

Masses and Services this week

Sunday 15th October	9.00am Mass	Sheila Brown	28th Sunday of the Year
	11.00am Mass	People of the Parish	
	6.00pm Mass	Intentions of Fr Doherty	
Monday 16th October	9.15am Service	Word and Communion Service	Weekday
Tuesday 17th October	9.15am Mass	Cecil Walker	St Ignatius of Antioch
Wednesday 18th October	9.15am Service	Word and Communion Service	St Luke, Evangelist
Thursday 19th October	9.15am Mass	Christina Thomson	St Paul of the Cross
Friday 20th October	9.15am Service	Word and Communion Service	Weekday
Saturday 21st October	10.00am Mass	Mary Nicholson	Weekday
Sunday 22nd October	9.00am Mass	People of the Parish	29th Sunday of the Year
	11.00am Mass	Tony Syron	
	6.00pm Mass	Mrs C. I. Cole	

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: 22nd October 2017 - 29th Sunday of the Year

	9am Mass	11am Mass	6pm Mass
Welcomers	K Offen J Offen	V Shearer G Swift	G Snaith S Matthews
Readers	K Wilson T Walker	B Cudd J McClarence	L Cole B Cole
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	E Harber G Harber M Bell	V Shearer M Beaton G Davison	J Marshall D Butler S Smith
Altar Servers	E Walker-Barras F Lawson	P Glancey L Kinghorn	J Dowd D Dowd

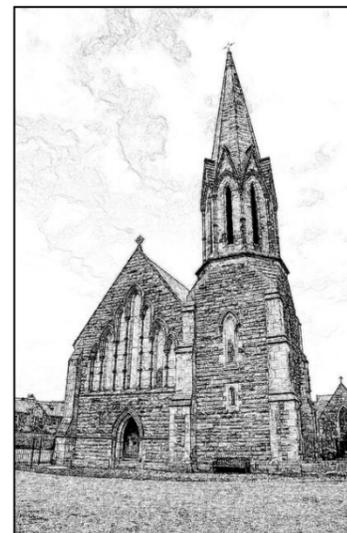
No Children's Liturgy during Half Term

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 October

Workers and the Unemployed: That all workers may receive respect and protection of their rights, and that the unemployed may receive the opportunity to contribute to the common good.



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 15th October 2017—28th Sunday of the Year

Do we fondly imagine that people ought to love us just the way we are? We are told often enough that God loves us warts and all. But do we carry this belief through life with not much thought of betterment?

In today's parable a king invites guests to his son's wedding. When the guests refuse to turn up, the king extends the invitation to a different set of guests, both good and bad. The guests fill the wedding hall, but as they do so, the king notices one man not wearing a wedding robe and he has him bound hand and foot and thrown out into the darkness! The consequences for not wearing the right outfit seem overly harsh as far as this poor guest is concerned, but of course the parable has not really very much to do with wedding receptions and even less to do with wearing the right tie. The overriding theme in this story is to do with standards.



Jesus explains that the Kingdom of God is open to all but that doesn't mean that anyone and everyone can stroll into heaven. Just as guests make an effort to be correctly dressed for a wedding, so too must we put in the preparation and effort to be accepted into God's Kingdom.



The guest who was thrown out of the wedding feast for his cavalier 'accept me just the way I am' attitude presents a warning for us all. Too often we go about our daily routines not feeling any need to live life better. Far too often we look on our Christianity as making choices between good and evil, and we are confident that we rarely choose evil. But Jesus is asking more of us than simply choosing between right and wrong, he is asking us to choose between good and an even greater good. What we imagine is our 'best' very rarely is.

Just as the guest in today's parable did little more than turn up to the wedding, so we live life going through the motions but not much more. Accepting God's invitation to join him is only the first step, it's how we live out that acceptance that really matters.



Please pray for: The spread of the Gospel; Harvest; The fruits of Human Work; The reverent use of creation; Justice and Peace in the World; All victims of War; Young People; Prisoners and their Families. Please pray for those who are sick, especially for Fr Doherty; for all who have died recently including Dorothy Black and Fr Michael Conaty; and for all whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Offertory Collection – 8th October
Total Offertory £880.70

Thank You

Peter Smith would like to thank all parishioners for their wonderful support at the coffee morning in aid of the Burns Project at Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre, (KCMC) Tanzania. We raised a total of **£552.95** which will go towards the project at KCMC.

Society of African Missions Appeal

Very many thanks to all who contributed to the collection for the Society of African Missions last Sunday which raised **£626.00**.



Donations to Parish Funds

We recently received a very generous donation of **£2,000** from the estate of Sylvia Lawson who died recently and also a donation of **£500** from the estate of Dorothy Black whose Requiem Mass was celebrated on Wednesday. We are most grateful to the families Sylvia and Dorothy for arranging these donations to Parish Funds



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 Mary Beaton on fmbeaton@btinternet.com or alternatively emailed 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.

Mission Sunday

World Mission Sunday is celebrated on Sunday 22nd October and there will be a collection that weekend for 'Missio' - the Pope's official charity for overseas mission and is part of the worldwide network of the Pontifical Missions Societies.



Greetings and Christmas 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. TODAY, Sunday 15th October we have a Christmas Card sale after all Masses and then also on **November 5th** and **December 3rd**. There will be boxes, packs and individual cards on sale. We also have some Christmas CTS books, candles and diaries. Please pop into the Hall after Mass and take a look. Some Christmas cards will be put on the card stand at the back of Church in between these dates.

CTS Pamphlets

We now have a greater choice of CTS pamphlets on the wall holder at the back of church and are able now to offer a wider choice of pamphlets. Please put money for cards and books in the box on the wall beside the card stand. A small selection of books are available in large print; please contact Bernadette Rich if you are interested.



CATHOLIC TRUTH SOCIETY

Soup and Sweet Lunch

We are holding a Lunchtime Soup and Sweet on Saturday 28th October at 12noon in aid of the Lourdes Hospitalité Fund. This fund is used by the Lourdes Hospitalité to take elderly and sick pilgrims to Lourdes, to buy medical and nursing items that will assist in the care of sick pilgrims and also to purchase specialised "ProMoves", that enables the helpers to move disabled people from a wheelchair into a seat on an aircraft, or in the Hospital in Lourdes. All proceeds will help with this. Tickets available from Elizabeth Dixon (☎ 516584) or Elphin Conroy (☎ 503419) at a cost of £5.00.



Society of St Vincent de Paul

The next meeting of the SVP will be on Wednesday 1st November at 7.30pm. We would welcome anyone who may be thinking of joining the Society to come to the meeting to find out whether the work of the SVP is something they would do as part of their Christian vocation. The annual report from the St Robert's Conference of the SVP is available at the back of church. On the back is a summary of the work of the SVP at the Diocesan level (Tyne Central Council) and nationally. Please take a copy and read it. Thank you for your continued support to the SVP.



Christmas Fayre Bottle Stall

The SVP will be running the Bottle Stall at the Christmas Fayre and would welcome donations of bottles. Please either hand them to a member of the SVP or leave them in the Presbytery marked for the Bottle Stall. Please bring them soon – don't delay. Thank you.

Parish Christmas Fayre – Saturday 2nd December

Christmas seems a long way off but it is October already and it will be time for our Fayre before we know it. There is now a sheet at the back of Church for people to sign up if you would like to organise or help with a stall or activity. Andrea has given some suggestions for stalls that have been included in the past but new ideas and suggestions are always welcome. Some people who have run stalls in the past may not be able to do it this year, so if you have not been involved before, please consider helping. It's a fun day for all the family! If you have any questions please get in touch with Andrea Mitchell, on 512281. Thank you! Andrea looks forward to hearing from you as we try and make 2017 our best Fayre yet!

Children's Liturgy leaders needed

Would you like to become a Children's Liturgy leader or companion? We currently need more people to help and support our Children's Liturgy. It would typically require your time at 9am Mass on a Sunday morning, every 5 to 6 weeks. We have a rota which is flexible to suit everybody's commitments. Please contact Lisa Coen on ☎ 07718918253 or email liscoen1972@icloud.com



Journey in Faith Meetings

The Journey in Faith meetings have begun and the next will be held on Thursday 19th October. This year are following a programme called "Focus on Faith" which will hopefully help us do just that!! We invite those who are seeking to know more about their faith, those who wish to become Catholic and also those who are Catholic who want to know a little more.



Repairs to Church Roof

We have been informed that scaffolding will be put in place this week to allow access to the roof for inspection to assess the extent of the damage, repair the damage and install a new Cross to match the one that fell off.



Pilgrimage to Poland 2018

Many forms have already been handed out and bookings for the Pilgrimage for next April, are coming in quickly. Those who have taken a Booking Form are advised to send them in to Tangney Tours (address on Booking Form) as soon as possible, to make sure that you secure your place. At the moment we now have a waiting list until we know how many from Morpeth and Hexham have booked.



Annual Mass Count

We are taking our Annual Mass Count over the next three weekends. After the first count last weekend, our numbers are already approximately 40 people lower than the same weekend last year.

St Bede's Silver Jubilee: YOU are Invited

St Bede's Church, Bedlington are celebrating the Silver Jubilee of the opening of their "new" church. Bishop Seamus Cunningham will be there to celebrate Mass to mark the occasion on **Friday 20th October at 7.00pm** and parishioners from St Roberts and throughout the partnership are warmly invited to join with them. Refreshments will be available after the Mass.

Partnership Spirituality Network

The next meeting of the Partnership Spirituality Network will be held at St Bede's Church, Bedlington on Monday 23rd October at 10.30am.

Partnership Finance Group

The next meeting of the Partnership Finance Group will be held on Thursday 19th October at 7pm at St Thomas of Canterbury, Longhorsley.

"Partnership Matters"

The latest edition of the bi-monthly news update on Partnerships is now available on the front page of the diocesan website (www.rcdhn.org.uk). It includes information on Developing Discipleship, Communications and a feature from Blackfriars Partnership. Contributions of news items from Partnerships are always welcome.

First Holy Communion Preparation

Our preparation for our children for First Confession and First Holy Communion will begin in a few weeks time. As part of the preparation we ask parents of those children eligible in Year 4, to complete the paperwork that is being handed out from St Robert's School. If there are any children in other years, eg Yrs 5, 6, or 7 who have missed previous years or children who attend a different school, please speak to Fr Peter as soon as possible. Preparation this year will take place after the Sunday 9am Mass.

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

Altar Servers

A few of our Altar Servers have decided to stand down so we would like to invite some other young people to volunteer for this special ministry. Servers should have celebrated their First Holy Communion. If anyone would like to serve please speak to Fr Peter or John Kinghorn.



Diocesan Altar Servers Mass

There is to be a Diocesan Altar Servers Mass on Saturday 4th November at 11am at St Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle upon Tyne. Servers are asked to wear their Albs if attending. Parishioners and parents are most welcome to join in this celebration of dedicated service to the altar. Those wishing to go are asked to let the organizer know by 13th October [Marc Besford, 5 Haddon Road, Billingham, Cleveland, TS23 2EQ Telephone: 07910777155; Email: marcbesford91@gmail.com; Website: www.guildofststephen.webs.com]

"Light in the Darkness"

There will be a Service for those who mourn the loss of a child, in St. Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle on Sunday 5th November 2017 at 3.00pm. All welcome.

Divine Mercy Devotion

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 2nd November at 7pm in the church.



The Pope John Paul II Award Scheme



POPE JOHN PAUL II AWARD

The Pope John Paul II Award Scheme is due to be launched once again for the current Academic Year. If there are any young Catholics in High School who may be interested in taking part in this Award Scheme, please contact Fr Peter or Bernadette Rich, our Parish Coordinator for the award. More

information on <http://thepopejohnpauliiaward.com/hexham-and-newcastle/>

Faith Journey Talk by Bill Huebsch

On Thursday 26th October, Bill Huebsch will be visiting the Diocese and leading a day on his most recent book, "The Art of Accompaniment." There is no charge for the day but should you wish to have a light lunch there is a charge of £10. 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. Telephone ☎ 0191 243 3302 | email spirituality@diocesehn.org.uk

Parish and Partnership YMT Co-Workers

Before Partnerships came into existence, the former Deanery had parish representatives who liaised with the Diocesan Youth Ministry Team and coordinated YMT events in the Deanery and local parishes. St Robert's hasn't had anyone in this role since Andrew O'Neill moved away. With the launch of the new partnerships, YMT are trying to relaunch this support group in the new partnerships. If anyone would like to consider doing this, or wants a little bit more information, please contact Fr Peter as soon as possible. The next meeting for this group is on 19th October, so it would be good if someone was taking on this role by then.

DBS (Safeguarding) Checks

The Diocese has asked that we carry out routine checks of DBS forms for our parishioners, some of which are very overdue. The Parish Safeguarding Team will be at all Masses on Sunday 29th October to contact as many people as possible. If you are enrolled on the DBS online service please make a note of this, along with your email address, on the completed form. It is also important the Diocese knows of any other organisations to which you belong, e.g. SVP, Lourdes Pilgrimage helper. Completed forms should be returned to Diocesan Safeguarding Office, St Cuthbert's House, West Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE15 7PY, but if this is not possible please hand to one of the safeguarding team; see the posters in the Church Porch and Church Hall for names of our safeguarding reps.

Bonus Ball

The first draw was on Saturday 7th October and the lucky winners receiving £25 with Bonus Ball number 21 were Adeline Thirtle and Elizabeth Boiston. Congratulations to our first winners. There are still 9 more weeks to go so there's still a chance it could be you!

Help Needed for Winter Support

An appeal has been launched to help people in Iraq and Greece over the winter months. There is an urgent need for clothing, winter aid, medical aid, electronics, baby items, jewelry and activities for the people of Iraq and Greece. Please see poster for further details.

Refugee Support Group

Morpeth and Mitford Churches Together have produced a report from the Refugee Support Group, it is on the church notice board. It includes a summary of the West End Refugee Service annual report for 2016/17 which indicates well over 500 refugees and asylum seekers were supported. The Group also supports the Justice and Peace asylum seekers centre, based at the Deaf Centre in Newcastle, which also helps hundreds of people. Please continue to keep these projects going with your regular donations. Thank you.



October the month of the Rosary

Can you spare 15 minutes to pray the Rosary in October for peace in the world.