

Masses, Devotions and Services

Sunday 20th March	9.00am Mass	People of the Parish	Palm Sunday
	11.00am Mass	Alan Wardle	
	6.00pm Mass	No Intention	
Monday 21st March	9.15am Mass	Ken White	<i>Weekday of Lent</i>
Tuesday 22 nd March	8.40am Adoration	Alma Lavery	<i>Weekday of Lent</i>
	9.15am Mass		
Wednesday 23 rd March	9.15am Mass 9.45am—10.15am Adoration	Kathleen Lovell & all friends with cancer	<i>Weekday of Lent</i>
Thursday 24th March	7.00pm Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper	No Intention	Holy Thursday
Friday 25th March	9.15am Office of Readings 10:00am Children's Stations of the Cross 11.00am Ecumenical Procession 3.00pm Commemoration of the Lord's Passion		Good Friday
Saturday 26th March	9.15am Office of Readings followed by Confessions 8.00pm Easter Vigil		Holy Saturday
Sunday 27th March	9.00am Mass	People of the Parish	Easter Sunday
	11.00am Mass	M A McDanah & C Downe	

Ministries Next Week: Sunday 27th March Easter Sunday

	9am Mass	11am Mass	6pm Mass
Readers	Volunteers needed Please sign list	Volunteers needed Please sign lists	No Mass
Extraordinary Ministers	Volunteers needed Please sign lists	Volunteers needed Please sign lists	No Mass
Altar Servers	E Walker Barras G Sykes	A Kinghorn M Watson	No Mass
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

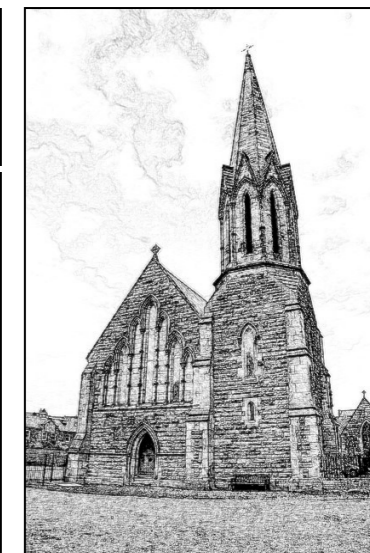
St Robert's First School, Morpeth - www.st-roberts.northumberland.sch.uk

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

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20th March 2016 - Palm Sunday



Today we begin a week's journey with Christ through suffering to death and onto glory. The liturgy of this Holy Week starts today with our palm-procession of triumph and follows the route of service to others (Maundy Thursday), dying to sin (Good Friday) and living new life (Easter). How will we spend this week? Will it be business as usual or will we reach out to deepen our faith and commitment to Jesus and so share more deeply in the joy of his resurrection?

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There is a mysterious character who appears from time to time in the Old Testament. Not much is known about this person except that he is going to be called on to play a big part in God's plans for the chosen people. He will suffer greatly and become a sort of scapegoat for the faults of the nation. Hence, he is known as the "suffering servant" of God. Today he appears in our reading from Isaiah and will reappear on Friday in the first reading: "On him lies a punishment that brings us peace, and through his wounds we are healed." The "suffering servant" is also found elsewhere in the Bible. Who is he? A king, a politician, a soldier, a religious leader or God himself? Certainly Jesus knew that he was to suffer on behalf of others and become the Lamb of God who would take away the sins of the world? Was he the "suffering servant"? I wonder....

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; and for all whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Offertory Collection 13th March

Total Offertory - **£1,092.71** - THANK YOU
Thanks also to those who pay by Standing Order

Offertory Boxes

The new Offertory envelopes have been available for several weeks at the back of church and have now been removed to the Presbytery. There are still quite a number of unclaimed boxes. Please collect from the Presbytery as soon as possible or 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.

Fr Peter's Thanks

I would like to express my thanks to everyone for the birthday wishes and cards and gifts received on Friday for my birthday. I didn't want a big fuss, nor did I say too much about it, but people seemed to know what was happening!!! Thank you for your prayers and your support!



Tea and Coffee

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

Sunday Coffee Rota.

The new Sunday Coffee Rota should be available from the beginning of April. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the volunteers that help make this a very friendly service for the parish. At moment the rota is worked on a two monthly bases, however, for this to continue we need some extra volunteers. If you are willing to help please contact Elizabeth Dixon 516584, email dixonzil@yahoo.co.uk. as soon as possible. Thank you.

CAFOD

Thank you for supporting 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

Next meeting of the Prayer Group will be on Tuesday 22nd March at 6:45 pm not 24th as previously advertised. We will be exploring prayers which inspire us.

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.

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.

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.

World Youth Day

Pope Francis has invited young people from across the world to join him in Kraków, 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



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

Parish Council

We would like to record here our thanks to two members of the Parish Council who have decided to stand down from that role. Jane Laidlaw has been the Secretary to the Council and has decided to stand down as she is moving house and Martin Dowd has decided to stand down too due to other commitments. We are very grateful to them both for their contributions to the work of the Parish Council.



Children's Liturgy Helpers

It is wonderful that we offer Children's 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

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

Catholic Women's League

The next meeting of the Catholic Women's League will be at 7.00pm on Monday 21st March in the Church Hall. There will be a talk on 'Send a Cow'. Everyone welcome.

Charity Fundraising

Father Lawrence's family are organising a Fundraising Bicycle ride from Easington to Morpeth in memory of Fr Lawrence in aid of Cancer Research UK on Saturday 30th April. They spoke about this in Radio Newcastle last Sunday morning. If you feel you would like to support them in their efforts to raise £2,000 you can go to their Just Giving page to donate. <http://www.justgiving.com/team-father-ted>

Church Cleaning

Church Cleaning will take place after the morning Mass on Tuesday. Please come along if able to give a helping hand.

Volunteers for Ministries

There is a list at the back of Church seeking volunteers for ministries at Masses next weeked. Please sign up is able to help.

Holy Thursday Mass

Mass on Holy Thursday will begin at We will need some willing volunteers for the Washing of the Feet. After Mass we will have "Watching" until 10pm. Night Prayer at 9.50pm. This is a wonderful time for some quiet prayer as we remember what happened in the Garden of Gethsemane with Jesus and his disciples.

Good Friday Procession of Witness

Morpeth Churches **Together will begin a Procession of Witness at St James's Church** on Good Friday at 11.30am, ending at the Market Place at about 11.45am for a short service. Assemble at St James' at 11:15. Hot cross buns, Tea and Coffee will be served afterwards by the Catholic Women's League.

Children's Stations of the Cross

We will celebrate Children's Stations of the Cross at 10:00am on Good Friday.

Office of Readings on Friday and Saturday

We will pray the Office of Readings together in Church at 9.15am on both Friday Saturday morning

Good Friday Service

Our Solemn celebration of Lords Passion begins at 3.00pm on Friday afternoon.

Day of Fast and Abstinence

Good Friday is a Day of Fast and Abstinence when those who are required to, are asked to both Fast and abstain on this solemn day.

Easter Vigil

Our Easter Vigil mass will begin at 8pm and will start with the lighting and Blessing of the Fire and the new Paschal Candle, outside weather permitting, and we will then process into Church to continue our celebration of the Vigil.

Easter Refreshments

After the Easter Vigil Mass there will be refreshments available in the Church Hall. Everyone is welcome to come along and join in.

Easter Sunday Evening Mass

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

Altar Servers for Holy Week

24th March	7pm Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper	E Boyle S Bambrick I Golding-Douglass D Dowd
25th March	3pm Good Friday Veneration of the Cross	T Boyle A Bambrick J Dowd P Glancey A Kinghorn G Butler
26th March	8pm Easter Vigil	T Boyle M Laux A Bambrick S Bambrick O Dowd