

Masses and Services this week

Sunday 17th September	9.00am Mass	Lily and Pat McCafferty	24th Sunday of the Year Home Mission Sunday
	11.00am Mass	Sophia Tickner (NA)	
	6.00pm Mass	Holy Souls	
Monday 18th September	9.15am Service	Service of Word and Communion	Weekday
Tuesday 19th September			Weekday
Wednesday 20th September	9.15am Service	Service of Word and Communion	Ss Andrew Kim Taegon, Paul Chong Hasang and Companions
Thursday 21st September			St Matthew
Friday 22nd September	9.15am Service	Service of Word and Communion	Weekday
Saturday 23rd September	10.00am Mass	In Thanksgiving (KS)	St Pius of Pietrelcina
Sunday 24th September	9.00am Mass	Ann Lewington	25th Sunday in Ordinary Time
	11.00am Mass	Sheila Brown	
	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

Ministries Next Week: 24th September 2017 - 25th Sunday of the Year

	9am Mass	11am Mass	6pm Mass
Welcomers	K Offen J Offen	E Dixon G Davison	Chris Smith G Snaith
Readers	N McCole M Bell	J Ratcliffe D Shearer	T Edwards C Reardon
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	H Lewington M Dewar D Dewar	Cath Smith V Shearer M Beaton	B Rich J Marshall B Cole
Altar Servers	E Walker Barras F Lawson A Shepherd	A Kinghorn L Kinghorn	D Dowd G Butler

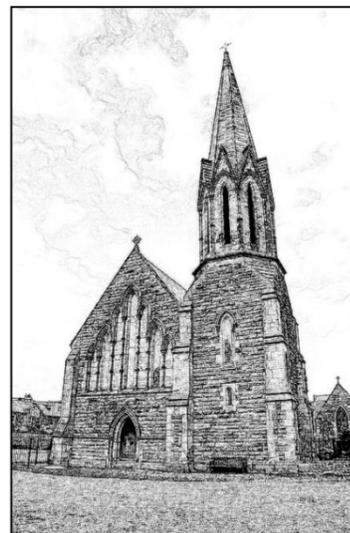
Children's Liturgy Leader: **Ruth** Companion: **Nicola**

Neighbouring Parish Telephone Numbers

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

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Sunday 17th September 2017 - 24th Sunday of the Year

Forgiveness is difficult. We read about the victims of horrendous crimes and wonder how those people could ever begin to forgive - we even question why they should have to. Most of us know how hard it is to forgive even a small grudge once it has been left to fester. Many of us know what it is like to excuse ourselves with "... Well she started it so she should really apologise first," or, "It's his problem not mine." There are limits on our forgiveness. Why should we accept the apology of someone who has let us down repeatedly? Why if we have given someone every last chance should we be expected to forgive yet again? Yet Jesus tells us that we must forgive "...not seven times, but seventy seven times."

If there should be no limits to our forgiveness perhaps we should begin by looking at what makes it so difficult to grant genuine forgiveness. Anger probably comes top of the list. We don't want people to get away with hurting us. Pride often stands in our way too. Forgiving someone often involves an element of 'climbing down'. Also close to the top of the list of obstacles comes a lack of understanding. When we hear of a crime, whether it is small or large, we always ask "Why?" It seems that in order to forgive, we must first understand what has made the other person do what they have done.



Today's readings suggest that in order to make it easier to forgive others, we should look at how often we have asked God to forgive us, often for the same failing. This is the lesson in today's gospel, Jesus is reminding the servant who was unable to forgive that he himself was forgiven. How could the servant expect his master's forgiveness if he could not forgive others? Remembering how we have been forgiven makes us more compassionate when it is our turn to forgive.



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 and Fr Michael Conaty; please pray for Fr Anthony Donoghue whose Requiem Mass is to be celebrated at Our Lady and St Columba Church, Wallsend on Monday at noon; and for all whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Offertory Collections: 10th September
Total Offertory **£891.95**

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 to the Parish

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@gmail.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.

Home Mission Sunday 2017

On the third Sunday of September the Catholic Church celebrates Home Mission Sunday. This is an opportunity to inspire Catholics and help them to engage with the mission of the Church, whilst supporting the work of the Home Mission Office. Often when we hear the word 'Mission' it is associated with the valuable work of sharing our faith and helping people in other countries. Whilst this is still important, the Home Mission Office helps Catholics to share their faith with those they love, know and meet on home turf. If home is where the heart is, the best place to start sharing our faith is with the people we carry in our hearts. Many people find the idea of talking about their faith to others daunting, but we can take comfort from knowing that it is the Holy Spirit who will spark an interest in the hearts of those whom we long to know the Good News of Jesus Christ. Our first step is therefore to pray for those we love and care for, that they be open to the Holy Spirit.



Education Sunday Collection

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to last weeks Retiring Collection for the Catholic Education Service which raised £287.00.

Aid to the Church in Need

We are delighted to welcome Mr Mike Collins to St Robert's Church today, who is here with us to make an appeal on behalf of "Aid to the Church in Need". He will give a talk about their work and there will be a collection.



Divine Mercy Devotion

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 21st September at 7pm in St Robert's Church.

Mass Time Changes

Please note that there will be No Mass on Tuesday and Thursday this week as Fr Peter will not be available.

Society of St Vincent de Paul

The next meeting of the SVP will be on Wednesday 20th September at 7.30 p.m. in the Presbytery. We would welcome anyone who may be thinking of joining the Society to come to this meeting to find out whether the work of the SVP is something they could do as part of their vocation to Help the Stranger. (Have you spotted the posters?)



Baptism Preparation Meeting

The next Baptism Preparation Meeting planned for Thursday 21st September at St Robert's Church Hall, has been cancelled as no parents have contacted the Parish office, Fr Peter or Deacon Stephen. The next meeting will be in St Bede's, Bedlington on 19th October at 6.30pm.

Journey in Faith Group

The Journey on Faith Group will begin on Thursday 5th October and will be held at St Robert's, Morpeth. If you know of anyone who might be interested in being received into Full Communion with the Church, please speak to Fr Peter as soon as possible.



Pilgrimage to Poland April 2018

Fr Peter and Fr Chris at St Mary's, Hexham, are arranging a Pilgrimage to Poland for 23rd – 30th April 2018. Full details and Booking Forms are available from Fr Peter: staying in Krakow for five nights and Czestochowa for two nights.

Partnership Rosary Afternoon

The Partnership Spirituality Network have organised a Rosary afternoon to be held at St Bede's, Bedlington on Saturday 7th October, the Feast of the Holy Rosary. More details soon.



Rosary and Procession

St Aidans Church at Ashington is celebrating the Rosary and a Procession in honour of Our Lady of Fatima, on Sunday 8th October at 4pm. Everyone welcome.

Parish Christmas Fayre 2017

Our Parish Christmas Fayre is going to be on Saturday 2nd December. Both Church Hall and School Hall have been booked so we should have plenty of room. Please start collecting for the usual stalls and activities but new ideas and suggestions are always welcome. If you have any ideas please see either myself, Andrea Mitchell ☎ 512281, or tell Father Peter or Lisa in the parish office. Let us try and make 2017 our best fayre yet!

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. This Service has been put back to accommodate our 6pm Sunday Mass time for which we are very grateful, so hopefully we will be well supported with a good number of parishioners.



Christian Aid Street Collection

The Christian Aid Street Collection in Morpeth takes place on 23rd September. Six volunteers are needed to collect for one hour each between 9am and 3pm next Saturday, standing on our pitch on Bridge Street. If you are able to help out, please put your name and phone number on the list in the church porch. Thank you!

Christian Aid Ceilidh

The annual Ceilidh will be held in St George's Church Hall on Saturday 14th October, from 7.30pm to 10pm, dancing to the St George's URC Band: bar, raffle etc. Tickets are £5 for adult or £2.50 for children, and are available from Gerry Harber. Please see notice boards for details. Come and have fun and support Christian Aid while doing so!

Partnership Finance Group

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

Bonus Ball

We are beginning the Bonus Ball competition again. Numbers will be on sale from Sunday 17th September. Each number will cost £10, covering the draws for 10 weeks, starting on 7th October. There will be a prize of £25 for the winning Bonus Ball number. Proceeds will go towards 'parish funds'.

Coffee morning and Cake Stall

There will be a Coffee Morning on Saturday 7th October from 10am-12noon in St Robert's Church Hall, in aid of the Burns Project at Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre, Tanzania. Peter Smith will be travelling out again to work within KCMC in late October. He hopes to purchase much needed blood pressure and pulse oximetry equipment for the Burns Unit. Please support the event if you can. Thank you.



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.



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

Vocation Discernment

For those thinking about or feel they have a vocation to the Priesthood and who are aged 16 and over, monthly meetings are being held, with the next one on Wednesday 20th 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 stjohannianneywestdenton@gmail.com

Holyday of Obligation Changes

With effect from the 1st Sunday of Advent 2017, two holydays of obligation are being reinstated. This decision was made by the Bishops of England and Wales, and has been confirmed by the Holy See. The days are: The Epiphany of the Lord — 6th January and The Ascension of the Lord — Thursday after 6th Sunday of Easter

Cardinal Murphy O'Connor

There are Memorial Cards for Cardinal Murphy O'Connor available at the back of Church for anyone who wishes to take one. Please pray for the Cardinal who was buried during the week.

"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 (see full information for all dates). There is no charge for this course. Booking forms and information will be available in parishes from the beginning of September and are also available on the website www.rcdhn.org.uk. For further information, please contact adult.formation@diocesehn.org.uk or telephone 0191 2433313.

Holy Shroud Exhibition

Between September 29th and October 6th St. Patrick's Church in Consett is hosting an interactive exhibition, The Holy Shroud, curated by Pam Moon. This exhibition is open to people of all Faiths and none. One of the purposes of the exhibition to tell the story of the Crucifixion of Jesus Christ. The Exhibition includes a full-size copy of the Shroud of Turin; original Roman nails; a replica scourge and Roman spear. There are also several information boards about the Shroud as depicted in History and in Art and details on the latest scientific research. There will be DVDs shown about the Shroud; a Quiz for children; refreshments and a small stall. Admission is free, donations welcome to cover costs. Opening times: 9am-4pm daily, plus two evening openings until 7pm. For more information contact Maggie Quinn 01207-506425



Youth Sunday Preparation

An afternoon to prepare for Youth Sunday will take place at St. Joseph's Academy, Hebburn on **Sunday 8th October 3.00pm to 5.15pm**. This year's theme is 'YES' inviting us to reflect on how Mary, as a young person, had the faith and courage to say 'Yes' to what God was calling her to do. Each church is invited to be represented by adults and young people (Year 9 and above) and there will be an opportunity to plan together and to meet other groups in the same partnership. Music and other resources will be available. Booking forms are in parishes or available from the Youth Ministry Team on 01207 592244 or admin@ymt.org

Youth Ministry Studies

Adults who work with young people or have an interest in youth ministry are invited to take the CCRS module in youth ministry as a stand-alone module. The course covers the theology and principles of youth ministry, an understanding of faith development, a variety of approaches to working with young people and an opportunity to share ideas and good practice in parishes and partnerships. It takes place over two Saturdays 30th September and 28th October at the Emmaus Youth Village. Further information from education@diocesehn.org.uk