

## Masses and Services this week

<b>Sunday 13th May</b>	<b>9.00am Mass</b>	Elphin Conroy	<b>Seventh Sunday of Easter</b>
	<b>11.00am Mass</b>	Mass of Thanksgiving	
	<b>6pm Mass</b>	Elphin Conroy	
Monday 14th May	<b>9.15 am</b>	Service of Word and Communion	<i>St Matthias, Apostle</i>
Tuesday 15th May	<b>9.15am Mass</b>	Maxine	<i>Weekday of Easter</i>
Wednesday 16th May	<b>9.15am</b>	Service of Word and Communion	<i>Weekday of Easter</i>
Thursday 17th May	<b>12.00 noon Mass</b>	<b>Requiem Mass:</b> Kathleen Blower	<i>Weekday of Easter</i>
Friday 18th May	<b>9.15am</b>	Service of Word and Communion	<i>Weekday of Easter / St John I</i>
Saturday 19th May	<b>10.00am Mass</b>	May O'Hara	<i>Weekday of Easter / St Dunstan</i>
<b>Sunday 20th May</b>	<b>9.00am Mass</b>	Elphin Conroy	<b>Pentecost Sunday</b>
	<b>11.00am Mass</b>	The Davison Family	
	<b>6.00pm Mass</b>	Elphin Conroy	

### 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 Wednesday
The Rosary	9.40am	Saturday Morning
Confessions (Sacrament of Reconciliation)	11.00am to noon	Saturday Morning
Divine Mercy Devotions	7.00pm	Thursday

### Ministries Next Week: 20th May 2018

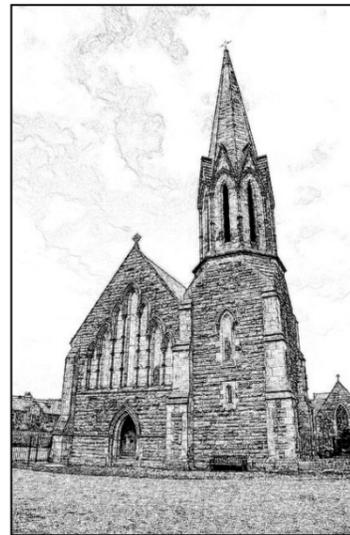
	<b>9am Mass</b>	<b>11am Mass</b>	<b>6pm Mass</b>
<b>Welcomers</b>	A Beattie	G Davison E Dixon	S Matthews G Snaith
<b>Readers</b>	A Beattie M Murray	V Shearer A Dawes	Chris Smith C Rich
<b>Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion</b>	G Harber E Harber M Bell	D Shearer G Davison Catherine Smith	B Rich D Butler S Smith
<b>Altar Servers</b>	E Walker Barrass I Golding Douglas M Watson	A Kinghorn L Kinghorn	D Dowd F Lawson
<b>Children's Liturgy</b>	Leader: Clare	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 May

**The Mission of Laity:** That the lay faithful may fulfil their specific mission, by responding with creativity to the challenges that face the world today.



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

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## Sunday 13th May 2018 — Seventh Sunday of Easter

Today we hear of Jesus' prayer for us. As Jesus was sent, so too we are sent to continue his mission and spread his love. Key to continuing Jesus' mission we are told that although we are of this world we must not to be possessed or tied down by worldly concerns.

How should it feel to be entrusted with such an important job? Well for most of us, it is something we don't think about nearly enough. We are told not to let the world tie us down, but that's most definitely easier said than done. In truth we are very much of this world. We spend most of our lives worrying about work, money, illness, relationships and commitments. It's very hard to rise above worldly concerns. In fact for most of us it just seems impossible.

On this Sunday we celebrate World Communication Day, and it feels a timely opportunity to consider the task we have been set. The first disciples continued Jesus' mission without planes, trains, without a postal service, without TV or radio and without the internet. Yet thanks to these early disciples we know Jesus' name throughout the entire globe two thousand years down the line. We have a much easier job than the early disciples had. Now all we need is a little bit of their drive and passion. So how can we capture some of that motivation?

For most of us, the day to day job of putting meals on the table takes up more of our time than the vital job of continuing Jesus' mission. Yet we all know someone who manages to strike that all important balance. We all know at least one person who sets a shining example. Perhaps it's here that we will find our motivation. Perhaps the people we most admire provide us with a model of who we ourselves would like to be. With a good example to emulate and our twenty first century means to spread God's love, change is not beyond any of us.





Please pray for: New Members of the Church; Vocations; The Right Use of the Media; the Church; Human Work. Please pray for those who are sick, especially for Fr Jim Doherty and Fr Ian Hoskins; for all who have died recently, especially **Kathleen Blower**, late of Wellwood Gardens whose Requiem Mass will be celebrated on Thursday at 12noon; for **Fr Patrick Laydon**, retired priest whose Requiem Mass will be celebrated at St Mary's, Forest Hall on Wednesday at 12.30pm; and for all whose anniversaries occur at this time.

#### Offertory Collections

6th May 2018 — Total Offertory **£846.58**. Thank you

#### 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 drop in a note at the Presbytery or e-mail items for the parish newsletter, by 12 noon on Thursdays, to the parish office email address on the front of this newsletter

#### World Communications Day

A special collection for World Communications Day will be taken **TODAY** [13th May]. Please note that this is eligible for Gift Aid through the Diocese so envelope users can use their Special Collection envelopes. As Catholics we are encouraged to pray for all those professionals who work in the field of Communications. A particular intention for prayer is for those who are responsible for communicating on behalf of the Catholic Church in this country. The communications office of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales supports the bishops, in their witness and engagement with current issues, and the Church more widely in promoting the Gospel through digital, social, print and broadcast media. The office is the central point for media enquiries and is a key resource for national and international media professionals. It also plays an important role in developing the public profile of the Church through word and image.

#### Special Collection: Lay Training Fund

Next week (Sunday 20th May) the collection for the Lay Training Fund is due, open until 17th June. - these are eligible for Gift Aid through the Diocese so envelope users can use their Special Collection envelopes.

#### LEPRA

Many thanks to all those who supported our Coffee Morning on 5<sup>th</sup> May and also for the kind donations. **£310.00** was made which was fantastic.

#### Adult Baptisms and Reception

Your prayers are asked for Natalie Bryson, Fiona Evans, Amy Ruffle, Brandon Smith and Gareth Stewart, who are to be Baptised and for Adelina Goddard who is to be received into Full Communion with the Catholic Church, during the 11am Mass **TODAY** [Sunday 13th May]. This is a very special day for them and for us as a parish community as we welcome these new church members. Please pray for them.

#### Christian Aid Week: 13-19 May 2018

Christian Aid Week starts today! We are hosting the Ecumenical Service here in St Robert's church this afternoon at 4 pm today, Sunday 13th May. Please come to this service to pray for the poor of the world who desperately need our help and for the success of Christian Aid Week.

We still need some more volunteers for the house to house collection. This is a vital task and is very easy. It takes about half an hour to deliver the envelopes for a typical street and an hour or so to collect them. We urgently need more volunteers to cover the streets we are responsible for. Please ring Gerry Harber on 517829 if you can be one of them. Thank you. As usual there will be plant and book stalls in the market place on Saturday 19th May. We need donations of books and plants. Please contact Eileen or Gerry Harber on 517829 if you can supply some.

#### Rosary Procession and Benediction

St Aidan's Ashington are celebrating the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima (13th May) with a Procession and with the Rosary on Sunday 13th May in their church grounds next Sunday afternoon. At 3pm. All welcome.

#### DVD Course on Our Lady

The DVD videos on Our Lady, "Let it be done to me" continue on Thursday 17th May at 10am, lasting no more than 1 hour. All Welcome

#### Closure of Car Park

The resurfacing of the entrance section of car park that was dug up to install an electricity supply to the garages, is due to take place on Tuesday morning. We are advised that the Car Park will have to be closed from 9.30am until 12noon to allow for this work to be complete and for the tarmac to harden. There will be no access into the Car Park and no cars already parked in the car park will be able to exit until after 12noon, (times may change depending on contractors!! They may take longer!!) Thank you for your cooperation.

#### Liturgy and Worship Group

The next Liturgy and Worship Group Meeting will be held on Thursday 17th May in the Presbytery at 7pm.

#### Seven Bridges Sponsored Walk.

If you would like to take part in the annual Seven Bridges Sponsored Walk on Sunday 3rd June, starting at 2:00pm, then please write your name on the list at the back of church and pick up a sponsor form. The walk will start as usual at the footbridge at the end of Gas House Lane and finish at the Low Ford Bridge on Mitford Road, a distance of about 2km. Following the walk you will be very welcome to make your way back to the church hall for light refreshments. **All proceeds from the walk will go to St. Robert's Church.** For further information please contact Elizabeth Dixon.

#### Counting Team meeting

There will be a Meeting on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> May at 11.00 for the different Counting Teams. Please let Bernadette in the Parish Office know, if you are /are not able to attend.

#### Bonus Ball.

The CWL are once again running the Bonus Ball in aid of parish funds. The numbers are on sale at a cost of £10 per number, giving the opportunity to win £25 per week for 10 weeks. We are hoping to take the first lucky number (the Bonus Ball), from the National Lotto draw on the 19th May. Thank you and good luck...**Stop Press — only 18 numbers left!**

#### Partnership Meeting

There will be an open Partnership Meeting for all parishioners on Monday 14th May at 7pm at St Aidan's Primary School, Moorhouse Lane, Ashington, NE63 9LR. All welcome. This meeting is being held to enable you to be aware of the changes proposed by the Partnership Development Group for venues and times of Masses in our Partnership.

#### Mass of Affirmation

You are invited to come together on Friday 18th May 2018 at 7:30 pm at Sacred Heart and St Cuthbert Church, Amble to celebrate a Partnership Mass of Affirmation. Parishioners from throughout the Partnership Parishes who are actively committed and involved in their parish are invited to come along and join in the celebration of this Mass of Affirmation. If you are a member of the Partnership Development Group or any other Partnership Groups that now meet regularly, or if you are a member of your own Parish Council, or Parish Finance Committee, or any other group in the parish that meets regularly, you are invited. Our new Youth Coordinator Thomas also hopes to be present and it will be his first Partnership event and a good opportunity to meet him.

#### Society of St Vincent de Paul

The next meeting of the SVP will be on Wednesday 16th May in the presbytery. Can you be part of the SVP? Come along and find out about their work in the local community.

#### First Holy Communions

First Holy Communions will be celebrated at St Robert's on Saturday 9th June. The children need to go to Confession before then as the last time they went was in December. Confessions are held every Saturday morning from 11am—12noon and we ask parents to make sure their children go to Confession before this special Mass. We do hope also that the parents will do all they can to come to church with their children in these weeks before this special celebration.

#### Christians in the Holy Land Fundraising Dinner

Our next Fundraising Dinner will be held on Saturday 16th June and will be a themed 'Venetian Carnevale' dinner. More details shortly, but we will have the usual £15 for 3 course meal etc. Tickets will be available soon on sale from either Ken Wilson or Matt Boyle. Proceeds will be sent to support Christians in the Holy Land at a time when our help is desperately needed.

#### Lourdes Hospitalité AGM

The Lourdes Diocesan Hospitalité is celebrating Mass and Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 23rd May at St Mary and St Thomas Aquinas Church, Stella, Blydon on Wednesday 23rd May at 7pm. All pilgrims from former years welcome to come along and celebrate with fellow members and hospitallier.

#### 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.

#### Support for Refugees and Asylum Seekers

Please remember that we continue to support refugees and asylum seekers. Donation of goods, clothing and food can be left in the box in the church porch.

#### Spirituality towards the end of life day

A chance to hear Dr Karen Groves MBE, a leader in encouraging a focus on the spiritual care of those approaching the end of their earthly lives and their families. Our closest venue is Salford Cathedral Centre on Thursday 31 May, 11am-3.30pm. The day is open to anyone with an interest in this area – clergy, chaplain or hospital visitor, member of the SVP or bereavement support group, etc. It is free to attend (donations welcome!) Tea/coffee provided, packed lunch or available to purchase in cathedral café. If travel cost is an issue, please contact your parish or the Department for Spirituality for assistance. Please see poster for more information or contact the Department on 0191 243 3302, [spirituality@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:spirituality@diocesehn.org.uk)

#### Apostleship of the Sea: Pilgrimage to Holy Island

The Fifteenth Annual Pilgrimage to Lindisfarne will take place on Saturday 2nd June led by Bishop Paul Mason, AoS Bishop Promoter, England & Wales. A peaceful day of prayer and reflection to pray for seafarers and for everyone involved in this ministry and charity. Everyone invited to join them on Holy Island. For further information contact Regional Port Chaplains: Paul Atkinson (07906212416) or Peter Barrigan (07713 924504)

#### Adoremus Eucharistic Congress

A National Eucharistic Pilgrimage and Congress is being held in Liverpool from Friday 7th to Sunday 9th September. Eucharistic Congresses are gatherings of clergy, religious and laity which promote an awareness of the central place of the Eucharist in the life and mission of the Church. If you wish to attend, please email [liturgy@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:liturgy@diocesehn.org.uk) or call ☎ 0191 2433312 or 0191 2433313 for a booking form. The form can be also downloaded from our website [www.rcdhn.org.uk](http://www.rcdhn.org.uk) Forms must be returned by Friday 25 May 2018.

#### Diocesan Vocations Evening

For those thinking about Priesthood (aged 16 and over), an evening of prayer and reflection with an opportunity to listen to speakers talk about their own discernment, faith journeys and vocations will be held on Wednesday 23rd May at St Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle, between 6.30pm-8.30pm. Further details are available from Fr David Smith on 0191 2623882.

#### Vocations Weekend for young Women

The FCJ Sisters are holding a discernment weekend for women in their 20s and 30s on Discerning Good's Call in my life" from 25th-27th May at Liverpool. There will be input from the FCJ sisters on different aspects of vowed life, and time for prayer, reflection and discussion with other young women who are also considering a vocation to religious life. It is an opportunity to live community life for a weekend and meet some sisters! For more information contact Sr Lynne fcj at [lynnefcj@hotmail.com](mailto:lynnefcj@hotmail.com) or visit our website [www.fcjsisters.org](http://www.fcjsisters.org)