

The Catholic Parish of Saint Gregory the Great Northampton



OUR
VISION

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

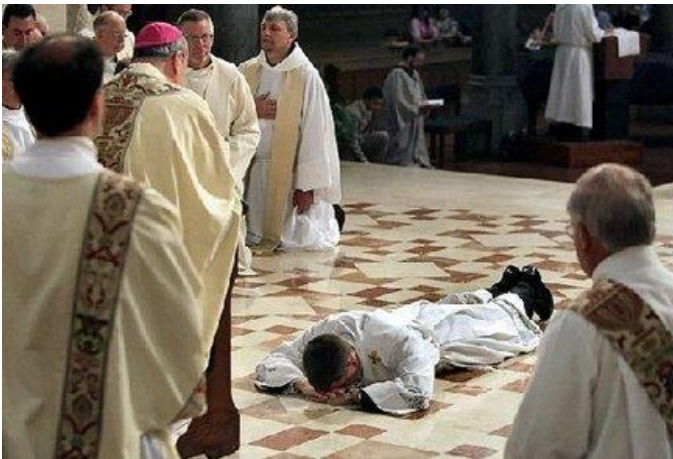
OUR
VISION

The Ordination of a Priest

It has been 45 years since the last time a parishioner of St Gregory's was ordained to the Priesthood in this diocese; that was Fr Michael Bingham SJ; since then we have been honoured to host a number of ordinations, and next Saturday Deacon David Donaghue will be ordained in the Cathedral.

The ceremonies of ordination are all of great significance, and you will see a number of actions that indicate aspects of priesthood.

The invocation of the Holy Spirit and the intercession of the saints are an important foundation of the ordination. It is moving to see the candidate for priesthood lying prostrate on the floor, indicating that all the priest does is empowered by the Holy Spirit and supported by the prayers of the saints.



The Bishop and everyone else kneels in prayer to show that we pray in union with the whole company of heaven.

Prayer forms a vital part of the life of the priest, and his priesthood begins with prayer. However, there is a great more to priesthood, and the prayerful support of his parish is every bit as important as his own prayer as he has to spend time in many other tasks in the busy day.

The laying on of hands indicates the giving of priestly authority handed down from the Apostles, but also shared in the universal priesthood. No priest is ordained to a solitary ministry, but shares in the Diocesan priesthood or in that of a religious community or an ordinariate. It is always impressive to see not only the Bishop but also all the other priests present sharing in the laying on of hands. This speaks loudly of the community of the priesthood.



At Baptism we are all anointed with Sacred Chrism; the holy oil which is blessed by the Bishop each year at the Holy Thursday Mass of Chrism. At Confirmation we are anointed again; both these anointings are on the head. At ordination the anointing is on the hands, and the hands of the priest are anointed that his hand will bring blessing, forgiveness and call down the Holy Spirit.



The giving of a chalice and paten speak of the authority of the priest to celebrate Mass, and following the ordination, Fr David will celebrate his first Mass at St Gregory's next Sunday at 11.00.



We are all aware that we have fewer priests than in past years, and we should be praying that all those whom God is calling to priesthood will respond to that call. Pray too for those who are preparing for ordination, and today for those being ordained Deacon at Palazzola from the English College in Rome



22 Park Avenue North
Northampton. NN3 2HS
Website: www.stgregory.org.uk

Sunday 14th July 2019

Fifteenth Sunday of the Year

Parish Mass Book - Year C

Page 51

Priest:
Fr Andrew Behrens ☎ 713015
E-mail: priest@stgregory.org.uk
Deacons:
Rev Michael Fleming ☎ 647750
E-mail: mvf@btinternet.com
Rev Rory Stewart (ret) ☎ 408407
Pastoral Assistant:
Maria Heath ☎ 07952 040830
E-mail: maria.heath@yahoo.co.uk

Sunday <i>15th Sunday of the Year</i>	9.00 am	Mass	The Parish
	11.00 am	Mass	Peter Redmond RIP
Monday St. Bonaventure	9.00 am	Mass	Eileen Keenan's Intentions
Tuesday Our Lady of Mount Carmel	9.00 am	Mass (Followed by prayers for the sick)	Catherine Clarke
Wednesday Feria	9.00 am	Mass	Bishop Leo's 70 th Ordination Anniversary
Thursday Feria	9.00 am	Celebration of Word & Communion	Lles MacFarlane RIP
	6.45 pm	Benediction	
	7.00 pm	Mass	
Friday Feria	9.00 am	Mass	Holy Souls
Saturday St. Apollinaris	9.00 am 9.45 am	Mass Confessions	Nora Scott
Sunday <i>16th Sunday of the Year</i>	9.00 am	Mass	The Parish
	11.00 am	Mass (Principal celebrant: Fr David Donaghue)	Thomas & Mary Donoghue & George Walsh

Your Offering To The Parish: Last Sunday's collection was £568.15. Thank you!
Standing Order gifts to the Parish: Each week £380 is given through standing orders.
Gift Aid benefits to the parish: The value of Gift Aid averages £133 per week.
Second Collection This Week: Apostleship of the Sea
Counters This Week: M. Murtagh, L. Allen, Anna Smith.
Cleaners This Week: Pru & Another.

Readings for This Sunday

Deuteronomy 39: 10-14. *The word is very near to you for your observance.*
Colossians 1: 15-20. *All things were created through Christ and for him.*
Luke 10: 25-37. *Who is my neighbour?*

Readings for Next Sunday

Genesis 18: 1-10; Colossians 1: 24-28; Luke 10: 38-42. (Page 54)

During this season of Ordinary Time, Summer, Human Life; Seafarers;
We are asked to pray for: Victims of Persecution/Oppression
Europe; Christian/Jewish Relations.

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.

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)

Are you new to the parish?
You are welcome! Please introduce yourself to one of the clergy

Please pray for the sick

Sylvia Marlow	Kelly-Ann
Cecilia Pereira	Robert Fleming
Fr Philip Swingle	Joan McAllister
Michael Spowart	Jean O'Neill
Dominic Nicholls	Clara Korejwo
Alf Shipman	James Power
Owen	Khanh Phan
Kath Seamark	Michael Connor
Fr Ed Worthy	Sarah Dunster
Liam Murphy	Kim Do
Margaret Farragher	Sr. Margaret
Dulcie Miranda	Sylvia Clark
Joan Healy	Lily Butler
Jayne Miller	Rachel
Baby Lorenzo Diccio	Eileen Howell
Maurice Murphy	Doris Old
Sylvester Dauksta	Rita
Lorraine Woolard	Erica Campbell
Bernard Kelly	Vera Curly
Richard Redmond	Chau
Teresa Redmond	Damien Darkko
Maire West	Michael Graney
Paul Mandel	Fr. John O'Brien
Kathleen Healey	Candy Docherty
Leo Bell	Elaine Donnelly
Catherine Stratten	May Eamons
Stephen Aneke	Michael Folon
John Bosco Cullen	Mary Rumsey
Paul Greaves	Michael Fraher
Maureen Smith	Edward Taylan
Fr. Malachy Eleanya	Peter
N. Donegan	Norma Bryan
Maureen Bell	Deacon Rory
May Murtagh	

Anniversaries:

May they Rest in Peace

Mary McKay	William Nolan
George Bradley	Doris Bonnett
Patrick Cotton	Ann Kiely
Patricia Rumball	Richard Fitzgerald
Michael Hart	Ronald Howells
Joseph Browne	Sydney Harrold
Ginevra McConnichie	Ronald Hawtin
Alfred Bosworth	Helen Slinn
Maureen Routhorn	Antonio Di Ieso
Margaret Stevenson	Mary Petrella
Eileen Mannion	Theodosia Dix
Lawrence Leonard	John MacKay
Joseph Brosnan	John O'Toole

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR JULY

That priests, through the
modesty and humility of their
lives, commit themselves
actively to a solidarity with
those who are most poor.

Notices of Interest

The Repository: The Repository is open after both Sunday Masses. Confirmation cards are now on sale. *Kathleen Healey*

Bible Alive for July & August is now available in the lobby area. It has daily readings & good articles - all for only £2:50! **Please remember to put money in the box marked 'Books & Papers' in the entrance lobby.**



We welcome into the family of the Church
Selena Smarandescu and
Connie April O'Neill
who received Christian Baptism last week.
Please pray for them and their families.

An Important invitation to all parishioners: Next Saturday in the Cathedral at 11.30 am Deacon David Donaghue will be ordained Priest, and **everyone** is invited to be there for the celebration.

David Donaghue's First Mass: As I am sure you're all aware, David celebrates his first Mass here next Sunday, 11am. There will be a buffet afterwards to help him celebrate, & we need volunteers to provide home cooked/bought food! There's a list in the lobby area (by the side of the glass doors) of what will be needed, & if you can help, please sign your name by the side. If there is something you wish to supply that isn't on the list, please let me know & it can be added! Just give Georgina a ring on 07818441480.

Choir Matters: Brilliant news! **Deacon David will celebrate his first Mass at St Gregory's on July 21 at 11:00 Mass.** Our next choir practice (July 4) will focus on that event. Our already much praised choir would benefit from others joining us so that we become even better and improve what we deliver at David's very special and blessed event. Help us do justice to his celebration. *Alec*

Accommodation Needed: A sister needs to rent a one bedroom flat anywhere close to Northampton General Hospital, or in town. If you can help, please speak to Fr. Andrew.

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!

Fitness & Pilates for Mid Life & Beyond! Classes Wed, 10.30am in the Church Hall with Theresa, who is fully qualified & insured. For further info, please contact Theresa on 07773577804.

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

33rd Rosary Rally at Mount St Bernard Abbey: This begins with Mass at 2.00 pm on Sunday 1st September. See the poster for more information.

Our Common Home: There will be a special day of prayer & celebration of creation on Sun. Aug. 4th which focuses on the CAFOD climate change campaign. Watch for more information about this in due course.

Summer Camp: NYMO, our diocesan youth ministry office, wish to invite all young people of secondary school age, to this year's Summer Camp. With the opportunity to sleep in a castle and experience amazing outdoor activities, alongside a day at Alton Towers and a mystery day out! All this alongside daily Mass, Reconciliation and Adoration. Cost is a minimum donation of £205 (9subsidised) to an actual cost of £295. More information can be found at www.nymo.org or call Fiona on 01582 720627

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!

Bl. Cyprian Tansi Prayer Group meets every 1st Saturday in the Sacristy at 10am. **Next meeting is August 3rd. All welcome.**

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

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.



Annual Blessed Tansi Pilgrimage.

Mount St. Bernard Abbey, Coleville, LE67 5UL, Saturday 24th August, 10.30am. Rosary Procession, Holy Mass, Benediction and Blessing of the Sick. Please see fliers at the back of the Church for full details, and contacts for Northampton.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Baptism Preparation: The next Baptism Preparation will be at 7.00 pm on Monday 8th July in the Sacristy.

First Holy Communion — 2020 For a variety of reasons we will have to limit the number of children in the preparation programme for First Holy Communion in 2020. This will initially be done on a “first come, first served” basis, following the beginning of registration which will be on 8th and 15th September after either Mass. No registrations will be accepted until then. The main preparation sessions will take place on seven Saturdays leading to First Holy Communion in May 2020.

Confirmation Preparation: There is a practise of the Confirmation Service for candidates, Sponsors and parents after the 10.30 am Mass at Sacred Heart on Sunday 14th July. The Confirmation Service will take place at Sacred Heart Church on Friday 19th July. Please keep our young people in your prayers.

Mass for Victims & Survivors of Abuse, their families and supporters at St Mary's in Woburn Sands at 12 noon on 12 October 2019. All victims and survivors of abuse, their families and supporters are invited to this Mass. There will be light refreshments after the Mass.

Individual Meetings for Victims and Survivors, with Bishop Peter. Bishop Peter is offering to meet with victims & survivors, families & supporters from May 2019 & continuing on a bimonthly basis. For more details or to book a meeting with the Bishop, contact the safeguarding office on: 01604 723514.

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

Bob Moore RIP The funeral Mass for Bob Moore will be on Monday 22nd July at 11.30 am. May he rest in peace.

Alpha in the Autumn The present “Alpha” course is nearing its end, and the dates have been fixed for the next, which will be in the autumn, starting on 17th September and running in Tuesday evenings until 3rd December. Many people have spoken of how this has re-vitalised their faith; please think about joining if you haven't already!

In the liturgy of Baptism there are six questions that are put to the parents and godparents just before the pouring of water. The first three are a renunciation of evil, the second three are a declaration of Christian faith.

The same elements are found in this prayer, although in the reverse order. We pray that those who profess the Christian faith may reject everything that is opposed to it. We can understand that we are praying to be faithful to our Baptism.

O God, who show the light of your truth to those who go astray, so that they may return to the right path, give all who for the faith they profess are accounted Christians the grace to reject whatever is contrary to the name of Christ and strive after all that does it .honour

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.

However, the prayer is not just for ourselves; it is speaks of 'those who go astray'. We all probably know people who have chosen a different way of life, or for whom the 'cares of this world or the lure of wealth' (*Matthew 13:22*) have separated themselves from the Church; or who have rejected the Church because of the Church's failure in some way.

As we pray that we may 'strive after all that does it (Christ's name) honour', we pray that we may in instrumental in finding the lost sheep.

Scripture Readings 14th July 2019, 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

The book of Deuteronomy, the "second law", evolved over many centuries. It restates the Jewish Law and the covenant God made with Abraham. Our reading starts with an imperative, but this follows "if": "you will prosper if" you choose to follow God's law. And God's Law is not difficult to find: it is written "in their hearts". Put the covenant into practice, and so choose life, not death.

The psalm implores God to save him from unmerited suffering. The reference in an omitted verse to "vinegar to drink" and the expectation that "God will save Zion" led Christians to think of Messiah – Christ.

In this beautiful hymn from Colossians Paul spells out the awesome reality of Christ: "Christ Jesus is the image of the unseen

God". We know God through Jesus. Jesus is fully human in the way God intended all humanity to be, and so He shows us the way to God. But reconciliation comes with a proviso: "that you continue in the faith".

Jesus has rejoiced and given thanks with the 70 disciples for their successful mission. He then responds to a sincere questioner by updating the Jewish Law to what was originally intended. Everyone is our neighbour. The priest and the Levite were more concerned with ritual purity than with love.

Psalm Response: **Seek the Lord, you who are poor, and your hearts will revive.**

(Deut 30:10-14; Ps 68(69):14-37; Col 1:15-20; Lk 10:25-37)

Chris Oliver



In the presence of God, during a prayerful reading of the text, it is good to ask, for example: "Lord, what does this text say *to me*? What is it about my life that you want to change by this text? What troubles me about this text? Why am I not interested in this? Or perhaps: What do I find pleasant in this text? What is it about this word that moves me? What attracts me? Why does it attract me?" When we make an effort to listen to the Lord, temptations usually arise. One of them is simply to feel troubled or burdened, and to turn away. Another common temptation is to think about what the text means for other people, and so avoid applying it to our own life. It can also happen that we look for excuses to water

down the clear meaning of the text. Or we can wonder if God is demanding too much of us, asking for a decision which we are not yet prepared to make. This leads many people to stop taking pleasure in the encounter with God's word; but this would mean forgetting that no one is more patient than God our Father, that no one is more understanding and willing to wait. He always invites us to take a step forward, but does not demand a full response if we are not yet ready. He simply asks that we sincerely look at our life and present ourselves honestly before him, and that we be willing to continue to grow, asking from him what we ourselves cannot as yet achieve.

Pope Francis, *Evangelii Gaudium* 2013 §153



Pastoral Area Day of Reflection

Over 40 people attended the day with every parish represented, 10 from Rushden, 10 from Wellingborough, 10 from Weston Favell, 8 from St Gregory's, 3 from Billing; 4 priests and one deacon.

We reflected on ways of working together better as a pastoral area, and after seeing a presentation on video of Bishop Peter, in small groups, we reflected on the good things that are happening in the parishes of our Pastoral Area. Among the things that were mentioned was the Bible Timeline courses, Alpha, the support for the Hope Centre and food-banks, ecumenical groups, the work of the Legion of Mary and SVP, the variety and diversity of churches and the contribution of the Ordinariate, small communities, work with children and young people, our freedom to worship and that we are having this day, moving forward as a Church.

Over lunch we each were invited to find out more about anything that had been spoken of that we did not already know about.

In the afternoon we looked at specific projects that might be undertaken, including video-linking all our churches, ways of

improving parish and pastoral area communications, regular and frequent (3 or 4 times a year) pastoral area gatherings including a meal together and further development of youth ministry.

Out of this meeting will grow a new Pastoral Area Pastoral Council, and from this meeting will come the initial agenda. High on this agenda will be initiatives for mission, both those already in progress and new ideas. Linked to this will be new forms of pastoral ministry following a plan run by the Diocese called "Mandated Pastoral Ministry" which will be authorised by the Diocese, following training provided by the Diocese.

We had to end at 4.00, as advertised, but the way in which many people stayed behind to talk to each other indicates that this day was both welcomed and appreciated, and that the proposal to have further meetings was received with applause!

Many thanks to everyone who came, to the many people who helped arrange the day, and above all, to Avril Baigent who led the day and kept us enthused and on-task.