



The Catholic Parish of St Robert of Newminster, Morpeth

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

Tel 01670 513410

Email: morpeth.strobertnewminster@rcdhn.org.uk Website: www.strobertsmorpeth.com

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

Masses and Services This Week			
Sunday 17 th January	9:00am 11:00am 6:00pm	People of the Parish Maria Marshall No Intention	Second Sunday of the Year Day of Prayer for Peace
Monday 18 th January	9:15am	No Intention	Weekday
Tuesday 19 th January	9:15am	Nathan McCole	St Wulstan, Bishop
Wednesday 20 th January	9:15am	No Intention	St Fabian, Pope
Thursday 21 st January	9:15am	No Intention	St Agnes
Friday 22 nd January	9:15am	Sally Stokes	St Vincent
Saturday 23 rd January	9:00am Confessions 11am - Noon	No Intention	Weekday
Sunday 24 th January	9:00am Mass 11:00am Mass 6:00pm Mass	People of the Parish No Intention Monica Laidler	Third Sunday of the Year Day of Prayer for Racial Justice

Ministries for Sunday 24 th January 2016			
Mass	9:00	11:00	18:00
Readers	J Offen, D Marr	R Hunt, J Ratcliffe	J Gill, T Edwards
Extraordinary Ministers	D Dewar, A Donaldson A Gorman	A Dawes, Cath. Smith, M Beaton	S Smith, M Illingworth A Smith
Altar Servers	E Boyle, I Golding-Douglass	A Kinghorn	A Bambrick, D Dowd
Children's Liturgy	Leader: Amy	Companion: Sarah	

Prayers: Your continued prayers are asked for Father David Tanner who is still quite poorly in hospital. Pray also for Fr John Cooper's Mother, Rita, who died recently.

Tea and Coffee: is served after morning Masses every Sunday in the Church Hall. Everyone is welcome. A very special welcome to any visitors to Morpeth this weekend.

Parish newsletter: - items for newsletter can be emailed to Mary at fmbeaton@btinternet.com or emailed to Fr Peter at morpeth.strobertnewminister@rcdhn.org.uk or drop a note in at the Presbytery, by 12pm on a Thursday.

Last Sunday's Offering: Average Standing Orders £467. Offertory collection £1107.83. Thank you

White Flower Appeal: The White Flower Appeal raised **£470.91**, we think the largest collection for this appeal here in recent years!! THANK YOU for your support.

Bible Sharing Group: This group meets on a Tuesday from 1pm-2pm in the church hall. All are welcome.

Prayer Group Meeting: Next meeting will be held on Tuesday 26th January at 7pm in church.

Mass Time: Please note that Mass on Saturday will be celebrated at 9am

Jubilee Year of Mercy: A special liturgy of reconciliation will take place at St Aidan's Church, Ashington, on Thursday 4th February at 7.00pm. Priests will be available to hear confessions, and specially trained listeners will also be available. In preparation, please pray and think about someone you know who you may wish to invite to this service.

Special Collection: There will be a special collection next Sunday (24th January) for Catholic Education. This collection qualifies for Gift Aid through the diocese, so envelope users please use the envelope provided in your box. Thank you.

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

Life Teen Meeting: There is a Life Teen meeting after Mass tonight (17th Jan from 7pm-8pm) and we ask all those who are part of the Life Teen group to attend.

Service of Inner Healing: A Service of Inner Healing will be held at St Mary's Cathedral on Wednesday 27th January at 7pm. There will be time for personal prayer ministry, confession will be offered and Bishop Seamus will preach. Everyone welcome.

Northumberland Deanery Meeting: There'll be a meeting of interested people from our Northumberland Deanery, entitled '20 Churches Working Together and Sharing Resources' held at St Paul's Church, Alnwick, on Saturday 23rd January from 12.30pm to 3.00pm. All are welcome to attend and a free bus will be provided to and from Alnwick but organisers need to know who wants to be on the bus and from where they want to be picked up – contact details – Jerry Laidler (07801452372), Anthony Bare (01670812200), Kathryn Maggs (07540065414), Fr Barrett (01670712476).

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity: During the week of Prayer for Christian Unity all the local churches are taking it in turn to open their churches for prayer throughout the day. Then at midday one church will hold a midday prayer for about 5-6 minutes. Our day is Monday 25th January; we will have prayers at 12 noon followed by soup and buns in the hall. Hope you can come along. A list of all other churches and their days is now on the noticeboard.

Children's Liturgy Study Day: A Children's 'Liturgy of the Word Study Day' will be held in St Aloysius Centre, Hebburn on 6th February. If interested please contact Angela Joyce, tel: 0191 2852651 or email litformation@rcdhn.org.uk

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion Training Course: Last year there were about 10/12 people expressed interest in this. Would those people please confirm with Fr Peter their intention to respond to this call to Ministry?. Commitment to the two evening meetings and one all-day Saturday meeting is essential – 10th and 17th March, 7pm – 9pm and Saturday 19th March 10am – 4.30pm at St Bede's Church, Bedlington.

Lay Leaders Course: A course for "Lay Leaders of Celebrations in the Absence of a Priest" is being arranged by the Diocesan Liturgical Formation Team. We currently have two commissioned Lay Leaders, but would like a few more. Anyone willing to do this is expected to be fully committed to the course which will be held at St Hilda's Resource Centre, Newcastle, on Thursday 14th, 21st, 28th April and 5th, 12th May from 7pm-9pm, Saturday 7th May 10am-4pm with a Commissioning Mass on 19th May at 7.00pm.

Deanery Youth Coordinators Meeting: The next Deanery Youth Coordinators Meeting (*for all Parish Youth leaders in the Deanery and anyone else interested*) will be held at St Aidan's School on Thursday 21st January 2016 at 7 00pm.

Society of St Vincent de Paul: *Urgently needed: caring committed people to join and re-invigorate the SVP!* Could that be you? The next meeting of the SVP will be on Wednesday 27th January at 7.30 p.m. in the Presbytery. Why not come along? We have received a new letter from our twinned conference in India. A copy is on the church notice board.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes: Booking Forms are now available. There is a special section for any pilgrims who need nursing care as the pilgrimage offers a service of care for those who are sick and unable to travel on their own – forms from Fr Peter. There is also a special section for all young people aged 16 – 25 years of age and a special price of £499.00. Last year there were 160 young people from across the diocese ... it's a great way for our young people to get to know others from around the diocese.

Minsteracres Study Day: Patrick Woodhouse looks at how the psalms are still relevant to us today. His work 'Life in the Psalms'; is the Mowbray Lent book for 2016. This will be held on Saturday 23rd January 10am – 4pm at Minsteracres Monastery. For more events see www.ministeracres.org

First Holy Communion Preparation: Preparation for First Confession and Holy Communion begins very soon. There will be a Parents' Meeting on Thursday 28th January at 3.30pm and children's catechesis begins on 4th February. At 9am Mass there will be special liturgies to celebrate their preparation.

Men's Breakfast: The next Men's Breakfast at St Robert's will be held on Saturday 23rd January. After 9am Mass the breakfast begins with bacon sandwiches, tea and coffee and then the group are looking at a DVD of Fr Jim Clark from the United States on Men's Spirituality. All Welcome.

Setting up a Baptism Course: Very many thanks to those who have volunteered during the last week and expressed an interest in helping to prepare and set up a Baptism Preparation Course. It is good for us as a parish community to try and have some catechesis for our parents as they set out on their journey of faith with their children. There will be a meeting at the Presbytery, on Wednesday 27th January at 7pm to discuss this further with Fr Peter.

Discerning God's Call in my Life: A Vocation Weekend for young women (20s and 30s) will be held on 29th-31st January in Liverpool. The weekend is organised by the Sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ). 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 or visit their website www.fcjsisters.org

Meeting to discuss Lent and Easter: There will be a meeting to discuss Lent and Easter devotions and celebrations on Monday 25th January at 7pm. (Lent begins 10th February).

Senior Parishioners Social: This will be held on Saturday 6th February 2016, from 3 pm till 6 pm. for all those over 70 or thereabouts. If you 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. Please don't be shy because you think you are not old: do not deprive your fellow parishioners of your company! *Don't ask, "What will I get out of this party?"- ask "What can I bring to this party?"* We will try to contact those who have come in previous years, but there must be many newly eligible, so please add your name. Also, as usual we are asking for donations of prizes for the raffle. Thank you!

Retirement of our Headteacher: Last week, Mrs Vivien Cunningham announced that she wishes to retire at the end of the school year in July. The Governors, with the assistance of the Diocesan Education Offices, will soon begin the process of seeking a new Headteacher for St Robert's. No doubt there will be some celebrations nearer the time to mark this occasion.

Council of Laity: There is a report on the noticeboard from the Council of the Laity Meeting which was held in November. Thanks to Marian Bell for this.