



St Robert of Newminster Parish, 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		
Sunday 31 st January	9:00am Mass 11:00am Mass 6:00pm Mass	People of the Parish Rita Cooper Rosa Livadic	4th Sunday of the Year
Monday 1 st February	9:15am Mass	No Intention	Weekday
Tuesday 2 nd February	9:15am Mass	Agnes Lee (nee Grey)	Presentation of the Lord
Wednesday 3 rd February	9:15am Mass	David McBride	St Blaise
Thursday 4 th February	9:15am Mass	No Intention	Weekday
Friday 5 th February	9:15am Mass	Dougie McCabe	St Agatha
Saturday 6 th February	10:00am Mass Confessions 11am - Noon	John Ions	St Paul Miki & Companions
Sunday 7 th February	9:00am Mass 11:00am Mass 12.30pm Baptism 6:00pm Mass	Helen & Douglas Cone G Popely Ava-May Ellen Graham People of the Parish	5th Sunday of the Year

Ministries for Sunday 7 th February 2016 – Fifth Sunday of the Year			
Mass	9:00	11:00	18:00
Readers	M Bell, N McCole	B Cudd, L Flinders	Chris Smith, D Butler
Extraordinary Ministers	J Conroy, K Wilson, T Walker	E Dixon, A Dawes, D Shearer	M Illingworth, A Smith, S Smith
Altar Servers	E Boyle, I Golding-Douglass	Abigail Kinghorn	A Bambrick, J Dowd
Children's Liturgists	Leader: Mary Companion: Sylvie		

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 the newsletter can be emailed to Pauline at paulinemc2012@gmail.com or emailed to 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 £1331.07. Thank you

Rosary: The Rosary is prayed every Saturday morning at 9.40am.

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

Wednesday Word: Copies of this week's Wednesday Word are now available at the back of church. Please pick up a copy.

Training for New Altar Servers: Anyone interested in becoming an Altar Server is invited to attend a training session for new servers on Saturday 6th February at 12.30pm. New servers must have made their First Holy Communion, be attending Mass each Sunday and be willing to join the serving rota. Please contact Amy Boyle to confirm your intention to attend the training by email at amy@teamboyle.co.uk or by phone on 518253.

Jubilee Year of Mercy: The Deanery Service to heal and reconcile and celebrate God's mercy and which might also welcome back those who have been away from church for some time will be celebrated 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. Is there anyone you can invite to this who has been away from church?

First Holy Communion Preparation: Many thanks to those parents who turned up on Thursday when we began our preparation for First Confession and Holy Communion. The first children's catechesis begins on 4th February and during the 9am Mass on Sunday 7th February, we will have a special Rite of Enrolment.

Ministers of Holy Communion Training Course: All who expressed their intention to be commissioned as Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are asked to confirm with Fr Peter that they are still willing to attend the two evening meetings and one all-day Saturday meeting – 10th and 17th March, 7pm-9pm and Saturday 19th March 10am-4.30pm at St Bede's Church, Bedlington.

Candlemas Day: Mass on Tuesday will celebrate Candlemas Day.

Lay Leaders Course: Thanks to those who have already volunteered for this role. Anyone else 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. Speak to Fr Peter asap about this.

Baptism preparation: Many thanks to the parishioners who have agreed to help lead some Baptism preparation for our parish. The support shown is greatly appreciated. Books have been ordered and when they arrive we will arrange the next date for meeting together.

Senior Parishioners Social: The Senior Parishioners Social will be held NEXT WEEK, Saturday 6th February from 3pm to 6pm all those eligible (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. If you are eligible, 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?'* asked *'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 will be looking for donations of prizes for the raffle. Thank you!

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 is a great way for our young people to get to know others from around the diocese.

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 10th February at 7.30pm. in the presbytery. Why not come along?

Calling all gardeners: Would you be willing to plant some extra seeds to provide plants for sale at the Christian Aid plant stall on 14th May? Thank you in anticipation.

Reach Out: A special outreach event in our diocese will take place on Ash Wednesday 10th February at St Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle, as volunteers will go out on the streets to invite people to come to a warm, welcoming Cathedral to light a candle, say a prayer, have a chat, and receive God's mercy. Volunteers and visitors alike will be 'covered' in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament exposed throughout the event. This is a fitting venture for the Year of Mercy because we will use the Mercy Doors in the Cathedral. The event will start with 5.30pm Mass and the congregation will be sent out with candles to invite passers-by into the Cathedral. Go along and see how well you can share your faith.

Ongoing help for refugees: A local nurse is making regular visits to refugee camps in France and urgently needed are: Paracetamol, Calpol, antiseptic cream, aqueous cream, Vicks cough syrup, tubigrip for sprains, and chilblain cream. Please put new and unopened items into box in the church porch which will be emptied daily.

Visit from Russian Orthodox Sisters: Next weekend, sisters from St Elisabeth Russian Orthodox Convent, in Minsk, Belarus will be visiting Bedlington and Morpeth to run a sale of craft goods to support their work running a children's orphanage, a charity shelter and a rehabilitation facility. If you can support them, it would be greatly appreciated. They will be staying in the Presbytery at St Bede's for the Saturday and Sunday, with their sale after Mass on Saturday at Bedlington and after Sunday Masses here at St Robert's.

The Source: The Source is a monthly meeting for our young people from across the diocese. Run by YMT and held at St Mary's Cathedral on the first Wednesday of the month it is a time for prayer and worship, geared towards young people. There is a Deanery bus that goes every month, providing free transport there and back. We encourage our young people to attend ... and if anyone is interested and wants to go, let Fr. Peter know and he will contact the people who make the arrangements. There is a video prepared by the Northumberland Deanery Evangelisation Team which you can watch about the Source <https://youtu.be/vRwoM9MyWU8> or on the Facebook page for St John's Church, Annitsford.

'Life Teen Group' Changes: If any parents have any thoughts, or indeed if there are any enthusiastic parishioners willing to take on this important role in the parish, please speak to Michael Quincey, (Chair of the Parish Pastoral Council), to Fr. Peter. We do not want the group to just disappear, but want the group to continue to meet and discuss their faith. Any thoughts would be appreciated.

Christian Aid Spring Evening: The Christian Aid Spring Evening will be on Saturday 19th March at 7pm in the Methodist Hall. This is a chance to learn something about the work of Christian Aid in one of the communities where they are helping with development – 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.

Women's World Day of Prayer: The Service this year will be held at St James Church on 4th March at 2.00pm. Service prepared by Christian Women of Cuba theme Receive Children Receive me. Choir Practice 12th February 11am and 26th February at 11am.

Vocations Enquirers Evenings: Monthly Enquirers Evenings for Vocations are held at St Mary's Cathedral, Wednesday 6.30pm, on the following dates Feb 24th – April 27th – May 25th – June 22nd - July 20th, Sept 21st – Oct 19th - Nov 23rd – Dec 21st . Also Deanery Vocations Reflections are being held and further details are on the poster on the noticeboard.

Lenten Diary: Thank to all who turned up to discuss Lent and Easter 2016. The same meeting was held at Bedlington. In response a Lenten Diary will be produced listing all Lent and Easter activities in both Parishes. Available next week.

Patrick Smith is holding his second fundraising event for his M10 Mission to Mexico this summer. The event is a meal at the Manzil Indian Restaurant on Monday 15th February. Cost of ticket £12.50, meal will start at 7.30pm sharp. Tickets available after evening Mass from Patrick or on 516433. Thank you for your support

Prayer Group Meeting: Next meeting Prayer Group will meet again on Tuesday 23rd Feb at 6:45 pm to continue our exploration of different ways to pray the Rosary