



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			
Sunday 10th January	9:00am Mass 11:00am Mass 6:00pm Mass	People of the Parish Włodek Toczko Eileen Percival	The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord
Monday 11th January	9:15am Mass	Joseph Owens	<i>St Aelred of Rievaulx (Yr2 Wk1)</i>
Tuesday 12th January	9:15am Mass	Ernest Ewer	<i>St Benet Biscop</i>
Wednesday 13th January	9:15am Mass	No Intention	<i>Weekday</i>
Thursday 14th January	9.15am Mass	No Intention	<i>Weekday</i>
Friday 15th January	NO MASS		<i>Weekday</i>
Saturday 16th January	10:00am Mass Confessions 11am - Noon	No Intention	<i>Weekday</i>
Sunday 17th January	9:00am Mass 11:00am Mass 6:00pm Mass	People of the Parish Maria Marshall No intention	Second Sunday of the Year

Ministries for Sunday 17th January 2016 – Second Sunday of the Year			
Mass	9:00	11:00	18:00
Readers	T Walker, A Mitchell	L Flinders, B Lewins	C Reardon, D Strachan
Extraordinary Ministers	S Conroy, P Baker, M Dewar	V Shearer, E Dixon, G Davison	L Cole, B Cole, Chris Smith
Altar Servers	E Walker-Barras, M Laux	P Glancey	P Smith, J Dowd
Children's Liturgists	Leader: Ben	Companion: Nicola	

Prayers: Your continued prayers are asked for **Father David Tanner** who is still quite poorly in hospital. Also for **Fr Desmond Meagher**, aged 91, retired, whose Requiem Mass is to be celebrated on Friday at 12noon at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Shotton Colliery.

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 £1173.80. Thank you

The Rosary is prayed every Saturday morning at 9.40am.

Bible Sharing Group: This group resumes on Tuesday 12th January 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.

CWL: The first meeting of 2016 for members will be held on Monday 11th January and is a business meeting starting with prayers.

Please note NO MASS at St Robert's Church on Friday.

Divine Mercy Prayer Group Meeting: The next meeting will be held on Thursday 14th January at 7 pm in church

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

White Flower Appeal: The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC) is holding its annual appeal this weekend. In common with the Catholic Church, SPUC defends and upholds the sanctity of human life from conception until natural death. The work of SPUC covers a broad spectrum of pro-life and pro-family issues and it seeks to protect unborn children from abortion and defends the disabled, elderly and incapacitated from euthanasia and assisted suicide. Today at all Masses, there will be a retiring collection to support the work of SPUC.

Jubilee Year of Mercy: In Bishop Seamus' Year of Mercy Pastoral Letter he said 'We have a duty to think also of those we know who long for mercy but who feel they would be refused or turned away. This Year of Mercy is a gift especially for those who feel that it is not for them'. One of the special diocesan liturgies 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.

Parish Council Meeting: The next Parish Council Meeting is to be held at 7pm on Monday 11th January.

Parish Fundraising Raffle: Winners are: Andrea Mitchell on "White 41", Chris Smith on "Pink 261" and Claire Boag on "Pink 352". Thanks to everyone for your support.

The Northern Cross: The latest edition of 'The Northern Cross' is due out this weekend. Stevie Matthews has volunteered to keep the paper informed of parish events so contact Stevie if you have anything to share (steviematthews071@google.com)

Northumberland Deanery Meeting: There is to be a meeting of interested people from our Northumberland Deanery, entitled '20 Churches Working Together and Sharing Resources'. It will be 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 will want to be on the bus and from where they want to be picked up – contact details – Jerry Laidler (07801452372), Anthony Bare (01670 812200), Kathryn Maggs (07540065414), Fr Lee Barrett (01670 712476).

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

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.

Ministeracres 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 10 00am – 4pm at Ministeracres Monastery. For more events, their programme is available at www.ministeracres.org

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.

Senior Parishioners Social: The Senior Parishioners Social will be held on Saturday 6th February 2016 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 derive your fellow parishioners of your company! 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!

Sanctuary Network Morpeth: Do you wish to try to help the desperate asylum seekers in Europe? On 16th January from 10am – 3pm there is to be a fundraising event in the Town Hall. Various groups in Morpeth are providing stalls, our refugee representatives are responsible for the bric-a-brac stall. Any help would be greatly appreciated to transfer goods on Saturday at 9am. Also if anyone has any spare tents or sleeping bags and rugs, they can be left at the Town Hall during the fair. Tel. No. for the Fair is 514652.

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.

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.

Lay Leaders Course: The Diocese is holding a course for Lay Leaders of Celebrations in the Absence of a Priest. This course is important for those who lead Services of Word and Communion and for those who wish to become Lay Leaders. 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 7 00pm

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion Training Course: The Diocesan Liturgical Formation Team are holding a course for new Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion at St Bede's Church in March. It would be good if we had a few more people willing to become Ministers to help with distribution of Holy Communion at Mass and also to the Sick and Housebound members of the parish and those in Care Homes. If anyone is willing to respond to this call to Ministry, please speak to Fr Peter. Commitment to the two Thursday evening meetings and one all-day Saturday meeting is essential.

Setting up a Baptism Course: I would like to try to set up a Baptism Preparation Course, so that we can give some catechesis to those parents who ask for Baptism for their children. To do this we will need some volunteers from the parish to become Baptism Catechists, so if anyone is interested, and able to be involved, you are invited to speak to Fr Peter to see what is entailed and whether you feel you could do this. Evangelization and Catechesis to our young parents is important if we want them to be practicing members of our parish community. The more volunteers there are the easier this role will be.

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

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