

Masses and Services this week

Sunday 5th November	9.00am Mass	Helen and Douglas Cone	31st Sunday of the Year
	11.00am Mass	Veronica Leyland	
	6.00pm Mass	People of the Parish	
Monday 6th November	9.15am Service	Word and Communion Service	Weekday in Ordinary Time
Tuesday 7th November	No Mass		St Willibrord
Wednesday 8th November	9.15am Service	Word and Communion Service	Weekday in Ordinary Time
Thursday 9th November	No Mass		Dedication of the Lateran Basilica
Friday 10th November	9.15am Service	Word and Communion Service	St Leo the Great
Saturday 11th November	10.00am	Mary Bramham	St Martin of Tours
Sunday 12th November	9.00am Mass	Maureen Owens (CWL)	32nd Sunday of the Year
	11.00am Mass	People of the Parish	
	6.00pm Mass	No Intention	

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)	Cancelled this week	Saturday morning
Divine Mercy Devotions	7.00pm	Thursday

Ministries Next Week: 12th November 2017 - 32nd Sunday of the Year

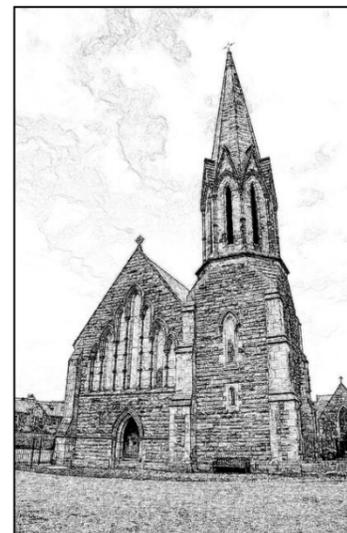
	9am Mass	11am Mass	6pm Mass
Welcomers	A Beattie A Roberts	C Watson R Soulsby	S Matthews G Snaith
Readers	H Lewington N McCole	L Flinders B Lewins	Chris Smith C Rich
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	A Gorman T McLaughlin A Beattie	V Shearer E Dixon A Dawes	A Smith J Marshall B Rich
Altar Servers	M Laux M Watson	P Glancey L Kinghorn	J Dowd D Dowd
Children's Liturgy	Leader: Amy Companion: Sylvie		

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 November

Christians in Asia: That Christians in Asia, bearing witness to the Gospel in word and deed, may promote dialogue, peace, and mutual understanding, especially with those of other religions.



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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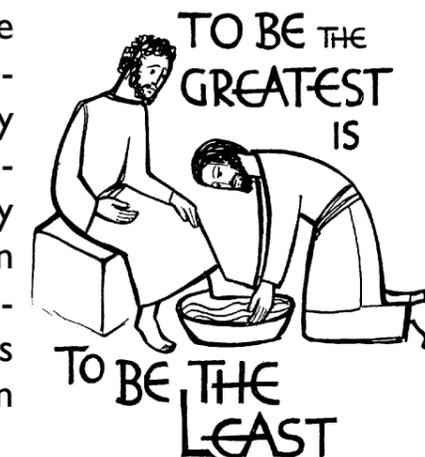
www.strobertsmorpeth.com / Facebook: St Robert of Newminster

Sunday 5th November 2017 — 31st Sunday of the Year

It's easy to be religious, but it's not easy to be Christian. It's easy to go to church, carry a bible and look prayerful, but it's not always easy to put faith into action. Even when we do put our faith into action it's hard not to want people to notice how good we are being.

Yet again the Pharisees are in Jesus' bad books. "... Do whatever they teach," Jesus advises, "but do not do as they do, for they do not practice what they preach." Jesus accuses the religious leaders of hypocrisy. "They tie up heavy burdens hard to bear and lay them on the shoulders of others." "They do all their deeds to be seen by others." Jesus is telling us that if we start placing more emphasis on outer conduct rather than on inner character we are hypocrites. We are hypocrites if we do good deeds not for the love of others but for love of the spotlight.

None of us set out to be hypocrites, so perhaps we shouldn't be quite so harsh on the Pharisees. Hypocrisy is a very easy trap to fall into. We are constantly dishing out advice as parents, as teachers, as counselors and as best friends advice we are often guilty of not following ourselves. Hypocrisy is a very human failing. We want to be one thing but end up being another. Then instead of owning up to our weaknesses we pretend to be something that we're not and then want praise and admiration into the bargain!



Today Jesus gives us an all-important strategy for avoiding the hypocrisy trap. Stay humble! If we can develop a genuine motivation to look to the interests of others we are less likely to crave personal glory.



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 for all whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Offertory Collection – 29th October
Total: £930.68

Changes to Mass this week

Please note that there are no Masses this week. Services of Word and Communion will be celebrated as usual on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Fr Peter will be attending the Great Britain Lourdes Pilgrimage Directors Conference in Torquay.

Sunday Morning Tea and Coffee

Tea and Coffee is served in the Church Hall after the 9am and 11am Masses each Sunday. Everyone is 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

Please e-mail items for the parish newsletter, by 12noon on Thursdays: to Marian (marian@marianbell.f2s.com) or to the parish office (morpeth.strobertnewminster@rcdhn.org.uk) or drop in a note at the Presbytery.

Rosary and Blessing of Graves

Fr Peter invites you to join him for the Rosary for our deceased Relatives, Friends and Parishioners and Blessing of Graves on Sunday 12th November at 3pm at St Mary's Cemetery; and at 3pm on Sunday 19th November at Fairmoor Cemetery.



Prayers for the Faithful Departed.

Envelopes are available throughout the month of November for you to pray for the Holy Souls. Place an offering in an envelope and place in the basket which will be brought forward at Mass each day.

Partnership Service of Remembrance

Our Brinkburn Partnership has arranged for a Service of Remembrance to be held at St Robert's Church on Friday 17th November at 7.00pm. In this month when we pray for all our faithful departed, this allows everyone in our partnership parishes the opportunity to come together to remember our deceased loved ones. Everyone is welcome.



“ 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.

Clergy Training Fund

The Clergy Training Fund remains open until 26th November. Gift Aid envelopes available for those who wish to use them for donations if you are a taxpayer.

Partnership Youth Coordinator Vacancy

Full details of the vacancy are available on the Diocesan website... www.rcdhn.org.uk. Closing Date for applications is 6th November. Please pray that we will be able to appoint the most appropriate person for the work necessary.

Partnership Development Group

The next Meeting of the Partnership Development Group will be held on Thursday 16th November at Sacred Heart and St Cuthbert, Amble at 7pm.



Lourdes Hospitalité Fundraiser

A massive thank you to everyone that supported the Soup & Sweet Lunch in aid of the Lourdes Hospitalité Fund. As the result of the very generous support of parishioners and friends, the magnificent sum of £606.00 was raised. This will enable the Diocesan Hospitalité Group to purchase two “ProMoves”.

Bonus Ball

The 4th draw of the Bonus Ball was number 53 and the lucky winners receiving £25 were Peter Smith and Mary Laux. Congratulations to them both.

Catholic Women's League

The next CWL meeting will be on Monday 6th November at 7pm in the Church Hall. This will be a business meeting, which will start with prayers. Would members who are going to the Christmas Lunch please bring their £5 deposit to the meeting.

Journey in Faith Meetings

The next Journey in Faith meetings will be held on Thursday 16th November at 7.00pm, looking at “The New Testament”

First Holy Communion Preparation

Children's Catechesis will be held after the 9am Mass this weekend in school. There will be a special Mass of Commitment for our children who are beginning their Sacramental preparation 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 and it doesn't involve very much just your prayers. There is a list in Church for you to sign your name to show your support for these children.

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.

Readers Evening of Prayer

There will be 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 an opportunity to ask questions about this ministry.

Annual Mass Count

We recently had to take the Annual Mass Count, on four Sundays of October. As a result of that count our Average attendance at our three Sunday Masses is now **365**. Last year's figure was 379.

DBS (Safeguarding) Checks

The Diocesan Safeguarding Office has asked that we carry out routine checks of DBS forms, some of which are very overdue. 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.

Children's Liturgy leaders needed

It would be really helpful to have a few more people leading Children's Liturgy leader and a few extra helpers for companions. Can you help out across the message of the Sunday Gospel to the young people at Mass on a Sunday morning? 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



Emptying Mission Boxes

Collectors are currently emptying Mission Boxes, but if anyone lives out of town and needs an envelope to empty their own box, special Missio envelopes are available now at the back of church.

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. There is 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.

National Eucharistic Congress 2018

“Adoremus”, the National Eucharistic Congress takes place in Liverpool from 7th – 9th September 2018. It is hoped that there will be representatives from parishes throughout the country. In this diocese, each partnership has been allocated 17 places; which means there are 17 places shared between the people of our five parishes. If anyone wishes to go, the cost is £40 per delegate per day, not including transport or accommodation. As a Partnership we have to submit names as soon as possible. If you wish to put your name forward for one of the places available, please speak to Fr Peter.

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.

Message from Bishop Seamus

“We are blessed with many devoted and committed Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion who not only help their brothers and sisters receive the Lord at Mass but also express our concern for those who are sick and housebound. Ministers going out to those unable to join us for Sunday Mass have made it possible for very large numbers of parishioners to receive Holy Communion frequently.

Ministers should remember, however, on being given the Blessed Sacrament they are expected to go immediately to the home of that housebound person. For example, Extraordinary Ministers may not take the Blessed Sacrament from a Saturday Vigil Mass to their own homes and keep it there overnight with a view to visiting the sick the next morning.

Where the custom is to go to the housebound on a Sunday Morning while there is no convenient celebration of Mass on that day then provision should be made for ministers to obtain the Blessed Sacrament from the Tabernacle shortly before they exercise their ministry.”

Bishop Seamus Cunningham

*Extraordinary Ministers
of Holy Communion*



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.

Christmas Day Gathering

New Life Morpeth in Dacre Street is hoping to hold a Christmas Day Gathering. Whether single or a couple, all are welcome. We will gather at 12.30pm for a traditional lunch, followed by entertainment, then the Queen's Speech accompanied by tea and Christmas cake, finishing around 4.30pm. You will be invited to make a voluntary contribution towards the costs (we suggest £5 per person). But we can only do this if we have enough interest from those wishing to attend. We also need volunteer helpers who can assist in advance and on the day by acting as hosts, preparing and serving food, washing up or offering lifts. Notice on board in Church about this.

#RedWednesday

This autumn **Aid to the Church in Need** is asking us to stand in solidarity with persecuted Christians and all who suffer for their peacefully held beliefs. They will be holding a week of events from 19 – 26 November with #RedWednesday as the highlight on Wednesday 22nd November. Red is the Christian colour of martyrdom. Christians are the most persecuted faith group in today's world and #RedWednesday will honour all Christians who suffer and die for their faithfulness to Christ's message of peace and love. #RedWednesday will shine a light on Christian persecution but also highlight the injustices perpetrated against other faith groups. Their campaign calls for respect and tolerance for people of faith and between different faith traditions. Get involved this #REDWEDNESDAY by wearing red, lighting buildings or landmarks red (with permission and if they are already floodlit) and holding peaceful prayer events, the UK and the world will take notice. ACN want their second annual #RedWednesday to be a bigger and better opportunity for Christians and others around the UK to show solidarity for our persecuted brothers and sisters.

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 22nd November at 7pm in the Presbytery. Any items for the Agenda please to be handed in 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.

Men's Breakfast

Following an autumn recess, we will reconvene in January 2018 to follow a course of 4 talks for men by Fr Raniero Cantalamessa on The Light of Faith. All men are welcome to share simple fare and thoughts on our male spiritual journeys. Watch this space for dates!

Campaign for a Living Wage

There are pockets of poverty in Morpeth, and a lot of people are struggling to make ends meet. To help raise their incomes, the ecumenical Morpeth Justice and Peace Group has started a project to encourage more local employers to pay the Real Living Wage, which the church supports. For more details, see the leaflet at the back of the church, or contact Mick Quille on 07841 573 768.



Winter Aid for Refugees

There is an appeal to support refugees during the winter months. If you can provide any unwanted warm clothing for all ages, and if possible, sleeping bags, rucksacks, ladies handbags, walking sticks and wound care items it would be greatly appreciated, even though some of these things are very specialized. Please leave in the church porch anytime between now and next Sunday, and please leave in labelled bags. Many thanks for your donations so far. If anyone would like more information or clarification on what is needed, please speak to Maura Illingworth.