

Masses, Devotions and Services

Sunday 13th March	9.00am Mass	Pat Butler	5th Sunday of Lent
	11.00am Mass	Tom Hourigen	
	6.00pm Mass	Peter Onono	
Monday 14th March	10.30am REQUIEM MASS	Anne McCabe	<i>Weekday of Lent</i>
Tuesday 15th March	8.40am Adoration 9.15am Mass	Nicky's Intention	<i>Weekday of Lent</i>
Wednesday 16th March	9.15am Mass 9.45am—10.15am Adoration		<i>Weekday of Lent</i>
Thursday 17th March	8.40am Adoration 9.15am Mass 7.00pm Stations of the Cross	Grace Margaret Sharp	St Patrick
Friday 18th March	9.15am Mass	Intentions of Fr Peter Stott	<i>Weekday of Lent</i>
Saturday 19th March	10.00am Mass 10.30am Stations of the Cross 11am—12pm Confessions	Anne McCabe	St Joseph
Sunday 20th March	9.00am Mass	<i>People of the Parish</i>	Palm Sunday
	11.00am Mass	Alan Wardle	
	6.00pm Mass	<i>No Intention</i>	

Ministries Next Week: Sunday 20th March Palm Sunday

	9am Mass	11am Mass	6pm Mass
Readers	M. Bell H. Lewlington	A. Dawes D. Shearer	L. Cole S. Smith
Extraordinary Ministers	E. Harber G. Harber J. Laidlaw	G. Davison Cathy Smith M. Beaton	M. Illingworth Chris Smith B. Cole
Altar Servers	T. Boyle, M. Laux A. Shepherd, M. Watson	A. Kinghorn P. Glancey	P. Smith J. Dowd O. Bruce
Children's Liturgy	As advised		

Deanery Telephone Numbers

Fr Ian Hoskins, Longhorsley ☎ 01670 788344	Fr Stephen Watson, Ashington ☎ 01670 812200
Fr Lee Barrett, Cramlington ☎ 01670 712476	Wansbeck Hospital Chaplaincy ☎ 0191 293 4268
Cramlington Switchboard ☎ 0344 811 8111	St George's Park Hospital Chaplaincy ☎ 01670 501815
Northgate Hospital ☎ 01670 394855 Ext: 64855	

Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle - www.rcdhn.org.uk

St Bede's Parish, Bedlington - www.stbedesbedlington.co.uk

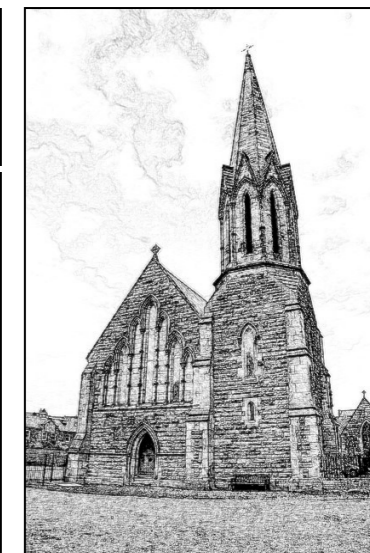
St Robert's First School, Morpeth - www.st-roberts.northumberland.sch.uk

St Bede's Primary School, Bedlington - www.st-bedes.northumberland.sch.uk

St Benedict's Middle School, Ashington - www.st-benedicts.northumberland.sch.uk

St Benet Biscop Academy, Bedlington - www.stbenetbiscop.co.uk

The Parish of Saint Robert of Newminster, Morpeth



Parish Priest: Father Peter Stott

Retired Priest: Father James Doherty, also in residence
St Robert's Presbytery, Oldgate, Morpeth, NE61 1QF

☎ (Tel) 01670 513 410

✉ (Email) morpeth.strobertnewminster@rcdhn.org.uk

www.strobertsmorpeth.com

13th March 2016 - 5th Sunday of Lent

This is a powerful story of justice and mercy. Jesus is on the side of the woman who has been accused of sin and crime. It was an unjust accusation, and people who brought her had little good in mind.

Jesus has more than forgiveness – he brings mercy. Mercy forgives with compassion and doesn't read lectures. It restores dignity to the victims of injustice in society today – like the refugee, the elderly, those who do not receive their dignity because of something they are, or something they did and are unjustly treated.



Jesus did not condemn; he turns the tables a bit. Anyone here without sin – take the stone and throw it. Nobody does. In this atmosphere of darkness we need to hear something of the love and the mercy of God. The light of mercy came into this darkness of condemnation and they all left their darkness into a personal space where they may have a change of heart.

The Gospel is also about the challenge to live honestly and without sin; and to be able to take steps like this woman's life, to move on. All hear this word from Jesus – I do not condemn you. This comes to our society and to ourselves. We need to hear this word for ourselves as often we throw stones at ourselves more than at others. What we condemn in others is what sometimes we do not like in ourselves.

The Holy Father's Intentions For March

Universal Intention: Families in Difficulty: that families in need may receive the necessary support and that children may grow up in healthy and peaceful environments.

Missionary Intention: Persecuted Christians: that those Christians who, on account of their faith, are discriminated against or are being persecuted, may remain strong and faithful to the Gospel, thanks to the incessant prayer of the Church.



Please pray for ... Candidates for the Sacraments; Women; the needy and hungry of the world; penitents and wanderers. Those who are sick: please pray for all who are sick, for all who are in hospital, hospice or nursing homes Those who have died recently including **Anne McCabe** of Bedlington whose Requiem Mass will be celebrated on Monday 14th March; and for all whose anniversaries occur at this time. *(to add names to this list of anniversaries please send in names)*

Offertory Collection 6th March

Total Offertory - **£1,062.33**- THANK YOU
Thanks also to those who pay by Standing Order

Offertory Boxes

The new Offertory envelopes are available in the porch and we ask you to pick up yours as soon as possible. If you are a new parishioner and would like a box then please take a spare box and print your name, address and Box number on the sheet provided. If you have changed your address, please write the new information on the sheet next to your number. If you usually have a box and it is not there please contact Elizabeth Dixon 516584.

Holy Places Special Collection

There will be a special collection next weekend [Sunday 20th March] for the Catholic Community in the Holy Land (Holy Places Collection). This collection qualifies for Gift Aid through the diocese, so envelope users please use the envelope provided in your box. Thank you.



Tea and Coffee

Tea and Coffee is served after morning Masses every Sunday in the Church Hall. Everyone is welcome.

CAFOD

We have raised **£648.56** for CAFOD through the Friday Lent Soup Lunches. Please remember that the Government is doubling any donations that CAFOD receive during Lent, so if you wish to make any further donations, support us on Friday or there are CAFOD envelopes available at the back of church.



Parish Newsletter

Please e-mail items for the newsletter to Marian Bell at marian@marianbell.f2s.com or to the parish office on morpeth.strobertnewminster@rcdhn.org.uk or drop a note in at the Presbytery, by 12pm on a Thursday.

Prayer Group Meeting

The Prayer Group will meet again on Tuesday 24th March at 6:45pm to continue our exploration of different ways to pray the Rosary.

Bible Sharing Group

This group meets on a Tuesday from 1pm-2pm in the church hall and all are welcome to come along, listen and share.

New Cards

There is a selection of new Mass cards for those who have died and First Holy Communion Cards at the back of the Church. Price as labelled.

Stations of the Cross

We will pray the Stations of the Cross on a Thursday evening and a Saturday morning during Lent at St Robert's. If anyone wishes to lead, please sign up on notice.

St Cuthbert's Care – Lenten Alms

During Lent, we support St Cuthbert's Care through our Lenten Alms. Donations can be placed in envelopes and handed in to the collections or to the Presbytery.

Thursday Lenten Discussion Groups

The next session is on Thursday 17th March at 2pm in the Church Hall. Unfortunately the attendance has been poor, but we thank Chris Smith for giving her time trying to provide some Lenten food for thought.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

We have Confessions available every Saturday morning from 11.00am—12noon. In this Jubilee ear of Mercy Pope Francis is encouraging us to be reconciled and to seek Confession. come along and experience the loving mercy of the Father.



Palm Crosses

Willing volunteers able to prepare the Palm Crosses for Palm Sunday are invited to meet in the Church Hall on Tuesday 15th March after morning Mass. No experience needed!



Christian Aid Spring Evening

The Christian Aid Spring Evening will be held on Saturday 19th March at 7pm in the Methodist Hall. This year the talk will be about the Philippines, one of the theme countries for this year's Christian Aid Week. The evening includes a Filipino style meal, all for only £7 - tickets available from Gerry Harber.



Priesthood and Diaconate Vocations

We need to pray for Vocations to the Priesthood, especially in this present time, in the hope that one day there will be more priests for our diocese to celebrate the Mass and the Sacraments for us; but we need also to promote prayers and some thinking about the Vocation to becoming a Permanent Deacon in the Diocese. It is a ministry into which more men are being ordained. Have you ever thought about how you might be a Deacon for your parish community or local area? If anyone thinks they might be called to being a Deacon, please don't hesitate to contact Fr Peter to talk through the possibilities.



St. Robert's Brownies

St. Robert's Brownies will have a few spaces coming up this summer as older girls move up to Guides. Brownies is for girls aged 7-10 yrs. But you can join the waiting list at any age and add siblings too. We run Brownies in the Church Hall on a Tuesday from 6pm - 7.15pm. To register and join the waiting list please log onto www.girlguiding.org.uk click on parents, register your daughter, then select 1st Morpeth Brownies, Tues 6-7.15pm St. Robert's.

Preparing for Baptism

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. In the near future these meetings will alternate between St Bede's Church, Bedlington and St Robert's Church. Parent's are asked to advise Fr Peter which date they will attend the course. 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 Course is completed.** The next Baptism Course is 14th April at St Bede's, Bedlington.

Thursday Class Mass

On Thursday 17th March, Years 1 and 2 will be present at the 9.15am Mass at St Robert's Church.

Patrick Smith says "Thank You"

A big thank you from Patrick Smith, for everyone who attended his fundraiser event at the Manzil, and also to those who kindly donated. It was a very enjoyable evening and a total of **£290** was raised. His next fundraiser is going to be a coffee morning, the date is to follow.

Parish Youth Worker

Fr Peter and Michael Quincey [*Chair of the Parish Pastoral Council*], will be meeting this week with Rev Simon White, Chair of Mustard Tree Trust, Fr Dermott Donnelly, Director of Youth Services for the Diocese and Mary Hughes, from YMT. When we know something definite about what is happening we will keep you informed.

Invitation to Youth Ministry Meeting

All who are concerned about how we can support young people on their faith journey are invited to a co-workers' gathering at the Emmaus Youth Village on Sunday March 13th 3.00pm – 5.00pm. Please let YMT know if you are coming on 01207 592244 or admin@ymt.org

World Youth Day

Pope Francis has invited young people from across the world to join him in Krakow, Poland in July 2016. Along with the World Youth Day programme there will be an opportunity to experience the local area around Krakow including a visit to Auschwitz. The estimated cost of the Pilgrimage is £899. More information and a downloadable registration form can be found at www.ymt.org/wyd16.html



Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

The Annual Lourdes Pilgrimage in this Year of Mercy, takes place from Friday 29th July – Friday 5th August flying direct from Newcastle Airport. Posters, Booking Forms and all information is available on the pilgrimage webpage www.hexhamandnewcastlelourdespilgrimage.co.uk The pilgrimage has places available for sick pilgrims who require Nursing Care, a Jumbulance is available for overland travel for those unable to fly; there is a youth section for all aged 16 – 25 (special price of £499) and there are booking forms for all the hotel pilgrims who wish to travel. Booking Forms and further information also available from Tangney Tours on 01732 886666 or Pilgrimage Director Fr Peter Stott 01670 513410.



Lourdes Pilgrimage Database

The Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes is looking for someone who knows how to create a database in Microsoft Access, from a database which is currently using Lotus Approach, which is now quite old!! If anyone can help, or anyone knows someone who could help, please speak to Fr Peter

Parish Website

We would like to improve some of the pages of the parish website, but need someone who needs to know how to use the "wordpress" software. If anyone can help please speak to Fr Peter as soon as possible.



Society of St Vincent de Paul

The next meeting of the SVP will be on Wednesday 16th March at 7.30 p.m. in the presbytery. New members would be welcome. Do you feel you could support the work of the SVP and the ethos of reaching out to the poor of society? Why not come along?



Service of Reconciliation

There will be a Service of Reconciliation on Wednesday 16th March at 7.00pm at St Bede's Church, Bedlington and a Service of Reconciliation on Thursday 17th March at St Wilfrid's Church, Blyth. There will be priests available for Confession at both Services. Everyone welcome.

Preparation for Confession and Holy Communion

Our children will be celebrating their First Confession on Thursday 17th March at 3.30pm on Thursday 17th March. Please keep them in your prayers.

Parish Administrator Vacancy

The parishes of St Joseph's, Stanley, St Patrick's, Dipton and St Teresa's, Annfield Plain, require a part-time Administrator to assist with parish administration. The role will be based at St Joseph's, Stanley. Salary: £8.97 per hour. Hours of work: 8 per week, worked over 3 days – some flexibility is available and can be discussed at interview. Full details on the diocesan website. Other diocesan vacancies are advertised on the diocesan website www.rcdhn.org.uk

Children's Liturgy Helpers

It is wonderful that we offer Childrens Liturgy during term time at the 9am Mass. We need some additional volunteers: **Leaders** – not as hard as it sounds! The lessons are all prepared about each Sunday's gospel story, you just need to deliver it by talking with the children.

Companions – 2 adults should be with the children's liturgy group. The adult who is not leading just sits with the group; no other action is needed! If you attend Sunday Mass at 9.00, please consider volunteering for this. It would require you to have a background check completed. Please see Amy Boyle or Father Peter if you would be willing to help. Or email Amy at amy@teamboyle.co.uk

Holy Week at St Bede's, Bedlington

Masses and Services for Holy Week and Easter will be celebrated by Fr William Agley who is currently working at the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith in The Vatican. Fr Agley has very kindly agreed to help out at St Bede's during his holidays. This means that Fr Peter will be at St Robert's for the Holy Week and Easter Services

Holy Week at St Robert's

All Masses and Services will be celebrated at their usual times on Thursday evening, Friday afternoon and Saturday evening. Mass on Easter Sunday will be at 9am and 11am.

Easter Sunday Evening Mass

Please note that there will be **NO EVENING MASS** on Easter Sunday.

Commissioning of New Extraordinary Ministers

The course for new Ministers began on Thursday evening at St Bede at Bedlington and continues this Thursday and Saturday and concludes with the Mass of commissioning on Saturday with Mass at 3pm. All welcome to the Mass. The new Ministers for St Robert's Parish are Damian Butler, Andrea Mitchell, Tony Edwards, Nicola Givens, Joshua Marshall, Lynda Edwards, Bernadette Rich

Reflections on the Year of Mercy

Prof Karen Kilby, Bede Chair of Catholic Theology at the University of Durham will offer reflections on the Spiritual Works of Mercy on Wednesday 20th April 2016; 11.00am at St Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle and 7.00pm at St Leonard's Catholic School, Durham.

Fr Chris Hughes, Chair of the Justice and Peace Coordinating Council will offer reflections on the Corporal Works of Mercy on Wednesday 27th April 2016; 11.00am at St Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle; 7.00pm at St Leonard's Catholic School, Durham. To book a place at these events, please email adult.formation@diocesehn.org.uk or telephone 0191 2433313

A Day of Reflection for Women

In partnership with the National Board of Catholic Women and the Department for Ecumenism "If only you knew the gift of god and who it is that is asking you" John 4. With Sr Anne McCarthy on Saturday 9th April from 10.30am - 3.30pm (refreshments from 10.00am). St Hilda's Diocesan Resource Centre, West Road, Newcastle, NE15 7PY (opposite St Cuthbert's House). There is no charge for the day but booking is essential. Please book by Friday 25th March 2016. Please bring a packed lunch. To book please email adult.formation@diocesehn.org.uk or telephone 0191 2433313