

THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF ST ROBERT OF NEWMINSTER, MORPETH

St Robert's Presbytery, Oldgate, Morpeth, NE61 1QF

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Parish Priest: Fr Peter Stott Retired Priest in residence: Fr Jim Doherty

Masses and Services This Week

Sun 20 th December	9:00am Mass 11:00am Mass 6:00pm Mass	Margaret and Harry Bell Special Intentions (NA) Joshua and Maria Hedley	4 th Sunday of Advent
Mon 21 st December	8:40 – 9:10 Exposition 9:15am Mass	Carter Family	Weekday of Advent
Tues 22 nd December	8:40 – 9:10 Exposition 9:15am Mass	Bobby Turnbull	Weekday of Advent
Wed 23 rd December	9:15am 9:45 – 10:15 Exposition	George Beattie	Weekday of Advent
Thurs 24 th December	10:00am Requiem Mass 11:30pm Carols Midnight Mass	Cathy Heath John McDonald	Christmas Eve
Fri 25 th December	9:00am Mass (Children) 11:00am Mass	Des McLaughlin Paul McCole	Nativity of the Lord
Sat 26 th December	10:00am Mass	C.W.L.	St Stephen
Sun 27 th December	9:00am Mass 11:00am Mass 6:00pm Mass	Margaret and Harry Bell Flooded Friends in Keswick Molly & Joe McKee & Dolly Brew	The Holy Family

Ministries for SUNDAY 27th December 2015

Mass	9:00	11:00	18:00
Readers	R. Higginbottom A. Beattie	R. Hunt J. Ratcliffe	C. Rich Chris. Smith
Extraordinary Ministers	A. Gorman A. Wilson K. Wilson	E. Dixon V. Shearer D. Shearer	L. Cole B. Cole S. Smith
Altar Servers	As notified	As notified	As notified

Masses and Services Next Week

Mon 28 th December	10:00am	Evelyn Givens	Holy Innocents
Tues 29 th December	10:00am	Fr. Lawrence	St Thomas Becket
Wed 30 th December	10:00am	John Ions	6 th day in Christmas Octave
Thurs 31 st December	10:00am	Fr Peter's Intentions	7 th day in Christmas Octave
Fri 1 st January	12 noon	Dcd O'Neil & McAllister Fams.	Mary Mother of God
Sat 2 nd January	10:00am Confessions 11am - Noon	Molly McKee	Ss. Basil and Gregory
Sun 3 rd January	9:00am Mass 11:00am Mass 6:00pm Mass	Helen & Douglas Cone People of the Parish Celebrant's Intention	Epiphany

Ministries for SUNDAY 3rd January 2016

Mass	9:00	11:00	18:00
Readers	M. Murray A. Beattie	A. Dawes D. Shearer	D. Butler S. Smith
Extraordinary Ministers	J. Conroy E. Harber T. Walker	M. Beaton G. Davison Cath. Smith	M. Illingworth A. Smith Chris. Smith
Altar Servers	As notified	As notified	As notified

Church Cleaning will take place on Monday 21st December following morning Mass. Everyone welcome to come and lend a hand. Many thanks.

Parish newsletter: - items for newsletter to Marian at marian@marianbell.f2s.com or Fr Peter at morpeth.strobertnewminster@rcdhn.org.uk or drop a note in at the Presbytery, by 4pm Thursday.

Prayers: Your continued prayers are asked for Father David Tanner who is still quite poorly in Hospital; also please pray for the Cathy Heath who died during the week and whose Requiem Mass is on 24th December.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament during Advent: In this fourth week of Advent we will continue to have Exposition on our Weekday mornings before and after Mass until Wednesday.

Christmas Mass Times: A Christmas Vigil Mass will be celebrated at St Bede's Church, Bedlington at 6pm on Thursday 24th December. Masses at St Robert's Church will be celebrated at Midnight, and 9am and 11am.

Christmas Day Services Volunteers: A list is at the back of Church for Volunteers to sign up for the Christmas Day Services.

Advent Alms: During Advent it's customary to collect Advent Alms for the work of St Cuthbert's Care. If you wish to make a donation, place an envelope in the collection marked Advent Alms or hand in at Presbytery.

The Year of Mercy: The Year of Mercy is a wonderful opportunity for us to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. **Confession is available every Saturday morning** at St Robert's from 11am – 12noon with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

Epiphany Carol Service: We will be celebrating an Epiphany Carol Service on 6th January at 7pm. Refreshments will be served afterwards in the Church Hall – we hope you'll feel able to come along and support this special celebration.

CWL Bonus Ball: CWL Bonus Ball winners on Saturday 12th December. Bonus Ball No 23 was drawn 2 weeks running! The lucky winners receiving £20 again are: Anne Wilson, Rod Gedge, Pat Popley and Stephen Bradley. That's our last draw for 2015. This has been a popular and profitable fund raiser for the church restoration and will be back early next year. Thank you everyone for your enthusiastic support.

The Northern Cross: The latest edition of "The Northern Cross" is available now at the back of Church. Stevie Matthews has volunteered to tell the paper what is happening here (steviematthews071@googlemail.com).

Cake Stall in aid of Patrick Smith's Mexico House Building mission:- Dear Parishioners, Next summer, as part of an M10 Christian based mission, I will be helping to build wooden homes for poor homeless Mexican Families in Ensenada (on the Mexico/USA border). To support my fundraising for this (we also supply materials to build the homes) I will be holding a cake stall after 9am and 11am Masses today. Please support me if you can...Thank you, Patrick.

Northern Catholic Calendar: The Northern Catholic calendar contains times of Masses, addresses and telephone numbers of all parishes and associations in the Diocese. Copies are on sale now in the porch, (£2.50).

First Holy Communion Preparation: Preparation for First Confession and Holy Communion begins in January. If there are any children, not in St Robert's School, who are in Year 3 or above and wish to take part in this preparation, please let Fr Peter know the names so that we can make some provision for when the programme begins. There will be a Parents' Meeting on Thursday 28th January at 3.30pm to inform about the programme, to give important dates and to think and reflect on the importance of what we are preparing for.

First School Admissions – September 2016: Please note that the closing date for Reception School Admissions is **15th January 2016**. Any children born between the following Dates of birth 01/09/2011 – 31/08/2012 need to apply for entry to Reception 2016 via Northumberland County Council Website.

Consultation on Admission Arrangements for St Robert's RC First School, St Benedict's Middle School, & St Benet Biscop Catholic Academy, 2017 – 18: Where changes to admission arrangements are intended, all schools are required to consult before these are determined and published. The policy for consultation for 2017-18 is available on the schools' websites, and a hard copy can be provided by the schools' offices if you request this. A consultation response form is available by request from the respective school. The governing bodies will consider all comments received before they determine the arrangements for 2017-18.

Safeguarding Forms: It is most important that all those who work with our young people or anyone else involved in helping in the parish complete the correct paperwork from the Diocesan Safeguarding Office, with the DBS Check Application Form or the Self Declaration Forms. If in doubt about any of this, please speak to our Mrs Anne Dawes, our Parish Safeguarding Representative, or to Fr Peter.

Divine Mercy Devotion: The next meeting will be held on Thursday 7th January at 7p.m. in the church.

Advance Notice: The Senior Parishioners Social will be held on Saturday 6th February 2016, from 3 pm till 6 pm. all those eligible (over 70 or thereabouts) please put the date in your new diaries! Also, as usual we will be looking for donations of prizes for the raffle. Thank you!

Grand Bottle Raffle: After Christmas there will be a raffle of some of the bottles not claimed at the Christmas Fayre. There will be 3 prizes, each consisting of a bottle of whisky and 3 bottles of wine. Proceeds to parish fund-raising. Tickets will be on sale on Sunday 3rd January and at the Epiphany Carol Service (6th January) when the draw will take place.

Society of St Vincent de Paul: The next meeting of the SVP will be on Wednesday 13th January at 7.30 p.m. in the presbytery.

Deanery Evangelisation Cards: The Deanery Evangelisation group have produced some cards for Christmas to be used in your homes for Christmas. It contains a short prayer for Blessing a Christmas Tree and a "Grace Before your Christmas Meal". If you think you would use these cards, please take one tonight.

Crib Collection: With Bishop Seamus' approval, we have been asked by the 'Friends of the Holy Land' to have a collection basket available at the Crib. Every penny collected will help the poorest Christian families, especially in and around Bethlehem, the West Bank, Gaza and Israel, with education, employment, health and housing costs and initiatives. The Friends of the Holy Land is a non-political and ecumenical organisation. For further information, please take a leaflet by the crib and keep our brothers and sisters in the Holy Land in your prayers at this time. www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk

Rosary: Saturday morning at 9.40am.

Last Sunday's Offering: - Average Standing Orders £467. Collection £1093.57. Thank you.