

## Masses and Services this week

<b>Sunday 21st January</b>	<b>9.00am Mass</b>	Intentions Anne Beattie and Fam.	<b>Third Sunday of Year B</b>
	<b>11.00am Mass</b>	Tony Kolodziej	
	<b>6.00pm Mass</b>	People of the Parish	
Monday 22nd January	<b>12.15pm Service</b>	<b>Funeral Service:</b> Michael Daniels	<i>St Vincent, deacon</i>
Tuesday 23rd January	<b>9.15am Mass</b>	Sr Sheila Doherty	<i>Weekday</i>
Wednesday 24th January			<i>St Francis de Sales</i>
Thursday 25th January	<b>9.15am Mass</b>	Isabel Walker	<i>The Conversion of St Paul, apostle</i>
Friday 26th January	<b>9.15am Service</b>	<i>Service of Word and Communion</i>	<i>Ss Timothy and Titus</i>
Saturday 27th January	<b>10.00am Mass</b>	Pat Horrax	<i>St Angela Merici</i>
<b>Sunday 28th January</b>	<b>9.00am Mass</b>	Des McLaughlin	<b>Fourth Sunday of the Year</b>
	<b>11.00am Mass</b>	Rev Ted Walton	
	<b>6.00pm Mass</b>	People of the Parish	

## 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—12noon	Saturday
Divine Mercy Devotions	7.00pm	Thursday

## Ministries Next Week: 28th January 2018

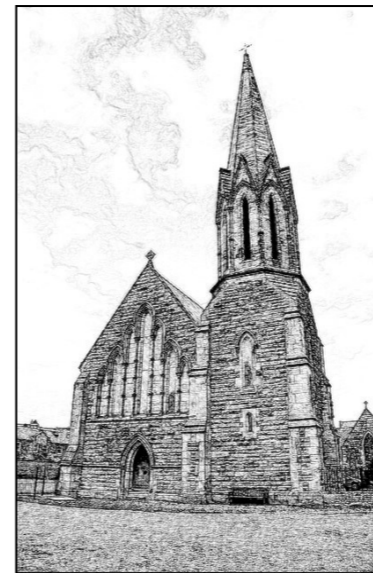
	9am Mass	11am Mass	6pm Mass
<b>Welcomers</b>	K Offen J Offen	R Soulsby C Watson	G Snaith S Matthews
<b>Readers</b>	A Beattie M Murray	B Cudd C Mills	Chris Smith C Rich
<b>Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion</b>	M Dewar D Dewar A Donaldson	M Beaton Cath Smith G Davison	A Smith B Rich M Illingworth
<b>Altar Servers</b>	M Laux A Shepherd G Sykes	A Kinghorn L Kinghorn	J Dowd C Bradley
<b>Children's Liturgy</b>	Leader: Amy                      Companion: Callum		

## 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 December

**The Elderly** - That the elderly, sustained by families and Christian communities, may apply their wisdom and experience to spreading the faith and forming the new generations.



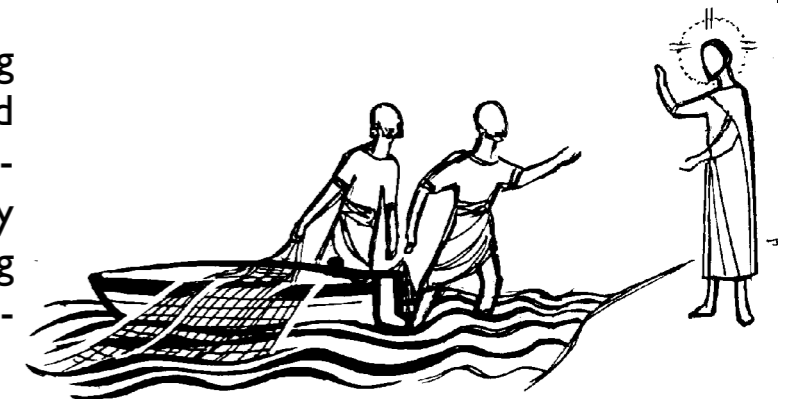
## The Parish of Saint Robert of Newminster, Morpeth In the Brinkburn Partnership, Northumberland

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 20th January 2018 — Third Sunday of the Year

“Wanted:- Men and women willing to leave behind their old way of life and become fishers men.”

Can you see job applicants queuing round the block? Would we respond to Jesus' call with the same immediacy as those first disciples? Probably not! Chances are we'd hesitate long and hard. A hundred and one questions would hold us back.



What would being a disciple involve? Would we be up to the job? What would we have to leave behind? What would we have to give up? Would part time discipleship be okay ... after all we've got lots else to do! Would candidates be permitted to serve two masters, giving up one's own agenda is surely too much to ask!

There would be lots of questions we would ask, but sadly no easy answers. There is no one answer that is right for everybody. But the one important message for us today is that discipleship usually means a major shift in direction; a change that involves leaving behind things that get in the way of our relationship with God.

It is left to each of us to decide what our particular mode of discipleship might be, and what stands in the path of our new direction. Our new direction has to start with some good hard soul searching, and a change of heart.



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 Michael Daniels whose Funeral Service will be celebrated here at St Robert's on Monday at 12.15pm; and for all whose anniversaries occur at this time.

### Offertory Collections

**Sunday 14th January—Total Offertory £1002.75**

### White Flower Appeal

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to the SPUC White Flower Appeal last week. £142.54 was raised.

### Racial Justice Sunday

Next week is Racial Justice Sunday and there will be a retiring collection at all Masses next Sunday.

### 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 email address on [morpeth.strobertnewminster@rcdhn.org.uk](mailto: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 of 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. Closing date for Bookings is early February.



### Partnership Meetings

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

### Information for Readers and Eucharistic Ministers

As the Church is open to the public during the day, individual personal contact details will no longer be posted on the noticeboard in the Church porch. Copies however, for those who need them are available. If you would like a copy please feel free to request one from the Parish Office, either in person or by email.

### Pastoral Letter

This weekend we will listen to a Pastoral Letter from Bishop Seamus Cunningham on "the Ministry and Role of the Deacon"



### 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, as usual we will be looking for donations for prizes for the raffle. Thank you!



### Society of St Vincent de Paul Meeting

The next meeting of the SVP will be on Wednesday 31st January at 7.30pm in the Parish Office. New potential members would be welcome. Why not come along?

### Journey in Faith

The next meeting of the Journey in Faith group will be held on Thursday 1st February at 7pm in the Presbytery.

### 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 to be discussed please contact Fr Peter or the Council Secretary, Stevie Matthews. Fr Peter recently approached members of the parish enquiring if they would come along and be part of the Council together with the existing members. If anyone has responded to Fr Peter's request, please let him know as soon as possible.

### 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 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.



### 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 in the church porch.

### Change of Mass

Please note that there is NO Mass / SERVICE on Wednesday, 24th January. There will be Mass at 10am at St Bede's Church Bedlington.

### Partnership Mass of Affirmation

A Mass of Affirmation was publicised in the Advent Partnership Newsletter as being 9th February at Sacred Heart and St Cuthbert Church, Amble. Unfortunately this has been postponed and a new date will be arranged in due course. Further details will follow.

### RC Chaplain Post at HMP Durham

A Chaplaincy job in an establishment provides pastoral and faith specific care to prisoners and staff. The minimum qualification for this post is normally the Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies. 37 hour working week – this role requires working regular unsocial hours. Salary £25,920-£29,176. Closing date for application is 30th January 2018. Further details can be found at: <https://justicejobs.tal.net/vx/lang-en-GB/mobile-0/appcentre-1/brand-2/candidate/so/pm/1/pl/3/opp/15634-15634-Roman-Catholic-Ordained-Priest-Roman-Catholic-Ordained-Deacon-Brother-Sister-Lay-Person/en-GB>

### Poverty Lunch

Church Action on Poverty Sunday takes place on Sunday 11th February. To follow up last year's successful fundraiser at Morpeth Methodist Church, a poverty lunch of soup and cake is being held at St Aidan's church hall, Stobhill, on Sunday 11th February. Tea and coffee will be available from 12.30 along with information on the work of the Justice and Peace group and Church Action on Poverty. The lunch will commence at 1pm. This is free but a collection will be taken to raise funds for the charity Church Action on Poverty. So that number are known for catering, if you are thinking of attending could you please contact Anne or Tony Woods on 01670 519617 or e-mail [tonywoods57@aol.com](mailto:tonywoods57@aol.com)

### Partnership Youth Coordinator

We have now advertised once again the role of Youth Coordinator for our Partnership and the advert is available on the diocesan website <http://www/rcdhn.uk/papers/diovac.php>. Please pass on this information to anyone you think may be interested. It is important for us to try and appoint someone to this role so that we can support our young people in the development of their faith in Jesus Christ, so please pray for a successful appointment.

### Partnership YMT Coordinators

Our Partnership has a Youth Co-workers Group that helps support and promote the work of the Youth Ministry Team in the Partnership, but we have no-one from St Robert's who is a member of that group. Would anyone like to take on this role and attend the meetings on behalf of the parish. The group meets once every term. If there are two people interested that would be fantastic but one would be great. Please speak to Fr Peter if interested.

### Low cost retreat on Holy Island

Is there someone in our parish or partnership who would benefit from a retreat but who cannot make one because cost? The Retreat Association has partnered up with Marygate Retreat Centre to offer a retreat on Lindisfarne – Holy Island from 12th -18th February 2018 for those on low or restricted income. The retreat will be led by the Bishop of Salford, Bishop John Arnold, who was Bishop of Lindisfarne 2006-2014. There are up to 17 places available. Bishop John will be leading the retreat which gives an introduction to retreats and prayer and draws on the history and heritage of the North East. The normal cost of this retreat would be £315 per person but places will be offered with up to 50% discount on an application basis. If you know of someone who may be interested in applying for a place please contact the Retreats Associations ([email@retreats.org.uk](mailto:email@retreats.org.uk)) for an application form. Please note that the maximum income level quoted on the form has now been set aside – the RA realised they had set it too low!) Help with transport from Berwick station would usually be available. Applications close 24 January 2018.

### Justice and Peace Project

The Justice and Peace Project based at Our Lady of Lourdes Deaf Centre in Newcastle helps over 400 asylum seekers every week, giving them £5 and a bag of essential items including clothes and shoes. Once the asylum seekers 'Leave to Stay' has been refused (often through lack of legal help) they lose their homes and all government funding. They are effectively made destitute. Our parish is among those who have supported the project for several years. The number of asylum seekers has risen by over 20% in 2017, so the Project desperately needs our help. Could you include a food item for them in your weekly shopping and then bring along to place in the box in the porch? Thank you.

### Ministers of Communion to the Sick & Housebound

Many thanks to those who take Holy Communion out to our sick and housebound parishioners and to those who have recently offered their services to this ministry. It is much appreciated. If any other ministers feel they can be involved with Holy Communion to the Sick and Housebound, please speak to Fr Peter

### Baptism Preparation Meetings

The next meeting for Baptism Preparation will be held on Thursday 15th February at 7.30pm. Any parents wishing to organise a Baptism should make an appointment to discuss this with Fr. Peter. For Baptism, one parent of the child to be baptised must be a baptised Catholic. Mass on a Saturday Evening or a Sunday is expected. One of the godparents is also expected to be a practising Catholic. We ask parents also to attend the Baptism Preparation meeting. These meetings alternate between Morpeth and Bedlington. Parents should meet with Fr Peter to complete the paperwork. After the Baptism Course, the parents should speak once again to Fr Peter and make arrangements for an appointment to fix a date for a Baptism. PLEASE NOTE: dates are not usually given before the Baptism Preparation meeting.

### Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is held from 18th—25th January, but nothing has been arranged for this year between our town churches. But we can still pray for one another during this time. We remember all our Christian brothers and sisters in their mission, together with ours, to bring Christ Jesus into the events and situations of our daily lives here in Morpeth.

### God Calls App

The Catholic Church has launched a new app to help let God lead people "on a journey of spiritual adventure and discovery". God Calls, a free app developed for the vocations office of the bishops of England and Wales, promises to "help you explore your ultimate purpose, and discover your unique path to heaven". It is in effect a spiritual toolkit with snapshots of the lives of the saints, a journal to track spiritual growth and listings of Catholic retreats, study days and other events across the UK. Special resources include prayers for dawn, noon, and night and daily questions to help understand the Gospel. Read more on / [www.godcalls.co.uk](http://www.godcalls.co.uk)

