorn	A Bambrick, O Bruce
Children's Liturgy	Leader:	Companion:	

Prayers: Your continued prayers are asked for Father David Tanner who is still poorly following recent surgery.

Tea and Coffee is served after morning Masses every Sunday in the Church Hall. Everyone is welcome. A very special welcome to any visitors to Morpeth this weekend.

Parish newsletter: - any items for our parish newsletter can be emailed to Mary at fmbeaton@btinternet.com or to Fr Peter at morpeth.strobertnewminster@rcdhn.org.uk or drop a note in at the Presbytery by 4pm on Thursday.

Epiphany Carol Service: We are celebrating an Epiphany Carol Service here at St Robert's Church, on Wednesday 6th January at 7pm. Refreshments of Mince Pies, Shortbread, Tea and Coffee will be served afterwards in the Church Hall – we hope you'll feel able to come along and support this special celebration.



Recent Offerings: - Average Standing Orders **£467.00** per month. Christmas Masses Collection 25th December **£1,405.71**. Sunday 27th December Collection, **£1,064.59**. Advent Alms for St Cuthbert's Care, **£243.65**. Thank you



The Rosary: The Rosary is prayed every Saturday morning at 9.40am.

The Year of Mercy: The Year of Mercy is a wonderful opportunity for us to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Confessions are available every Saturday morning at St Robert's from 11am – 12

noon with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

Catholic Women's League Cheque: Fr Peter writes, "I am extremely grateful to Elizabeth Dixon and all the members of the Catholic Women's League for the support they give to the parish throughout the year and also for helping out with special celebrations. It is much appreciated. At the Christmas Dinner in December the CWL presented a cheque for **£3,000.00** to Parish Funds which they have raised throughout 2015. This is a wonderful donation to our funds and greatly appreciated. I thank everybody in the League and all who have supported them throughout the year." Fr Peter



Catholic Women's League Meetings: A committee meeting will be held in the Church Hall at 7 00pm on

Monday 4th January and the first meeting of 2016 for members will be held on Monday 11th January.

Divine Mercy Prayer Group Meeting: The next meeting will be held on Thursday 7th January in the church.

Thank you from Patrick: "Dear Parishioners – thank you to anyone that turned out to my cake stall after 9am and 11am Masses on 20th December. I raised a total of **£236.15** which included some generous donations. My next event will be a Curry Night at the 'Manzil' in early February, tickets will be on sale in the New Year. Once again, many thanks." Patrick Smith.'

Christmas Thanks: On behalf of Fr Jim and myself I would like to offer a word of thanks to all who gave cards and gifts and seasonal greetings over Christmas. It has been quite overwhelming to receive so many different things, but they are much appreciated. Thank You, Fr Peter and Fr Jim

Grand Bottle Raffle: There is to be a raffle of bottles not claimed at the Christmas Fayre. There will be 3 prizes, each consisting of a bottle of whisky and 3 bottles of wine. Proceeds to parish fundraising. Tickets are on sale **Today** and at the Epiphany Carol Service (Wednesday 6th January) when the draw will take place.

Society of St Vincent de Paul: The next meeting of the SVP will be on Wednesday 13th January at 7.30pm in the Presbytery.



Senior Parishioners Social: The Senior Parishioners Social will be held on Saturday 6th February 2016 from 3pm to 6pm all those eligible (over 70 or thereabouts) please put the date in your new diaries! Also, as usual we will be looking for donations of prizes for the raffle. Thank you!

Parish Council Meeting The next Parish Council Meeting is to be held at 7.00pm on Monday 11th January. Hopefully the Dining Room in the Presbytery will be available for the meeting

The Northern Cross: The January edition of 'The Northern Cross' will not be available until next weekend. Stevie Matthews has volunteered to inform The Northern Cross of what is happening here in St Robert's Parish, Morpeth (steviematthews071@google.com) If you have any news to pass on, please contact her.

First Holy Communion Preparation: Preparation for First Confession and Holy Communion begins in January. If there are any children, not in St Robert's School, who are in Year 3 or above and wish to take part in this preparation, please let Fr Peter know the names so that we can make some provision for when the programme begins. There will be a Parents' Meeting on Thursday 28th January at 3.30pm to inform about the programme, to give important dates and to think and reflect on the importance of what we are preparing for.

White Flower Appeal: The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC) will be holding its annual appeal next weekend. In common with the Catholic Church, SPUC defends and upholds the sanctity of human life from conception until natural death. The work of SPUC covers a broad spectrum of pro-life and pro-family issues and it seeks to protect unborn children from abortion and defends the disabled, elderly and incapacitated from euthanasia and assisted suicide. SPUC also provides trained speakers



Society for the **Protection**
of Unborn Children

for the school talks. Next weekend there will be a retiring Collection to support the work of SPUC.

Wednesday Word: Copies of this week's Wednesday Word are now available at the back of Church. Please pick up a copy.

Deanery Meeting: There is to be a meeting of interested people from our Northumberland Deanery, entitled '20 Churches Working Together & Sharing Resources'. It will be held at St Paul's Church, Alnwick, on Saturday 23rd January from 12:30pm until 3pm. All are welcome to attend and a free bus will be provided to and from Alnwick, but organisers need to know who will want to be on the bus and from where they want to be picked up from (Contact details: Jerry Laidler (07801452372); Anthony Bare (01670) 812200; Kathryn Maggs (07540065414); Fr. Lee Barrett (01670 712476)

Service of Inner Healing: A Service of Inner Healing will be held at St Mary's Cathedral on Wednesday 27th January. There will time for personal prayer ministry, confession will be offered and Bishop Seamus will preach. Everyone welcome.

Northern Catholic Calendar: The Northern Catholic Calendar contains times of Masses, Addresses and Telephone numbers of all Parishes and Associations in the Diocese. Copies are on sale now in the porch, £2.50 each.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity: The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins on 18th January. Each Church in Morpeth will be open for a particular day with a short midday service in each church. Our day is Monday 25th January. There will be a short midday service at 12noon that day for us to pray for Unity of Christians.

Children's Liturgy Study Day: A Children's 'Liturgy of the Word Study Day' will be held in in St. Aloysius Centre, Hebburn on 6th February. If interested please contact Mrs Angela Joyce Tel: 0191 285 2651 or email litformation@rcdhn.org.uk

Deanery Youth Coordinators Meeting: The next Deanery Youth Coordinators Meeting (*for all Parish Youth leaders in the Deanery and anyone else interested*) will be held at St Aidan's School on Thursday 21st January 2016 at 7pm.

Weekday Mass Sheets: for those who come to weekday Masses, we are printing off some Weekday Mass sheets which are available on the Salford Diocesan Liturgy website. If they are useful, please let Fr Peter know.

Minsteracres Study Day: Patrick Woodhouse looks at how the psalms are still relevant to us today. His work 'Life in the Psalms' is the Mowbray Lent book for 2016. This will be held on Saturday 23rd January 10am–4pm at Minsteracres Monastery. For more events, their programme is available at www.minsteracres.org.

First School Admissions – September 2016: Please note that the closing date for Reception School Admissions is **15th January 2016**. Any children born between the following dates of birth 01/09/2011–31/08/2012 need to apply for entry to Reception 2016 via Northumberland County Council Website.

Consultation on Admission Arrangements for St Robert's RC First School, St Benedict's Middle School and St Benet Biscop Catholic Academy, 2017-18. Where changes to admission arrangements are

intended, all schools are required to consult before these are determined and published. The policy for consultation for 2017-18 is available on the schools' websites, and a hard copy can be provided by the schools' offices if you request this. A consultation response form is available by request from the respective school. The governing bodies will consider all comments received before they determine arrangements for 2017-18.