

Masses and Services this week

Sunday 27th August	9.00am Mass	Ruby Wedding (Angie & Mick Quinn)	21st Sunday of the Year
	11.00am Mass	Jean Frances Clark	
	6.00pm Mass	Charles & Margery Bell	
Monday 28th August	9.15am Service	Service of Word and Communion	St Augustine, Bishop
Tuesday 29th August	9.15am Mass	Mrs Frances Lambert	The Passion of St John the Baptist
Wednesday 30th August	9.15am Service	Service of Word and Communion	Ss Margaret Clitherow, Anne Line & Margaret Ward
Thursday 31st August	9.15am Mass	Lilian Cousins	St Aidan and the Saints of Lindisfarne
Friday 1st September	9.15am Service	Service of Word and Communion	Weekday, wk. 21
Saturday 2nd September	10.00am Mass	Paul McCole	Weekday, wk. 21
Sunday 3rd September	9.00am Mass	Helen & Douglas Cone	22nd Sunday of the Year
	11.00am Mass	No Intention	
	6.00pm Mass	People of the Parish	

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	7.00pm	Thursday 31st August

Ministries Next Week: 3rd September 2017 - 22nd Sunday of the Year

	9am Mass	11am Mass	6pm Mass
Welcomers	A. Beattie A. Roberts	G. Swift E. Dixon	Chris Smith S. Matthews
Readers	T. Walker A. Gorman	B. Lewins R. Hunt	Chris. Smith C. Rich
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	N. Givens A. Wilson K. Wilson	E. Dixon A. Dawes Catherine Smith	L. Cole B. Cole D. Butler
Altar Servers	E Boyle A Shepherd G Sykes	P Glancey	J Dowd C Bradley

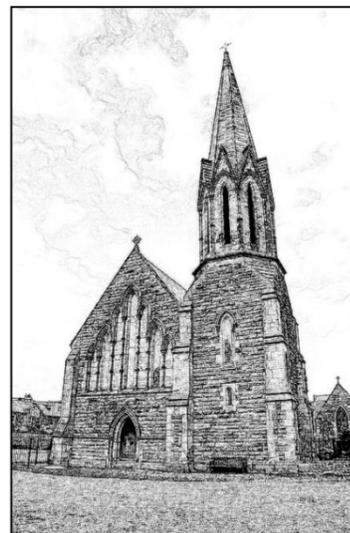
No children's Liturgy this week due to school holidays

Neighbouring Parish Telephone Numbers

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

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

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

☎ (Tel) 01670 513 410

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Sunday 27th August 2017 - Twenty first Sunday of the Year

Who do you think Jesus is? As small children we are told that Jesus is the Son of God, and we accept it readily. When we are children God is a kindly father figure who lives in Heaven and listens to our night prayers. When we are small, Jesus is the baby we see in the Christmas Nativity scene. When we are a little older, Jesus is the teller of all those intriguing parables. Once we are young adults we see Jesus as a great teacher, a healer, a worker of miracles and a revolutionary. For some of us, doubts creep in. Is Jesus really the Son of God or simply a good man and a great prophet?

In today's gospel Jesus asks his disciples "Who do you say I am?" "You are the Christ," replies Peter promptly, "the Son of the living God." But this wasn't Peter's opinion from the start. Peter and the other disciples first met Jesus as a fellow human being. By working with Jesus and following his ministry daily, Peter and the other disciples gradually came to the extraordinary conviction that God was working through Jesus; speaking, healing, working miracles and offering eternal salvation.

Today we listen again to Jesus' question. "Who do you say I am?" It seems that the question is stretching over the centuries. It seems that the question is aimed not just at the disciples but at us. Jesus doesn't want us to give the answer we've been taught to give ... our answer has to be from the heart. Our answer might be, "I don't know!" Our answer might be, "I'm not very sure right now." Or our answer might be a resounding, "You are Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus knows that faith is a journey and our answer reflects at exactly what stage of that journey we have reached.

It may be that we think of Jesus as little more than a good man and a great prophet. If this is what we believe, the Bible becomes little more than a book filled with good stories and sound philosophy. If like the disciples we are convinced that Jesus is the Son of God, all at once we are opening ourselves to great possibilities.... all at once we have found the key to life's greatest adventure.



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 Fr Jim Doherty, Fr Michael Conaty, Fr Anthony Donoghue; for all who have died recently; and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Offertory Collections

20th August: Total Offertory **£848.70**

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 Pauline on paulinmc2012@gaill.com or 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.

Catholic Women's League Mass

The Catholic Women's League St Margaret Clitherow Feast Mass will be celebrated on Wednesday 30th August, at 12.05pm in St Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle.

Catholic Women's League Prayer Walk

The CWL Annual Prayer Walk will take place on Saturday 9th September, information to follow.

"Divine Mercy" Devotion

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

Parish Gift Aid

The Gift Aid Statement letters from the Diocese thanking all members of the parish Gift Aid scheme for the amount they contributed during the 2016-17 tax year have all either been handed out or put in the post. 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 the Parish Gift Aid organiser (Gerry Harber - tel 517829 or email gerald.harber@talktalk.net) as soon as possible. If you think you are in the Gift Aid scheme but have not received a letter please contact Gerry to ascertain the reason.

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.

Confessions

We have Confessions at St Robert's Church, every Saturday morning from 11am—12noon, unless notified otherwise. Ask yourself how long it is since you were last at Confession? Is it now time to come along again to ask God for the forgiveness and reconciliation and strength he gives us?

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 at this meeting and help us fulfill the mission of Frederick Ozanam and St Vincent de Paul.



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]



Forming a Social Committee

Fr Peter would like to explore the possibility of having a Parish Social Committee who would organise events, etc. at regular intervals for the parish and the partnership. If you are interested in helping with this please let Fr Peter know.

Partnership Spirituality Group

The first meeting of the "Partnership Spirituality Group" will be held on Monday 4th September at 10.30am at St Bede's Church, Bedlington.

Partnership Development Group Meeting

The new "Partnership Development Group" will next meet on Thursday 14th September at St Thomas of Canterbury, Longhorsley at 7pm.

Partnership Finance Group

The new "Partnership Finance Committee" will meet on Thursday 28th September at St Aidan's, Ashington at 7pm.

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting.

There will be a Parish Pastoral Council Meeting on Wednesday 13th September, commencing at 7pm, in the Presbytery. If anyone has an item to include on the agenda, please contact Father Peter (morpeth.strobertnewminster@rcdhn.org.uk) or the Chairman, Michael Quincey (emkews@hotmail.co.uk)

Apostleship of the Sea Mass

You are invited by the Apostleship of the Sea, to the celebration of Mass at 12.05pm at St Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle on Friday 22nd September. It is an opportunity to pray for seafarers and the work of the AoS in ports of your diocese. A reception will follow the Mass. For further information please contact salvina@apostleshipofthesea.org.uk.

Pilgrimage to Poland April 2018

Fr Peter and Fr Chris at Hexham, are arranging a joint Parish Pilgrimage to Poland for 23rd – 30th April 2018. Full details are on the information sheet available: staying in Krakow for five nights and Czestochowa for two nights. A very full programme is organised, with a coach included for journeys throughout the week of pilgrimage, together with half board accommodation, en-suite facilities in 3*hotels, and return flights from Newcastle with Jet2. Full information available from Fr Peter. Because this is a joint parish pilgrimage, numbers are very limited. Booking Forms will be available soon.

Becoming a Catholic

Fr Peter has already met with a few people who have asked to join the Catholic. 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.

"Day of the Disappeared"

We will remember all grieving families around the world who have lost children and who are separated from those they care about most, on Wednesday 30th August at 4pm in St Robert's Peace Garden. Representatives of all religions and none will gather. Refreshments will be available afterwards in the Church Hall.

Food for Asylum Seekers

Thank you for your contributions. Please continue to donate, especially tinned meat, fish, cooking oil; men's toiletries, socks, trainers, and rucksacks. are also welcome

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

Ordination to the Priesthood

Nigel Holmes, a former Anglican minister, will be ordained a priest by Bishop Seamus at St Aidan's Church, Ashington on Tuesday 12th September at 7.00pm. Nigel is a member of St Aidan's parish, where he is an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, a Lay-Leader of Word and Sacrament and a Lay Minister for funerals. He has been undergoing some training for the priesthood in the diocese over a number of years and waiting for a dispensation from the Holy Father, Pope Francis, so that he can be ordained. He will reside in Ashington but will be a priest in the Brinkburn Partnership.

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 being 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 267 6063, or e-mail him at stjohnvianneywestdenton@gmail.com



"Come, this is the time" Retreat

A Retreat, led by Fr Chris Thomas and Mrs Pat Kennedy, from Friday 8th to Sunday 10th September at Minsteracres Retreat Centre, DH8 9RT. The cost will be £130. For information and bookings please visit www.minsteracres.org call 01434 673248 or e-mail info@minsteracres.org

Ushaw College Afternoon Tea

Ushaw College now serves Afternoon Tea. available during standard opening hours (Wednesday to Friday, 11am to 5pm) and for groups on Mondays and Tuesdays. Ushaw Cream Tea (serves 2): £18.50 (or £29.50 with Prosecco) Full details of what you can have is available on their website ... www.ushaw.org

A Day of Reflection for Women

'Encounters with Grace: 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.

"Called to the Supper of the Lamb"

This day of Day of Reflection for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion is now fully booked

"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.

"Peer Talk" Conference

Are you interested in mental wellbeing and a good listener? PeerTalk, a charity underpinned by the Methodist Church, is looking for volunteers to help run a second peer support group for people living with depression in Newcastle. Training Day is on Saturday 16th September at , The Copthorne Hotel, The Close, Quayside, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 3RT, 10am – 4pm. More details at www.peertalk.org.uk/index.php/volunteer or contact admin@peertalk.org.uk

School Return Dates

- St Robert's First School, Tuesday 5th September.
- Newminster Middle School, Tuesday 5th September
- Chantry Middle School, Tuesday 5th September
- King Edward VI School, Tuesday 5th September
- St Benet Biscop, Years 7, 8, 9, 11 & 13, Wed 6th Sept.
- St Benet Biscop, Years 10 & 12, Thursday 7th Sept.
- St Aidans, Ashington, Monday 11th September.

All information taken from Schools websites.

Aid to the Church in Need

There will be an Appeal at all Masses from a representative of "Aid to the Church in Need" on Sunday 17th September.

Weddings in September

We have two more weddings in September, Please keep in your prayers Julia Tym and Mark Stephenson getting married on 9th September and Orlough Grimes and Carl Davis getting married on 16th September.