





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 and Fr Ian Hoskins; for all who have died recently; and for all whose anniversaries occur at this time.

#### Offertory Collections

Sunday 4th February—Total Offertory **£1090.22**  
Standing orders for January were **£2650.92**  
Racial Injustice Collection 4th February **£234.16**

#### 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 or drop in a note at the Presbytery.

#### Pilgrimage to Poland 2018

Places are still available on the Pilgrimage to Poland [April 23rd-30th] visiting Krakow, Czestochowa and Auschwitz; direct flights from Newcastle. Booking forms are available from Fr. Peter. Closing date for Bookings is early February.

#### Weekday Masses and Services

There will be Services of Word and Communion on Monday, Wednesday and Friday this week; Wednesday's Service will include distribution of Ashes. There will be no weekday Masses.

#### 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.

#### 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

#### 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.

#### Journey in Faith

The next meeting of the Journey in Faith group will be held on Thursday 15th February at 7pm in the Presbytery.

#### 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.



#### 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.

#### Life Teen Group Volunteers

We are still unsure as to whether our advert for a Youth Coordinator for the Partnership will be successful, but Fr Peter would like to organise a "core group of adult volunteers" who would be willing to help run a Life Teen Group once again and if we appoint a Youth Coordinator to work with that Youth Coordinator on Life Teen, we need to start this again as soon as possible, so that we can support our young people in their faith. A meeting will be held soon. In the meantime, if you are interested please speak to Fr Peter.

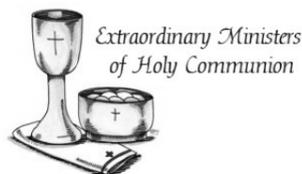


#### Partnership YMT Coordinators

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.

#### New Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

A course to train new Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion is to be held at St Joseph's, Gateshead, (Walker Terrace, Gateshead, NE8 1LX) on **Monday 19th and 26th February, 7.00pm-9.00pm** and **Saturday 3rd March 2018, 10.30am-4.00pm** with the Commissioning Mass at 3.00pm. We always need more Ministers to help with Holy Communion at Mass and also to the Sick and Housebound, so if anyone is interested, please speak to Fr Peter. **You MUST be able to attend all the dates given here to be commissioned.**



#### The Season of Lent

Lent begins on Wednesday 14th February, Ash Wednesday. There will be a Service of Word and Communion with Blessing and Distribution of Ashes at 10am at St Bede's Church, Bedlington and at 12.30pm at St Robert's, Morpeth. Both Services will be led by our Deacon Rev Stephen Boulter. Throughout Lent, there will be Stations of the Cross on a Thursday evening and there will also be extra "Partnership Stations of the Cross" during Lent, to which we invite you to participate and move around the partnership churches. A cup of tea will be served after these Partnership Stations. There will also be a special evening Service 'No Greater Love Than this' a meditation in song and picture on the Passion of Jesus Christ, to be held at St Bede's Church, Bedlington on Wednesday 14th March at 7.00pm.



#### Justice and Peace Project, Newcastle

Thank you for your continued donations of food for the destitute asylum seekers who are assisted by the Justice and Peace Project based at Our Lady of Lourdes Deaf Centre in Newcastle. They are now looking for some specific food items, if you can help ... **tins of corned beef, fish, tinned tomatoes and rice, cooking oil sugar and biscuits.** No more clothing can be accepted for the refugee camps abroad, but the Project still needs men's trainers and boots, jackets, and sweaters. If you can help with any of the above please leave in the church porch and members of the parish will make sure that these items are transferred to Newcastle as soon as possible. Thank you.

#### Low cost retreat on Holy Island

Do you know someone who would love go on Retreat, but find them to be too expensive? The Retreat Association has partnered up with Marygate Retreat Centre to offer a retreat on 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 of Salford Diocese.. There are up to 17 places available. 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.

#### Catholic Women's League

The next CWL meeting will be on Monday 12th February, at 7:00pm, in the Church Hall. This will be a business meeting which will start with prayers.



#### Society of St Vincent de Paul

The next meeting of the SVP will be on Wednesday 28th February at 7.30 p.m. in the presbytery. New potential members would be welcome. Why not come along?



#### Marriage Preparation Course

A Marriage Preparation Course is being held at St Robert's on Saturday 17th March. Those getting married this year are asked to confirm their attendance at this meeting. Further details of times will be given in coming weeks.

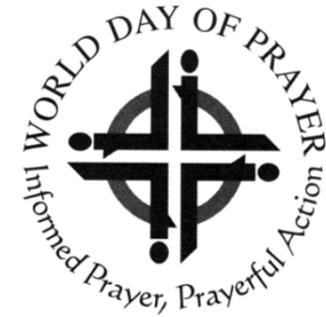


#### Lenten Lunches

Lenten Lunches will be served each Friday during the Season of Lent commencing Friday 16th February. There will be a list at the back of church for offers of help, soup, cakes etc. Funds raised will go to CAFOD and Mary's Meals.



#### Women's World Day of Prayer



The Annual Women's World Day of Prayer Service will be held at St. James Church of England Church on 2nd March 2018 at 2.00p.m. The Service will be hosted by the ladies of St. Mary Magdalene Church in Mitford. The Service has been prepared by the Women of Suriname on the theme of "All God's Creation is Good". If anyone would like to join the choir, please come along to rehearsals in St.

James Church on 16th Feb 2018 and 23rd Feb 2018 at 11.00a.m. Further details from Christine Watson or Eileen House. A full dress rehearsal will be held on Friday 2nd March 10.00-12.00 at St. James Church.

#### Meditation on the Passion of Christ

There will be a special evening Service 'No Greater Love Than this' a meditation in song and picture on the Passion of Jesus Christ, to be held at St Bede's Church, Bedlington on Wednesday 14th March at 7.00pm.



#### Partnership Stations of the Cross

Throughout Lent, there will be Partnership Stations of the Cross to which we invite you to participate and move around the partnership churches.

These will be held on

- Friday 16th February at 6pm at St. Aidan, Ashington
- Monday 19th February at 7:00pm at St. Bede, Bedlington
- Friday 2nd March at 7:00pm at St Thomas of Canterbury, Longhorsley
- Wednesday 7th March at 7:00pm at The Sacred Heart & St. Cuthbert, Amble
- Thursday 22nd March at 7:00pm at St. Robert of Newminster, Morpeth

After these Stations there will be Refreshments and a chance to catch up with friends from around the Partnership.

