



The Catholic Parish of Saint Gregory the Great Northampton



PART OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF NORTHAMPTON, REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 234091

OUR
VISION

.. **“A truly thriving Catholic community,
confidently and humbly proclaiming
the Good News of Jesus Christ.”** ..

OUR
VISION

“The War to end all wars”

We are commemorating this week the Armistice of 1918 which brought a stop to the carnage of the war with Germany. It was not a peace treaty or a peace settlement. That came the following year when a Peace Conference was held in Paris. Although some 20 or so nations attended, the power was wielded by Britain, France and USA. The main product was the Treaty of Versailles which was not negotiated but imposed on Germany and the harsh terms (acceptance of war guilt, reparations, loss of territory (Alsace/Lorraine, colonies) demilitarization) bred anger and humiliation in Germany and contributed to the rise of Fascism and WW2) Britain (Lloyd George) and France (Clemenceau) had suffered heavily in the war and were determined to make Germany pay the price and unable to make war again. The USA (Woodrow Wilson) was more idealistic about ways to prevent war and it was largely due to him that the League of Nations was established as part of the settlement. Unfortunately at home America was turning isolationist and Congress never ratified the League of Nations.

However it is not widely remembered that Versailles was only dealing with Germany. Its allies in war were dealt with in four other treaties named after French towns – Saint Germain (Austria), Neuilly (Bulgaria), Trianon (Hungary) and Sevres (Ottoman Empire). These treaties were mainly drawn up by diplomats and signed between 1919 and 1923. The terms were based on the terms of Versailles.

Of these four treaties the one which impinged most on Britain was Sevres because within it decisions were made concerning the large swathes of territory in the Middle East which were under the rule of the Ottoman Empire (Turkey). However the situation in those territories had been already compromised. Firstly a secret agreement had been drawn up between Britain and France in 1916 (Known by the names of its authors as the Sykes-Picot agreement). This agreement divided the Middle Eastern territories of the Ottoman Empire, once it had been defeated, between France and Britain. Secondly Britain had promised the Arab inhabitants independence in return for support for the British army which was fighting to defeat the Turks in the territories (Lawrence of Arabia). Thirdly, in 1917 the British Government issued the Balfour Declaration promising to support the establishment of a Jewish Homeland in Palestine and did it without consulting the majority Arab population there.

Sevres really confirmed the Sykes-Picot agreement but made the

territories Mandated territories. Countries given a mandated territory were to govern it in a sort of caretaker capacity under the League of Nations with responsibility to prepare its inhabitants for independence. Britain's mandated territories were Mesopotamia (the “cradle of civilization” between the two great rivers of Tigris and Euphrates), Palestine and Trans-Jordan. France received Syria and the Lebanon. Britain saw Mesopotamia as vital to its interests: as a gateway to India, the crown jewel of Empire, and the repository of vital (and valuable) oil deposits It was already developing control of oil supplies in neighbouring Iran, Throughout the 1920s Britain ruled its mandated territories as part of the British Empire exercising political, economic and military control. There were rising nationalist groups which wanted to get Britain out and which distrusted our intentions, remembering our recent promises. In 1932 Britain declared Mesopotamia as an independent state of Iraq. As far back as the Sykes-Picot agreement little attention had been paid to the ethnic and religious divides and this continued in the new Iraq. Although Iraq had been declared independent British political and economic influence was strong and we had the right to exercise military action within its borders. The RAF were given bases in Iraq and air power was used to quell political (often anti-British) uprisings. We also had strong economic interests (oil). In WW2 we seized back control for fear of Germany gaining control of oil resources. When the war ended the pre-war situation was restored. In 1958 a revolution occurred which established a Republic. This effectively removed British influence and ushered in the events of the last 30 years.

The position with Trans-Jordan (it became Jordan when it lost its West Bank territories in the war with Israel) was similar to that in Iraq but Jordan was more accommodating to British influence. The mandated status was removed in 1947.

The British mandate in Palestine lasted until 1948. British control was challenged both by the Arab and Jewish communities. Both wanted Britain out and were prepared to use violence to achieve their aims and did so, but the situation was made worse by the hostility between the two communities. Britain tried to regulate Jewish settlement but after the Holocaust this became physically and morally more difficult. In 1948 Britain surrendered its mandate to the new United Nations. The UN came to a policy decision that a 2-state solution should be implemented. It is still on the table!

Des Keohane

War does not solve problems; it just creates more. — The legacy of empire casts a long shadow.



22 Park Avenue North
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Website: www.stgregory.org.uk

Sunday 11th November 2018

Thirty Second Sunday of the Year

Parish Mass Book - Year B

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Priest:

Fr Andrew Behrens ☎ 713015
E-mail: priest@stgregory.org.uk

Deacons:

Rev Michael Fleming ☎ 647750
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Rev Rory Stewart (ret) ☎ 408407

Pastoral Assistant:

Maria Heath ☎ 07952 040830
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Sunday <i>32nd Sunday of the Year</i>	9.00 am	Mass	The Parish
	11.00 am	Mass	Carlo Marchese
Monday St. Josaphat of Polotsk	9.00 am	Mass	Victims of Conflict
Tuesday Feria	9.00 am	Celebration of Word & Communion (Followed by prayers for the sick)	
Wednesday Feria	9.00 am	Mass	J & E Brennan RIP
	11.00 am	Celebration of Word & Communion (St Andrew's)	
Thursday Feria	9.00 am	Celebration of Word & Communion	
	6.45 pm	Benediction	
	7.00 pm	Celebration of Word & Communion	
Friday Feria	7.00 am	Mass	Sean Beggan
Saturday Feria	9.00 am	Celebration of Word & Communion	
Sunday <i>33rd Sunday of the Year</i>	9.00 am	Mass	The Parish
	11.00 am	Mass	Eddie Moriarty

MASSES TO BE OFFERED BY FR. ANDREW IN ROME THIS WEEK: Catherine Clarke, The Intentions of the Family & Friends of Paul & Clare Sefton, Ray.

- Your Offering To The Parish:** Last Sunday's collection was £818.96. Thank you!
Standing Order gifts to the Parish: Each week £300 is given through standing orders.
Gift Aid benefits to the parish: The value of Gift Aid averages £137 per week.
Special Collection Last Week: Bishop's Maintenance Fund. £470.56. Thank You!
Special Collection Next Week: Sick & Retired Clergy
Counters This Week: C.P., Linda Allen.
Cleaners This Week: Aideen & Another.

Readings for This Sunday

- 1 Kings 17: 10-16.** *The widow made a little scone from her meal.*
Hebrews 9: 24-28. *Christ offers himself only once.*
Mark 12: 38-44. *This poor widow has put in more than all.*

Readings for Next Sunday

Daniel 12: 1-3; Hebrews 10: 11-14, 18; Mark 13: 24-32. (Page 91)

- During this season of Ordinary Time, Autumn, we are asked to pray for:** Teachers & Pupils; The Harvest; The Spread of the Gospel; Prisoners & their Families; Victims of War; Young People.

You will be sad to hear that Tony Refoy died on Friday morning, may he rest in peace. The funeral details will be posted as soon as we receive them.

In Hospital? Let the Chaplaincy know on 01604 714556
If you are in need, please ring Gregory Care on 07982 235379, Someone will respond as soon as possible. Please be patient.
Are you new to the parish? You are welcome! Please introduce yourself to one of the clergy

Live Video streaming from the Cathedral: <https://www.churchservices.tv/northamptoncathedral>

An important message for any who sometimes attend Mass at the Cathedral: The Cathedral will no longer send envelopes from other Parishes back, so if you occasionally attend Sunday Mass there, please do not put St. Gregory's Envelopes into the collection, but save them until you are next here, or consider setting up a standing order (see Fr. Andrew)

Please pray for the sick

Sylvia Marlow	Kelly-Ann
Cecilia Pereira	Robert Fleming
Fr Philip Swingler	Joan McAllister
Michael Spowart	Jean O'Neill
Dominic Nicholls	Clara Korejwo
Alf Shipman	Ziadi Family
Frank Burke	Khanh Phan
Kath Seamark	Robert Moore
Fr Ed Worthy	Sarah Dunster
Liam Murphy	Kim Do
Margaret Farragher	Sr. Margaret
Dulcie Miranda	Chris Butler
Joan Healy	Lily Butler
Irmgard Wraxall	Rachel
Sylvia Clark	Phyllis Albon
Maurice Murphy	Doris Old
Sylvester Dauksta	Rita
Lorraine Wollard	Rita Barry
Dolores Behan	Vera Curly
Richard Redmond	Chau
Teresa Redmond	Damien Darkko
Br Paul Greaves	Michael Graney
Paul Mandel	Fr. John O'Brien
Kathleen Healey	Candy Docherty
Leo Bell	Elaine Donnely
Jennifer Ogbata	May Eamons
Constance Unsworth	Michael Folon
John Bosco Cullen	N. Donegan
Philomena Fraher	Michael Fraher
Maureen Smith	Edward Taylan
Fr. Malachy Eleanya	Peter
Nancy Ginnelly	Mary Rumsey
Maire West	Owen
Stephen Aneke	

Anniversaries:

May they Rest in Peace

Edward Taylor	Jeremiah Buckley
Jack Norris	Elizabeth Ryan
Patrick Berrey	Jane Aneke
Daniel Aneke	Arthur Coleman
John Callinan	Paddy Streeter
Larry Scicluna	Rosie Augustine
Francis Pilsbury	Roslyn Thompson
Jaroslav Picunko	Marie Williams
Liana Dolan	Anne Rafter
Hynek Hlustik	Jacqueline Sohal
Bartley Folon	Martin Callaghan
Arthur Cannell	Mary Barnell
Grace Pond	Clara Woods
Rose Madden	Margaret Madeiros
Eileen Bell	Stella Lane
Eileen Guy	Terry McMahon
Emma Lewin	Nellie Bartela
John Kennedy	

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR NOVEMBER

That the language of love and dialogue may always prevail over the language of conflict.

Notices of Interest

Repository HELP! From Nov. 18th, Cards & other items for Christmas will be on sale in the Hall after both Masses, as well as our other stock. As I had a major operation on 5th November (if all went to plan), I will not be able to help for some weeks. This means our loyal, small, band of sellers will be under pressure & we really need offers of help for at least the Christmas period. It involves a few moments after Mass & perhaps some help moving tables in & out of the Hall. Please help if you can. Ring 629103 or just turn up!
Kathleen Healey



Life House: There will be Tea & Coffee available after both Masses in aid of The Life House. Items not sold from the last sale will also be available!



We welcome into the family of the Church
Marcel Dariusz Krawetkowski
who received Christian Baptism last week.
Please pray for him and his family.

Bible Alive for November & December is now available in the lobby area. Please give this publication a try - it has daily readings & good articles - all for only £2:50! **Please remember to put money in box marked 'Books & Papers' in the entrance lobby.**

Communion to Those With Limited Mobility: Holy Communion is brought to those in the FRONT ROW on EITHER SIDE and to wheel-chair users, but not anywhere else in church.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Please remember this important spiritual powerhouse of the parish. Exposition begins after the morning liturgy of Word and Communion on Thursdays and continues until 6.45 pm.

Cheese & Wine & a brilliant Bishop! On Wed. 14th Nov. at 7:30 in the hall at Sacred Heart there is an evening to hear a short feedback from those who went from Sacred Heart parish to the inspirational 'Adoremus' conference in Liverpool in September & to watch a recording of a talk by Bishop Barron who was brilliant & really down to earth! We will follow this with a cheese & wine social so do put it in your diary - you won't be disappointed .

Blessed Cyprian Tansi Prayer Group continues on 1st Sat. of each month in the Sacristy at 10am. (Next meeting is December 1st) **All welcome.**

Vianney Mission Prayer Group meets every 2nd Wednesday of the month in the Sacristy, 6pm - 7pm. **Next meeting 14th November.** All welcome.

The Prayer Group meets every Thursday in the Sacristy from 2pm until 3.30pm for Praise, reading of Scripture and Intercession. We are a small group, and would warmly welcome newcomers!

APF Red Boxes: The Autumn collection of donations to the missions via the Red Boxes is now starting. **Please bring your boxes or envelopes (preferred as they are easier to handle) to the Sacristy next Sunday, 11th November or as soon as convenient.** If you need collection from your home, or if you have any queries, contact Des or Mary on (01604) 416474. Thanks!

Choir Matters: Practices will be after Thurs. evening Mass on Nov 15, 22, 29, Dec 6, 13, 20, not Jan 3. New members always welcome, as are the old ones! *Alec*

Ceili Dancing: Wednesday evenings, starts 8pm. Learn Ceili Dancing in a friendly atmosphere at St Gregory's Hall from 8pm –

9.15pm. All ages welcome! Ceád Mile Failte. For further info please phone Pat Franks on 07710624921

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Baptism Preparation: The next Baptism Preparation will be on Monday 21st January 2019.

First Holy Communion — 2019 The first session for children and parents is on **Saturday 17th November at St Gregory's School, Grange Road** from 2.00 pm until 4.00 pm. It is important that a parent stays with their child for this session. Registration is now closed.

Confirmation Preparation: Application forms for next year's Confirmation preparation programme are available from the Sacristy after both Masses today and for the next few weeks. The programme starts on Saturday 24th November, and all the dates and venues are on the application form. **IMPORTANT: Completed forms should be handed in to Kathleen Fisher after either Mass on 4th or 11th November.**

On Sat. 17th Nov, the Vigil of the Dedication of the Basilica of Sts. Peter and Paul, please pray & fast for the end of abortion & euthanasia in this Country. Your prayer & fasting is urgently needed, it saves lives. www.GoodCounselNetwork.com For information on the days of Prayer and Fasting see: <http://www.goodcounselnet.co.uk/Prayer-and-Fasting-days.html>

Important Notice- SPUC Meeting: Please help in the important work of protecting our unborn Brothers and Sisters in Christ by attending a meeting at 10am on Sat. 17th Nov. in the Sacristy, in order to set up a local SPUC branch in Northampton. The meeting will be after 9am Mass & will last about an hour. At a time when the sanctity of life is being attacked at every level it is important that we work together in order to protect it. Please contact William Currie 499833 or wpcurrie@btinternet.com if you are interested in attending or interested in being involved in the future.

Diocesan Mass to celebrate Romero's Canonisation: Bishop Peter invites you to a Mass celebrating the canonisation of Oscar Romero on Tues 20 Nov, 7pm to 9pm - Sacred Heart Church, Leighton Buzzard LU7 1HZ, followed by light refreshments & a chance to meet John Guy (CAFOD trustee) who is going to share his experiences of being at the canonisation in Rome.

Becoming a Catholic: For adults interested in becoming Catholic the parish runs Journey in Faith process (RCIA). This is also offered for adults who are Catholic but have not received all the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation & Eucharist. Please speak to Alex Heath who leads the Journey (07963032175), Fr Andrew or Maria Heath.

Tots @St Gregory's: Tots @ St. Gregory's: Tuesdays **during school term-time** from 9.30 - 11.30. Refreshments provided. 50p per family. All welcome!

Open Days at St Gregory's School

Wednesday	14 th November	9.30 am -11.30 am
Thursday	22nd November	9.30 am – 11.30 am
Thursday	22nd November	6.00 pm – 7.00 pm

Celebrating 50 years of service to our community

266 **Facebook page:** St Gregory's has a page on Facebook, and frequently carries news before it gets into the newsletter as well as reminders for events. Address:

<https://www.facebook.com/StGregsNorthampton>

Scripture Readings 11th November 2015, 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

Ahab, king of the northern kingdom of Israel, worshipped false gods, introduced from Phoenicia by his wife, Jezebel. Elijah told Ahab the Lord would punish him with a drought lasting many years. The Lord fed Elijah in the wilderness to keep him out of Ahab's way, but then told him to return to Sidon where a Phoenician woman would feed him. In today's reading the widow gives Elijah the last of her food, and is rewarded with food for them both until the drought ends.

The Letter to the Hebrews has continued discussing ways in which Jesus Christ is our eternal high priest, "mediator" of the new covenant, which promises eternal inheritance. No longer does the high priest need to go each day into the sanctuary of the Temple, where God dwells on earth, to mediate between man and God.

The words "graciously keep us" in the second line of this prayer seem to be weaker than the Latin "exclude"; an imperative meaning completely remove, or shut out.

"Graciously" does not refer to how the shutting out is done; it means "By your grace, shut out".

Almighty and merciful God,
graciously keep us from all adversity,
so that, unhindered in mind and body alike,
we may pursue in freedom of heart
the things that are yours.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Christ offered himself as a sacrifice once only. He is now in heaven, where he intercedes directly with God on our behalf.

In Mark's gospel, after entering Jerusalem and cleansing the Temple, Jesus told several parables pointing out the hypocrisy of Israel's leaders, including today's reading about a widow who gives all she had, like the widow in the first reading. Then, shortly before his arrest, Jesus warns about dark days to come.

Psalm Response: **My soul, give praise to the Lord.**

1 Kings 17: 10-16; Psalm 145(146): 7-10; Hebrews 9: 24-28;
Mark 12: 38-44

Chris Oliver

We are praying that nothing may prevent our whole-hearted following of Christ, and while we are praying that God will remove everything that hinders us, we must also recognise that sometimes our following of Christ is far from whole-hearted; and frequently barely even half-hearted.

As well as praying that external obstacles may be removed, we also pray that the internal obstacles of our weak wills may be overcome, so that we will want to do what God wants us to do (in mind) and actually do what God wants (in body).

Hope Centre to be made homeless

It is a strange irony that the Hope Centre is the Mayor of Northampton's charity for the year and yet the Borough Council is supporting Midland Heart in evicting them from Oasis House. Ironically Midland Heart has on their web-page: (on Saturday 27th October, and several days after the announcement of their decision to evict the Hope Centre) "Oasis House is a revolutionary service that offers accommodation & support to homeless people in Northampton. There are 48 units at the scheme with 9 direct access beds & 39 move on apartments. Oasis House services are delivered in partnership by Northampton Borough council who have their gateway housing solutions team on site, Northampton Hope Centre who provide day centre services to the homeless by providing meals, clothing, training & activities."

St Gregory's parish have been supporters of the Hope Centre since its very start. There is an on-line petition at:
<https://www.change.org/p/midlands-heart-save-the-hope-centre>.

Monastic Experience Weekend

Quarr Abbey, Isle of Wight: Friday 8th (evening) - Sunday 10th March 2019

The Monastic Experience Weekend is designed to give single Catholic men aged 18-35 the opportunity to sample monastic life, as it is led at Quarr Abbey in the Benedictine tradition of the Solesmes Congregation. They will be able to attend the liturgical worship in the church, pursue personal prayer and meditation on

the Bible in the prayerful silence of the monastery, and hear talks from the monks about their way of life, their liturgy and the Rule of Saint Benedict which they follow. There will be opportunities to participate in the work of the monks and to ask questions. It will be of particular interest to those wanting to explore the possibility of a vocation.

Contact: Brother Duncan - novicemaster@quarr.org

Annual Parish Requiem

The annual Mass for those whose funerals have taken place in the past year from St Gregory's or by St Gregory's clergy will be on Tuesday evening, 27th November at 7.00 pm. In addition to those who have died in the last year, any whose names are given during the half-hour before the Mass begins will be remembered. Those who come are invited to bring a flower as a symbol of

remembrance — after the Mass they will be placed at Our Lady's shrine.

Throughout the month of November the names of any who have died may be placed in the box under the Altar — at each Mass during the month those people will be remembered collectively. May they all rest in peace.