

Masses and Services this week

Sunday 3rd Sept	9.00am Mass	Helen & Douglas Cone	22nd Sunday of the Year
	11.00am Mass	No Intention	
	6.00pm Mass	People of the Parish	
Monday 4th Sept	9.15am Service	Service of Word and Communion	The Translation of St Cuthbert
Tuesday 5th Sept	9.15am Mass	Intentions of Fr Tom Cunningham (AB)	St Teresa of Calcutta
Wednesday 6th Sept			Weekday
Thursday 7th Sept	9.15am Mass	Merrena Seddon (AB)	Weekday
Friday 8th Sept			The Birthday of Our Lady
Saturday 9th Sept	10.00am Mass 1pm Wedding Service	Thanksgiving (blessings received) (EPH) Julia Tym and Mark Stephenson	Weekday
Sunday 10th Sept	9.00am Mass	Ken & Eileen Percival	23rd Sunday of the Year
	11.00am Mass	Maureen Owens	
	6.00pm Mass	Molly McKee	

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: 10th September 2017 - 23rd Sunday of the Year

	9am Mass	11am Mass	6pm Mass
Welcomers	K. Offen J. Offen	C. Watson G. Davison	S. Matthew Chris Smith
Readers	D. Marr J. Offen	K. Glancey C. Mills	D. Butler S. Smith
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	J. Conroy E. Harber G. Harber	M. Beaton E. Dixon G. Davison	T. Edwards M. Illingworth L. Edwards
Altar Servers	E Walker Barras M Laux M Watson	A Kinghorn L Kinghorn	D Dowd G Butler

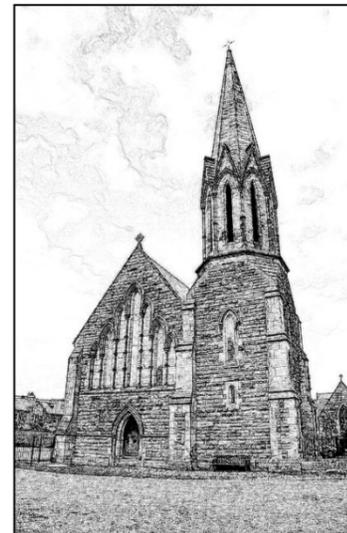
No children's Liturgy this week due to school holidays

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 September

Evangelization: Parishes. That our parishes, animated by a missionary spirit, may be places where faith is



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 3rd September 2017—22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering and death at the hands of the elders, chief priests and scribes. Peter took Jesus aside, "This must never happen to you," he said. Surely Peter only had Jesus' best interests at heart. Imagine how mortified he must have felt to hear Jesus reply, "Get behind me Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

What kind of deal is it to get everything you want in life but lose your soul? So often when we finally get what we want in life, the euphoria is short lived. We might feel elated for a few days at achieving one of our closest held ambitions, but then we are left with that hollow, 'what next?' kind of feeling. Today Jesus is talking about the necessity for suffering and dying. But why does Jesus see accepting the cross as a necessity? Why does he not stop to consider the alternative that Peter suggests?

As Christians we are asked to live life differently from those who struggle to fill life with pleasure and enjoyment. There is a well-known saying that goes, 'It is better to die a meaningful death, than live a meaningless life.' As Christians we have to transcend, self-interest, self-preservation and ego trips. The person who tries to indulge in every enjoyment may find him or herself chasing impossible rainbows. Could this be Satan's favourite trick? By trying to make life perfect by our own human agendas, are we in danger of reaching the end of life only to realise we have not lived life at all?





Please pray for: The Harvest, the Fruits of Human of Work, and the Reverent Use of Creation; Students and Teachers; The Spread of the Gospel; Justice and Peace in the world; Prisoners and their Families; All Victims of War; Young People; Please pray for those who are sick, especially for Fr Jim Doherty, Fr Michael Conaty and Fr Anthony Donoghue; for all who have died recently and those who's anniversaries occur at this time.

Offertory Collections

27th August: Total Offertory **£1018.55**

Retiring Collection: Next Sunday 10th September, for the work of the Catholic Education Service.

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 Prayer Walk

The CWL Annual Prayer Walk will take place on Saturday 9th September, starting at 2:00pm, at St Roberts. There will be refreshments in the Church Hall afterwards. Would members please bring a contribution for a shared table.

St Robert's Car Park

Gates to our Car Park may be closed at night-time, but they are not locked. You just need to open the gates, but please remember to close them after you! You are still able to use the Car Park at all times if spaces are available.

A Joint Parish Newsletter

The information in the newsletters of both St Robert's and St Bede's is very similar and it has been suggested that it would be a good idea to have one newsletter which gives the information for the two churches. Similarly, it has been suggested that a joint newsletter with Longhorsley should be investigated, and so making it a newsletter for all three parishes. So we are going to look into how we can make this work. In the light of partnerships, fewer priests and working more closely together with our neighbouring parishes, it seems to be a very positive move. We just have to work out the practical details of how it can be done.

Parish Gift Aid

The Gift Aid Statement letters from the Diocese thanking all members for their contributions for 2016-17 tax year have all either been handed out or put in the post. If any changes to your address or tax status or other reason why you are no longer eligible for Gift Aid please advise Gerry Harber ☎ 517829 or email gerald.harber@talktalk.net. If you think you are in the Gift Aid scheme but have not received a letter please contact Gerry to ascertain the reason.

Divine Mercy Devotion

The next meeting for Divine Mercy Devotions will be held on Thursday 7th September at 7pm in the Church

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.

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]*

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.

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

Heritage Open Day

St Robert's Church and Collingwood House (St Robert's Presbytery) will be open on Thursday afternoon [7th September] for Heritage Open Day. We need some volunteers to be around in both the Church and the House during the afternoon, to welcome visitors between 1pm and 4pm. We also need to put out Heritage Open Day Notices to let people know we are open for viewing. If anyone is able to help, please let Fr Peter know.

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.

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 Tel ☎ 0191 2433313.

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 stjohnnvanneywestdenton@gmail.com

"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.

Day of Recollection for Extraordinary Ministers

A Day of Recollection for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion has been arranged within the Heavenfield Partnership at Minsteracres on **16th September** by Deacon Jude Newton. To book anyone onto this day please contact: Judith Chaffey, Parish Secretary, St Mary's RC Church, Hencotes, Hexham, NE46 2EB Tel: ☎ 01434 603119 or email: email@stmaryshexham.plus.com by 6th Sept. There will be a small charge per head and any parish with attendees will be invoiced afterwards.

"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

Diamond Wedding Anniversary

We offer our prayers and congratulations to Vera and Bill Soulsby who celebrate 60 years of married life together on 7th September. Congratulations and Best Wishes.

Job Vacancies in the Diocese:

Cathedral Outreach Co-ordinator – St Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle, full-time, 3 year fixed term contract.

Children's Ministry Co-ordinator – Durham Martyrs, full-time, 3 year fixed term contract.

Administrator – St Joseph, Stanley, St Patrick, Dipton and The Sacred Heart, Byermoor, 10 hours per week, 12 month fixed term contract.

Cleaner – St Augustine, Darlington, 14 hours per week, 12 month fixed term contract.

Cleaner – St Anne, Sunderland, 3 hours per week, 12 month fixed term contract.

Youth Ministry Trust – Director of Operations Vacancy - to provide overall leadership to all its activities at the Emmaus (Youth) Village and across the Diocese. 30 hours per week, 2 year fixed term contract. For further information on these vacancies please visit our website www.rcdhn.org.uk or contact us ☎ 0191 243 3301, email human.resources@diocesehn.org.uk

Visit of the Statue of Our Lady of Fatima

The National Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima and relics of Saint Jacinta and Saint Francisco, two of the little shepherd children of Fatima, will be present at St Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle on Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th September. This is part of the 100year anniversary of the 1917 Apparition of Our Lady of Fatima. More info on the Cathedral website.

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

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.

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.

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.