

## Masses and Services this week

Sunday 22nd October	9.00am Mass	People of the Parish	29th Sunday of the Year World Mission Sunday
	11.00am Mass	Tony Syron	
	6.00pm Mass	Mrs CI Cole	
Monday 23rd October	9.15am Service	Word and Communion Service	Weekday
Tuesday 24th October	9.15am Mass	Cecily Walker	Weekday
Wednesday 25th October	9.15am Mass	Alec Langley	Weekday
Thursday 26th October	9.15am Mass	Christina Thomson	Ss Chad and Cedd
Friday 27th October	9.15am Service	Word and Communion Service	Weekday
Saturday 28th October	10.00am Mass	Mary Nicholson	Ss Simon and Jude
Sunday 29th October	9.00am Mass	People of the Parish	30th 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 (2nd November)	Thursday

## Ministries Next Week: 29th October 2017 - 30th Sunday of the Year

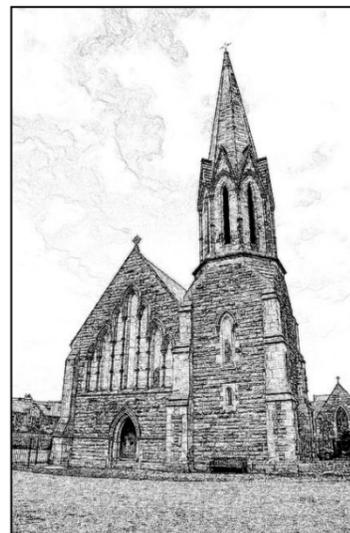
	9am Mass	11am Mass	6pm Mass
<b>Welcomers</b>	A Beattie A Roberts	E Dixon G Davison	G Snaith Chris Smith
<b>Readers</b>	A Mitchell D Marr	J Ratcliffe D Shearer	C Reardon T Edwards
<b>Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion</b>	H Lewington S Conroy A Donaldson	A Dawes Cath Smith R Soulsby	B Cole L Cole L Edwards
<b>Altar Servers</b>	M Laux F Lawson	A Kinghorn L Kinghorn	D Dowd C Bradley
<b>Children's Liturgy</b>	Leader – Clare	Companion - Nicola	

## 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

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

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## Sunday 22nd October 2017—29th Sunday of the Year

We live our lives torn in many directions. From the moment we wake up there are a hundred and one claims on our time. We have to look after our homes and our families. We have to go to work and deal with a whole range of tasks from the very important to the totally banal. We have to fill in forms, pay bills, make calls, answer emails, maintain the car, and pick up the shopping. If we're very lucky we might just squeeze in a bit of leisure time.

The Pharisees and the Herodians in today's gospel decided to set a trap for Jesus. "Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor," they asked, "or not?" they were confident that they had put Jesus in a 'no win' situation. If Jesus said "taxes should not be paid to Caesar", then this was treason against the Roman authorities. If however Jesus said that the taxes should be paid, he would upset the Jewish authorities. Jesus replied, "Give to the emperor the things that are the emperor's and to God the things that are God's."

It is tempting to imagine that Jesus might have been talking about compartments. We imagine a compartment for things belonging to Caesar, and a compartment for things belonging to God. Of course there could be no such compartments, because as we know everything comes from God, so everything must belong to God. So had Jesus really answered the question, or merely sidestepped it?

Perhaps today we struggle with Jesus' answer as much as the Pharisees and Herodians must have done. Perhaps we see life as a conflict between God's claim on us and all life's other claims in just the way God's enemies were suggesting. Perhaps we try to put God into a Sunday morning compartment and even that will conflict with the children's football and the D.I.Y. What Jesus tells us today is liberating. Once we learn to allow God into every corner of our lives our lives become whole instead of torn and fragmented. Once we know that our only loyalty is to God there can be no conflict.





for all whose anniversaries occur at this time.

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 Jim Doherty; for all who have died recently; and

**Offertory Collection – 15th October**  
**Total Offertory £924.89**

**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](mailto:fmbeaton@btinternet.com) or alternatively emailed to the parish office on [morpeth.strobertnewminster@rcdhn.org.uk](mailto:morpeth.strobertnewminster@rcdhn.org.uk) or drop a note in at the Presbytery no later than 12pm on a Thursday.

**Mission Sunday**

TODAY is World Mission Sunday. World Mission Sunday is your chance to support missionaries and the Church in proclaiming the Gospel of peace to those who suffer around the world. By supporting Missio, the Pope's official charity for overseas mission, you will be sharing the peace and love of Christ with all people by helping everyone in need, regardless of background or belief. Today, your prayers and your donation will help a spirit of peace spread across South Sudan and around the world. Please give what you can, and if possible, please use the Gift Aid envelopes if you are a taxpayer. Thank you.



**CWL Bonus Ball**

The second draw of the Bonus Ball was number 42 and the lucky winners receiving £25 were Pat Lewin and John Ratcliffe. Congratulations to both.

**Holyday of Obligation – advance notice**

Wednesday 1st November is the Feast of All Saints and a Holyday of Obligation. There will be a Vigil Mass on Tuesday 31st October at 7.00pm at St Bede's Church, Bedlington; and Mass on Wednesday 1st November at St Robert's at 12.30pm and 7.00pm.



**Induction of Fr Shaun Purdy**

On Friday 27th October, the induction of Fr Shaun Purdy as Parish Priest of St Aidan's, Ashington, will be celebrated at 7pm. Parishioners are welcome to attend this special occasion.

**Divine Mercy Devotion**

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

**Youth Coordinator Vacancy**

The Brinkburn and Heavenfield partnerships of Northumberland are seeking to appoint a new Youth Coordinator for a period of three years. Full details of the vacancy are available on the Diocesan website... [www.rcdhn.org.uk](http://www.rcdhn.org.uk). Please pray that we might be able to appoint the most appropriate person for the work necessary.

**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.



**DBS (Safeguarding) Checks**

The Diocesan Safeguarding Office has asked that we carry out routine checks of DBS forms, some of which are very overdue. The 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 Safeguarding Office of the Diocese knows of any other organisations to which you belong, e.g. SVP, Lourdes Pilgrimage helper. When completed please give to one of the safeguarding team, Anne Dawes, Veronica Shearer, Mary Beaton or drop into the parish office.

**Baptism Preparation**

The next Baptism Preparation Meeting takes place at St Robert's Church on Thursday 23rd November at 7.30pm. Any parent wanting a child to be baptised is asked to speak to Fr. Peter to make arrangements to attend the meeting.

**Parish Christmas Fayre – Saturday 2nd December**

Our Parish Fayre will be held on Saturday 2nd December. Many Thanks to everyone who has already signed up to help at the fayre. If you are still thinking about helping there is still time we need a volunteer for the jewellery stall. If you are new to the parish helping at the fayre is a good way to get to know people and is not a huge commitment and is always good fun. The fayre runs from 10am until 2pm on the 2nd December, we start setting up about 9am and are usually all cleared up by 3pm. If you cannot manage the whole day you might think about putting your name down just to help for a few hours during the day. From this weekend there will be a box in the porch to leave contributions for the tombola and other stalls. If you have any questions please get in touch with Andrea Mitchell 512281. Thank you.

**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.

**Christmas Fayre – Raffle Prizes**

If anyone would like to donate a prize for the raffle (it must be something new!) please see Anne Beattie, Christine Watson or Anne Roberts. Thank you.

**Christmas Cards**

We will have a Christmas Cards sale on **November 5th and December 3rd**. There will be a wide selection of cards on sale.

**Readers Evening of Prayer**

We have been asked to provide a period of prayer for those who read at Mass (*the same as we did for our Extraordinary Ministers earlier in the year*). This will be held on Monday 13th November at 7.00pm in Church. There will be a period of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament for approximately 30 / 35 minutes and then a period to ask questions about this ministry.

**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.



**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 ✉ [lisacoen1972@icloud.com](mailto:lisacoen1972@icloud.com)



**Journey in Faith Meetings**

The Journey in Faith meetings have begun and the next will be held on Thursday 2nd November at 7.00pm.



**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.

**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

**“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.

**The Pope John Paul II Award Scheme**

The Pope John Paul II Award Scheme is being 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/>



**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

**Mass Change:** Please note that Mass will be celebrated on Wednesday at 9..15am.

**October the month of the Rosary**

October is the month of the Holy Rosary. This year we also celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Our Lady appearing at Fatima where she asked people to pray the Rosary for world peace. Can you spare 15 minutes to pray the Rosary in October for peace in the world?



**Congratulations**

We offer our Congratulations and best wishes to Iris Weatheritt who celebrates her 90th birthday on Thursday 26th October.

**Annual Mass Count**

We are required to take the Annual Mass Count. We have taken the count for two weeks and we have another two weeks to do this.

**Christmas Music Meeting**

It is only October, but there will be a meeting on Thursday evening for all involved in providing music at Christmas. We will have only two Masses at St Robert's Church—one at Midnight and one at 10am on Christmas morning. Hopefully both Masses can have a mix of music and musicians willing to play. Come along on Thursday at 7.00pm to meet together to discuss this.

**First Holy Communion preparation**

Preparation for First Confession and Holy Communion began last Sunday. There will be a special Mass of Commitment for them at the 9am Mass on 12th November. We also ask for Prayer Partners. Could you be a Prayer Sponsor for one of the children preparing to receive the Sacraments this year. It is a great way for the Parish to support the children. There is a list in Church for you to put your name to show your support for these children.



**Icon Exhibition**

To mark the opening of a new Centre (in the old Montessori School) in Sunderland there will be a display of some of the beautiful icons produced in workshops at Seaham Centre for Prayer and Mission in the last few years. Some are "written" by beginners, others by experienced iconographers – all amateur. Come and learn about the process and the spirituality behind icons. You will be pleasantly surprised. Venue: Tunstall Road, Sunderland SR2 7JR [For parking, use the electronic gate below the main entrance of Oak Lea Convent.] When: 16th – 31st Oct. 2-4pm every day with a talk at 3pm if suitable.

**New Monastery of Our Lady of Hope at Minsteracres**

The new monastery offers the advantage of a room for one person to spend a day or a few hours in solitude and prayer with access to the monastic chapel. Available from 9.30am to 5pm. Booking necessary. Coffee and tea available you are welcome to bring a packed lunch. Donation accepted. Contact details. Contemplative Passionist Nuns, Mother Monica Curran CP Monastery of Our Lady of Holy Hope, Minsteracres, Consett. DH8 9RT Phone: 01434 673002 Mobile: 07544282005 Email: [srmoniacap@aol.com](mailto:srmoniacap@aol.com). The new monastery is in the grounds of Minsteracres Retreat Centre.

**University Chaplaincy Website**

A new website has been set up to help young people find their Catholic chaplaincy when they arrive at college and university this autumn. Do you know someone away at University? Tell them about this website so that they can find their nearest Chaplaincy Centre. [www.catholicsatuniversity.org.uk](http://www.catholicsatuniversity.org.uk)