

Masses and Services this week

Sunday 13th August	9.00am Mass	Dec'd members of the McLaughlin Family	19th Sunday of the Year
	11.00am Mass	Thanksgiving (blessings received) (MMc)	
	6.00pm Mass	Mary Hartness	
Monday 14th August	12noon Mass	Nuptial Mass: Lindsay Mitchell and Kevin Shanahan	St Maximilian Kolbe
Tuesday 15th August <i>Holyday of Obligation</i>	12.30pm Mass 7.00pm Mass	Jerome Thompson No Intention	The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Wednesday 16th August	9.15am Service	<i>Service of Word and Communion</i>	<i>Weekday, wk 19</i>
Thursday 17th August	10.30am Mass	Requiem Mass: Merrena Seddon	<i>Weekday, wk 19</i>
Friday 18th August	9.15am Service	<i>Service of Word and Communion</i>	<i>Weekday, wk 19</i>
Saturday 19th August	10.00am Mass	Paddy O'Brien	<i>Weekday, wk 19</i>
Sunday 20th August	9.00am Mass	Isobel Walker	20th Sunday of the Year
	11.00am Mass	Kevin O'Malley	
	6.00pm Mass	No Intention	

Devotions This Week

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	8.30am — 9.00am 10.30am—12noon	Monday to Friday Saturday
The Angelus	9.00am	Monday to Friday
The Rosary	9.40am	Saturday Morning
Confessions (Sacrament of Reconciliation)	11am to 12 noon	Saturday Morning
Divine Mercy Devotions	No Devotions until Thursday 31st August	

Ministries Next Week: 20th August 2017 - 20th Sunday of the Year

	9am Mass	11am Mass	6pm Mass
Welcomers	A Beattie A Roberts	E Dixon G Davison	G Snaith S Matthews
Readers	A Beattie M Murray	D Shearer V Shearer	C Reardon T Edwards
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	A Donaldson M Dewar D Dewar	R Soulsby M Beaton Catherine Smith	M Illingworth L Edwards Chris Smith
Altar Servers	C Cooper	A Kinghorn L Kinghorn	P Smith G Butler

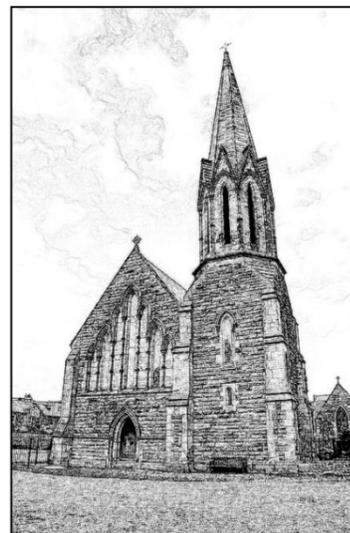
No children's Liturgy this week due to school holidays

Neighbouring Parish Telephone Numbers

Fr Ian Hoskins, Longhorsley 01670 788344	Fr Stephen Watson, Ashington 01670 812200
Fr Lee Barrett, Cramlington 01670 712476	Fr Paul Jenkins, Ashington 01670 812200
Fr Oliver Keyes, Alnwick 01665 6020124	Fr Malcolm Cairns, Amble 01665 710252

The Pope's Intention for August

That artists of our time, through their ingenuity, may help everyone discover the beauty of creation.



The Parish of Saint Robert of Newminster, Morpeth

Parish Priest: Father Peter J Stott

peterjstott@aol.com

Retired Priest: Father James Doherty

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Sunday 13th August 2017 - Nineteenth Sunday of the Year

What gives you that sinking feeling? What is it that you are most afraid of? Could it be starting a new job or a new relationship? Could it be public speaking, confrontation, ridicule, illness, failure, rejection or death? There's no doubt about it, life is a big tumultuous sea full of hidden dangers. Is it any wonder we seek to carve a little niche in which to tuck ourselves away and live life safely.



In today's gospel, Peter displays some odd behaviour. The disciples have gone ahead of Jesus and are sitting alone in a small fishing boat. Suddenly a storm brews up and the disciples are terrified for their lives. Just then, Jesus walks over the water telling them, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Surely any of us at this point would have decided to sit tight and wait to be rescued. Not Peter! Peter scrambles out of the boat and begins in all faith to walk towards Jesus. The great news is that when Peter suddenly got frightened and his faith faltered, Jesus was there with a strong arm to hold him up.

Just as Jesus called Peter from the boat, so Jesus calls us over life's storms. What is it we might venture to do? We might venture to change our jobs for something more worthwhile. We might venture to take on some kind of voluntary role that we might not previously have considered, or initiate a local community project a global one even! We might think it makes more sense to stick to what we know, but if Peter hadn't have obeyed the call to walk on water he might never have had the great opportunity to experience God's life changing support. So too if we spend our lives splashing around in the shallows, we are in danger of missing the opportunity to truly recognise God and so deepen our faith.

It's said that the safest place to be is not in the boat at all; the safest place is out on life's seas, because that's where Jesus is!



Please pray for: A Deeper Understanding between Christians and Jews; Those who Suffer Persecution; Oppression and Denial of Human Rights; Europe; Human Life; Seafarers. Please pray for those who are sick, especially for Father Doherty; for all who have died recently including **Merrena Seddon** of Riverside Care Home who died recently and whose Requiem mass will be celebrated at St Robert's Church on Thursday at 10.30am, followed by Cremation at Blyth; and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Offertory Collections

6th August Total Offertory **£879.46**
July Standing Orders **£2585.92**

Sunday Morning Tea and Coffee

Tea and Coffee is served in the Church Hall after the 9am and 11am Masses each Sunday. Everyone welcome.

Welcome

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

Parish Newsletter

Items for the newsletter can be emailed to Marian on marian@marinbell.f2s.com or you can send an email to the parish office on morpeth.strobertnewminster@rcdhn.org.uk or drop a note in at the Presbytery no later than 12pm on a Thursday.



Holyday of Obligation

Tuesday 15th August is the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary and is a Holyday of Obligation. There will be a Vigil Mass on Monday at 7pm at St Bede's Church, Bedlington, and Masses at St Robert's will be celebrated at 12.30pm and 7.00pm on Tuesday.

Mission Box Appeal

New Red Mission Boxes are now ready for collection for all those who signed up for a box at the recent Appeal. Elphin Conroy, local APF organiser, will be available if there are any queries. Many thanks to all who 'signed up' for a Mission Box in their homes. Fr Byrne was delighted with the response.



APF recognition

When Fr Dermott Byrne from the Mill Hill Missionaries was here two weeks ago for his Appeal, he presented Mrs Elphin Conroy with a special letter of thanks and a Silver Pin, in recognition of 25 years of being the parish organiser for the APF / Mill Hill Red Mission Boxes. We thank Elphin and join with the Mill Hill Missionaries in their congratulations, on this special work in the parish.

"Divine Mercy" Devotion

The next meeting for Divine Mercy Devotions will be held on Thursday 31st August at 7pm in the Church.

Diocesan Property Inspection

The Diocesan Property Office will be carrying out a full Property Inspection of St Robert's Church, Hall and Presbytery on Wednesday this week.

Catholic Newspapers

We have a limited selection of Catholic newspapers, but even the small number that we have are not being sold, and we end up throwing many away. Please consider taking one and having a read ... you might just enjoy it!!

Parish Gift Aid

Letters from the Diocese Finance Office, thanking all members of the Parish Gift Aid scheme for the amount they contributed during the 2016-17 tax year have been received. Gerry Harber will be distributing them outside church after each Mass today. If you are in the Gift Aid scheme please collect your letter from him before you leave today. *It would be better if you picked up your letter to save us the costs of postage.* Please read the letter carefully and if there are any changes to your address or tax status or other reason why you are no longer eligible for Gift Aid please advise Gerry (tel 517829) as soon as possible. If you think you are in the Gift Aid scheme but do not receive a letter please contact Gerry to ascertain the reason.

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Baptism Congratulations

Please pray for **Christopher James Higginbottom** who was Baptised at St Robert's last Sunday afternoon, for his parents and godparents at this special time. Pray also for Skye Elizabeth Smith-Trowell who is to be baptised here today at 12.30pm.

Baptism Preparation Meeting

The next Baptism Preparation Meeting will be held on Thursday 21st September at St Robert's Church Hall, at 7.30pm. Any parents wishing to organise a Baptism who haven't yet spoken to Fr Peter to complete Baptism forms should do so as soon as possible please.

Wedding Prayers

Please pray for **Lindsay Mitchell and Kevin Shanahan** who are to be married at St Robert's on Monday 14th August at 12noon. Nuptial Mass will be celebrated. We wish them both well for the future.



Society of St Vincent de Paul

The next meeting of the Society of St Vincent de Paul (SVP) will be on Wednesday 6th September at 7.30 pm. We would welcome any prospective new members to join us there.



Wansbeck Valley Food Bank

The Wansbeck Food Bank needs Donations which can be placed in the box in the porch ... thank you in anticipation of your support.

Partnership Clergy Changes

Bishop Seamus recently appointed Father Shaun Purdy as the new Parish Priest of St Aidan's, Ashington; Father Paul Jenkins is to become the new Associate Priest at St Mary's Cathedral; and Father Stephen Watson will continue to reside at St Aidans and remain as Hospital Chaplain.

Morpeth "Churches Together"

A service to celebrate what we do together as the churches in Morpeth, with a launch of "Churches Together" will be held in the New Life Church at 7.30pm on Sunday 24th September. It is hoped that as many people as possible will be able to attend who have an interest in working together ecumenically in the ministries to which God calls us. *[please note that the service has been put back to accommodate our 6pm Sunday Mass time for which we are very grateful]*



"Songs of Joy & Hope from Around the World"

This is a weekend retreat from Friday 3rd to Sunday 5th September, at Minsteracres Retreat Centre, near Consett, Co. Durham, DH8 9ET. For information and Bookings call (01434) 673248 or e-mail info@minsteracres.org or see poster on Notice Board

Becoming a Catholic

Fr Peter has already met with a few people who have asked to join the Catholic Church and a series of meetings will be held, beginning towards the end of September/beginning of October to help those come to some understanding of the Catholic faith. If there are others interested in joining this group with a possible view to being received into the Church, please speak to Fr Peter as soon as possible.

Vocation Discernment

For those thinking about or feel they have a vocation to the Priesthood and who are aged 16 and over, evenings of prayer and reflection are organised, with an opportunity to listen to speakers, talk about their own discernment, faith journeys and vocations. Monthly meetings are held, with the next one on Wednesday 20 September 2017 at St Mary's Cathedral 6.30pm - 8.30pm. Please see poster in the Church porch for further details or contact the Diocesan Vocations Promoter: Fr David Smith, on 0191 2676063, or e-mail him at stjohnvian-neywestdenton@gmail.com



A Day of Reflection for Women

'Encounters with Grace: There is a Crack in Everything, that's How the Light Gets In' (Leonard Cohen). This is a day for women, with Sr Sheila McNamara, on Saturday 16th September from 10.30am-3.30pm at St Hilda's Diocesan Resource Centre, West Road, Newcastle, NE15 7PY. No charge but booking is essential. Please bring a packed lunch. Attendance at events can be booked online, by email or Tel. 0191 243 3313, 016973 45623 or 07516 075896.

Northumberland Area Listening Service

A free, confidential Listening Service for Northumberland is now available for those who wish to talk about issues such as loss & bereavement, stress & anxiety, family & relationship issues, parental difficulties, loneliness or other concerns. Call 07732 980 740 to make an appointment to meet one of the trained listeners

"I call you friends"

A course for catechists and teachers involved in sacramental preparation for Reconciliation and First Holy Communion has been arranged on Wednesday 20th September, from 5.00pm - 7.00pm, at St Cuthbert's House, Newcastle. The course costs £25 per person and MUST be booked through the school via the online booking system. The content includes: Supporting children with special needs both pre and post communion; A guide to the programme; Sharing good practice and exploring resources.

Catechesis in the mission of the Church

A course for catechists and those interested in becoming a catechist involving 18 evening sessions led by a variety of speakers on a range of topics including vocation and identity, theology of the church, and specific instruction on individual sacraments. Time for prayer and reflection will be included in each session. Sessions will take place on Tuesday evenings, 6.00pm - 8.00pm at St Aloysius Parish Hall in Hebburn (final dates to be confirmed). Further details will be sent to parishes shortly. To register your interest, please contact adult.formation@diocesehn.org.uk or telephone 0191 2433313.

An Urgent Reminder—Food Donations

Please continue to bring food to the box in the porch for destitute asylum seekers – especially now in the holiday period, because the Diocesan Justice and Peace centre still needs to fill over 200 bags a week – please see the list of foods on the notice board in the porch. Many thanks.

Day of the Disappeared

There will be a short ceremony, organised by the Red Cross, at St Robert's Peace Garden on Thursday August 31st at 4pm, when representatives of all religions and none, will gather to remember all the bereaved families at home and abroad who are separated from those they care about most. Refreshments afterwards will be available in the Church Hall.

"Called to the Supper of the Lamb"

A Day of Reflection for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion is being held at Ushaw College, Durham on Saturday 9th September from 10.30am - 4.00pm and will be led by Father Shaun Purdy. To attend please book through Lisa in the Parish Office or contact: The Administrator, Department for Liturgy St Vincent's Diocesan Office, St Cuthbert's House, West Road, Newcastle upon Tyne. The day costs £7.50 and the parish will cover the costs for those who wish to attend.

