

Masses and Services this week

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| Sunday 24th Sept | 9.00am Mass | Ann Lewington | 25th Sunday of the Year |
| | 11.00am Mass | Sheila Brown | |
| | 6.00pm Mass | People of the Parish | |
| Monday 25th Sept | 9.15am Service 12.30am Funeral Service | Service of Word and Communion Mary McCabe | Weekday in Ordinary Time |
| Tuesday 26th Sept | 9.15am Mass | In Thanksgiving | Ss Cosmos and Damian |
| Wednesday 27th Sept | 9.15am Service | Service of Word and Communion | St Vincent de Paul |
| Thursday 28th Sept | 9.15am Mass | Jean Frances Clark | Weekday in Ordinary Time |
| Friday 29th Sept | 9.15am Service | Service of Word and Communion | Ss Michael, Gabriel & Raphael |
| Saturday 30th Sept | 10.00am Mass | Claire Facchini (PI) | St Jerome |
| Sunday 1st Oct | 9.00am Mass | Helen & Douglas Cone | 26th Sunday of the Year |
| | 11.00am Mass | Holy Souls | |
| | 6.00pm Mass | Sir Henry Lawson (Snr) | |

Devotions This Week

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| 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 | |

Ministries Next Week: 1st October 2017 -

| | 9am Mass | 11am Mass | 6pm Mass |
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| Welcomers | A Beattie A Roberts | V Shearer G Swift | Chris Smith S Matthews |
| Readers | G Harber E Harber | V Shearer L Flinders | J Gill D Oldroyd |
| Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion | A Donaldson A Gorman T McLaughlin | R Soulsby D Shearer E Dixon | L Cole D Butler S Smith |
| Altar Servers | E Boyle G Sykes M Laux | P Glancey | J Dowd C Bradley |

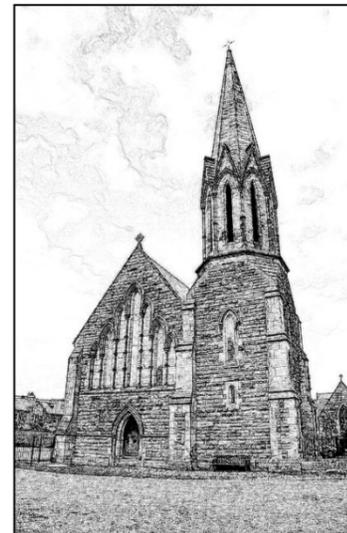
Children's Liturgy Leader: **Tricia** Companion: **Callum**

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

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

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Sunday 24th September 2017—25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The story goes that Italian composer Antonio Salieri studied harpsichord and violin from an early age. Music was his passion, but not possessing much in the way of natural talent, he had to work extremely hard to achieve success. Imagine his feelings of joy and great privilege to reach the prestigious rank of chief composer at the Viennese Court. Then along came the much younger Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart with ten times more in the way of talent. The young newcomer waltzed in and won favour with seemingly little effort. Suddenly Salieri could no longer see himself as lucky or privileged, he could only see God as unfair for granting this younger, and in his eyes, undeserving man so much more than he. There must be times in all of our lives where we have felt God to be unjust.

In today's parable, the workers who were employed in the vineyard all day are aggrieved to discover that the workers employed late in the afternoon are paid exactly the same generous amount. In our capitalistic twenty first century society in which we expect our rewards to match our efforts, we can easily understand this seeming injustice. What sort of union would sanction this? If this parable is meant to illustrate the Kingdom of God, what sort of union must God be in?



The parable of course is nothing to do with employment rights; it's a clue as to how salvation will be dealt at the end of time.

God's justice will not be dealt in strict mathematical judgement or apportioned by effort or merit. How could it be, when we are all dealt a different hand to begin with? We have to remember that the workers who worked from early morning were not treated unfairly; in fact to begin with they felt themselves to be lucky and privileged. It was misguided of the workers to resent the latecomers sharing in the same reward, just as it is wrong for us to resent those who live lives of sin and become Christians late in life. That we have lived as Christians from the outset makes us the lucky ones, and we mustn't resent God's generosity in welcoming the latecomers.

This parable isn't a justification for living sloppy lives then becoming more Godly as we approach death. However, the parable is a strong reminder that we are all capable of change, and that at whatever point in our lives we wake up to who we are and what we are about, God is ready to welcome us.



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,

Offertory Collections

Total Offertory **£852.13**

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 paulinemc2012@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.

Catholic Women's League

The next CWL meeting will be a "Fun Night" on Monday 25th September, at 7:00pm, in the Church Hall.

Society of t Vincent de Paul

The next meeting of the SVP will be on Wednesday 4th October at 7.30pm in the Presbytery. We would welcome anyone interested in joining to come to this meeting.

Rosary and Procession

St Aidan's 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.

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.

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]

Bonus Ball

The Bonus Ball 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

Sat 7th October. 10-12. 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.

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

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: bra, 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!

Faith Journey

On Thursday 26 October, Bill Huebsch will be visiting the Diocese and leading a day on his most recent book, "The Art of Accompaniment". In this pastoral workshop Bill will help us explore Pope Francis' frequent proposals that the Church needs to be open and trained so that we can accompany people from all walks of life on their faith journeys – from the very earliest steps through to major discernment about life choices. We would like to invite you to consider making use of this great opportunity to hear Bill speak – share ideas with others – and, feel enthused about exploring these ideas further. There is no charge for the day but should you wish to have a light lunch there is a charge of £10.00. Lunch bookings must be made in advance, and payment will be collected at the point of registration on the day by diocesan staff. The day will run from 10.30am to 4.00pm at the Sunderland Marriott Hotel, Sunderland. Booking is essential and can be made by contacting the Department for Spirituality on 0191 243 3302 or email spirituality@diocesehn.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, ensuite facilities in 3*hotels, and return flights from Newcastle with Jet2. Full information available from Fr Peter.

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.

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

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.

Exhibition—Holy Shroud

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

Partnership Finance Group

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

Parish Christmas Fayre 2017

Sorry to be to be mentioning Christmas already but just to let everyone know that this year our Parish Christmas Fayre is going to be on Saturday 2nd December. I have booked both our hall and the school hall 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!

Christmas Cards

Christmas cards will shortly be on sale one Sunday per month after all Masses leading up to Christmas. There will be boxes, packs and individual cards on sale. We also have some Christmas CTS books, candles and diaries.

Greetings Cards

We now have a new stand at the back of church to display our extended range of greetings cards. Please have a look at the variety that is available. Because we now have a dedicated stand for cards, we are able to use the CTS wall stand solely to display books and give a greater choice. Please put money for cards and books in the box on the wall beside the card stand.

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

Youth Sunday Preparation

An afternoon to prepare for Youth Sunday will take place at St Joseph's Academy, Hebburn on Sunday 8th October, 3pm 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. Booking forms are in parishes or available from the Youth Ministry Team on 01207 592244 or via e-mail admin@ymt.org