

Masses and Services this week

Sunday 7th January	9.00am Mass	Samuel and Dorothy Dutton	The Epiphany of the Lord
	11.00am Mass	Intentions of Pat McDonald	
	6.00pm Mass	People of the Parish	
Monday 8th January	9.15am Service	<i>Service of Word and Communion</i>	The Baptism of the Lord
Tuesday 9th January	9.15am Mass	Dorothy Devitt	<i>Weekday</i>
Wednesday 10th January			<i>Weekday</i>
Thursday 11th January	9.15am Mass	Sr Shelagh Doherty	<i>St Aelred of Rievaulx</i>
Friday 12th January	9.15am Service	<i>Service of Word and Communion</i>	<i>St Benet Biscop</i>
Saturday 13th January	10.00am Mass	Rev Ted Walton (Sp Intents)	<i>Weekday</i>
Sunday 14th January	9.00am Mass	Helen & Douglas Cone	2nd Sunday Year B
	11.00am Mass	People of the Parish	
	6.00pm Mass	Joseph Bell	

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 - 12 noon	Saturday
Divine Mercy Devotions	7.00pm	Thursday

Ministries Next Week: 14th January 2018

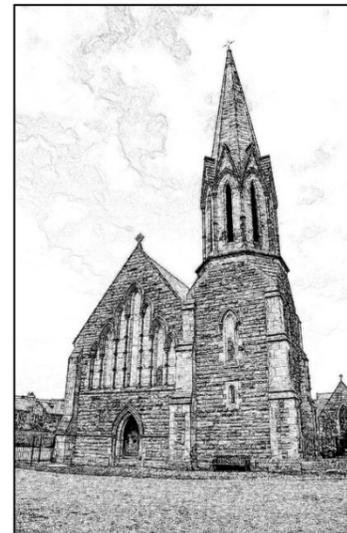
	9am Mass	11am Mass	6pm Mass
Welcomers	K Offen J Offen	G Davison E Dixon	Chris Smith G Snaith
Readers	E Harber G Harber	L Flinders D Shearer	T Edwards C Reardon
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	H Lewington L Edwards S Conroy	A Dawes R Soulsby G Davison	L Cole B Cole D Butler
Altar Servers	M Laux A Shepherd G Sykes	A Kinghorn P Glancey	J Dowd C Bradley
Children's Liturgy	Leader:	Companion:	

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 January

Evangelization: Religious Minorities in Asia That Christians, and other religious minorities in Asian countries, may be able to practise their faith in full freedom.



The Parish of Saint Robert of Newminster, Morpeth In the Brinkburn Partnership, Northumberland

Parish Priest: Father Peter J Stott
peterjstott@aol.com
Retired Priest: Father James Doherty
St Robert's Presbytery, Oldgate, Morpeth, NE61 1QF
(Tel) 01670 513 410
(Email) morpeth.strobertnewminster@rcdhn.org.uk
www.strobertsmorpeth.com | Facebook: St Robert of Newminster
Northumberland Listening Service | 07732 980 740

Sunday 7th January 2018 — The Epiphany of the Lord

It's a well-known saying that if you continue to do the same thing you will get the same results. Yet despite this obvious truth we continue to approach life in exactly the same old ways and repeat the same disastrous outcomes. We tend to get through life relying on the knowledge we already have, instead of searching for something new.

Today the Church commemorates the first manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles. We call it the 'Epiphany' a word derived from the Greek meaning 'to appear' or 'to be shown forth'. The Epiphany is about searching for meaning purpose and revelation. The Magi were men of great learning, intellect and wealth, yet they weren't prepared to sit back and imagine they knew it all. Guided by a star and motivated by a hunger for truth, they stepped out of their comfort zone and set out across the desert not knowing what they would find or how long it would take. It was a journey of faith and great courage.



In the same way as the star got the wise men questioning, so too we find guiding stars in our lives that make us question. What circumstances get us looking for deeper meaning? The desire to leave a mind-numbingly meaningless job, the need to make sense of a family illness, or the curiosity to research the background to a motivational book are all circumstances in which we might find our 'guiding stars'. Today's gospel reading is an invitation for all God's people to step out of their comfort zones and search for a new way of life and a better truth.



Please pray for: Peace on Earth; Christian Unity; Victims of Human Trafficking; The Sick and those who care for them; The Unemployed. Please pray for those who are sick, especially for Fr Jim Doherty; for all who have died recently including Mrs Sarah Crosby of Riverside Care Home whose Requiem Mass will be celebrated on Monday 15th January; and for all whose anniversaries occur at this time

Offertory Collections
Sunday 31st Dec—Total £ 806.39

Advent Alms
 Many thanks to everyone who contributed to Advents Alms for the work of St Cuthbert's Care. We raised £487.57

Christmas Crib Collections

Many thanks to those who have contributed to the Christmas Crib Collection, using the basket in front of the crib. This money will be used by the "Friends of the Holy Land" to support the Christians living in the Holy Land.



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 to the parish, 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 the parish office on morpeth.strobertnewminster@rcdhn.org.uk or drop in a note at the Presbytery.



Pilgrimage to Poland

There are several places still available on the Pilgrimage to Poland from April 23rd - 30th 2018, visiting Krakow, Czestochowa and Auschwitz. Direct flights from Newcastle to Krakow have been booked, guided tours are included, centrally located hotels with half board en-suite accommodation, a full spiritual programme is organised visiting the Shrine of Our Lady at Czestochowa, St Faustina's Shrine and Divine Mercy Basilica, and Pope St John Paul's Shrine in Krakow. Booking Forms are available from Fr Peter.



Partnership Meetings

Partnership Spirituality Network Meeting: Friday 12th January at 10.30am at St Bede's, Bedlington.

Partnership Finance Meeting: Thursday 18th January at 7pm at St Bede's, Bedlington

Partnership Development Group: Wednesday 24th January at 7pm at St Bede's, Bedlington

Baptism Preparation Meeting

The next Meeting for Baptism preparation will be held on Thursday 18th January at St Bede's Church Hall, Bedlington. Parents requesting Baptism will be expected to attend one of these meetings. Any parents wishing to organise a Baptism should make an appointment to discuss this with Fr Peter.

Society of St Vincent de Paul Meeting

The next meeting of the SVP will be on Wednesday 17th January at 7.30pm in the Presbytery. New potential members would be welcome. Why not come along?

Senior Parishioners Social

The Senior Parishioners Social will be held in the parish hall on Saturday 10th February 2018 from 3pm till 6pm for all those eligible (over 70 or thereabouts). The SVP will try to contact those we know of with invitations but if you are not contacted and would like to come please put your name and phone number on the list in the church porch or the hall, indicating whether you need transport. If you are eligible, please don't be shy because you think you are not old; do not deprive your fellow parishioners of your company! Also, we will be looking for donations for prizes for the raffle. Thank you

SVP South Sudan Appeal

Many thanks to those who have already contributed to this appeal, £310 has been sent off so far but further donations or standing orders will still be very welcome. A further supply of the forms is on the church notice-board for you to gift aid a single donation or better still to set up a standing order to secure the work for the longer term. Alternatively cash donations may be handed to any SVP member clearly identified for this purpose. Please help if you can. Thank you.



Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

Booking Forms for the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes are now available from the Parish Office. The Pilgrimage is from 27th July—3rd August, with a direct flight from Newcastle Airport. 2018 marks the 160th Anniversary of the Apparitions in Lourdes to St Bernadette. See Fr Peter for further details or for a Booking Form. The Pilgrimage has a Youth Section for all 16-25 year olds. *[Please remember that there is some money left from Fr Lawrence's time which can only be used to send young people from the parish on pilgrimage ... if anyone is interested, please speak to Fr Peter].* The pilgrimage also runs a special section for those who need care and assistance ... please speak to Fr Peter for further details.

Journey in Faith

The next meeting of the Journey in Faith Group will be on Thursday 18th January at 7pm in the Presbytery.

Wansbeck Valley Foodbank

If you can help, the Wansbeck Valley Foodbank is constantly looking for donations of non-perishable food. Donations can be left in the box at the back of Church.

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

The next Parish Pastoral Council Meeting is due to be held on Wednesday 31st January. If anyone has items they would like discussing, please contact Fr Peter or the Council Secretary, Stevie Matthews.

Ministers of Communion to the Sick and Housebound

We have a few Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion who are taking Holy Communion to the Sick and Housebound, but need a few more ministers willing and able to go on a list so that we contact when we need to find someone to take communion, sometimes on an ad hoc basis, sometimes more regularly. Can all ministers who visit the sick keep Fr Peter up to date with the names and addresses of those they visit regularly with Holy Communion.

Parish Secretary

Mrs Bernadette Rich will begin work as our new Parish Secretary on Monday 8th January. Bernadette will be available in the office on weekday mornings for all enquiries.

White Flower Appeal

The Society for the Protection of Unborn children (SPUC) will be holding its annual appeal on the weekend of the 13th-14th January. We will have



the appeal at all our Masses here next week. SPUC is currently campaigning to stop the decriminalisation of abortion, which means taking abortion outside the law. This is the most dangerous threat to unborn children and their mothers in decades. We ask to support this appeal so that SPUC can work to defeat this latest attack on unborn babies and their mothers, and to stop abortion getting even worse in this country by decriminalisation

