



The Catholic Parish of Saint Gregory the Great Northampton



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



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



A Time of great distress

Both the first reading and the Gospel today speak of a time of distress, but both of them speak of that not being a permanent condition.

The context of the readings is that of Christ’s second coming at the end of time. However, although this is not the scriptural context, we can also read it as a word to our own times.

It cannot be denied that the Catholic Church throughout the world has been in, and remains in a time of great distress, and the failings and sins of many are laid bare.

It is no excuse to say that the seriousness of the sins were not fully understood, nor that the disorder which impelled offenders to behave in the way they did was not understood, nor that the motive for covering up the offences was to protect the Church. It is no excuse, but it may be some explanation, and it may help us to prevent such things happening again.

There are important lessons to be learned. We need to understand the real hurt and damage that is done to victims, and how best they can be helped. We also need to have structures that prevent this ever happening again.

The first of these objectives is being addressed by professional bodies with an understanding of psychology and different therapies, but this is still an area in which there is still much to learn.

Pope Francis has written:

“We have come to know the pain of many of the victims. We have realized that these wounds never disappear and that they require us forcefully to condemn these atrocities and join forces in uprooting this culture of death; these wounds never go away. The heart-wrenching pain of these victims, which cries out to heaven, was long ignored, kept quiet or silenced. But their outcry was more powerful than all the measures meant to silence it, or sought even to resolve it by decisions that increased its gravity by falling into complicity. The Lord heard that cry and once again showed us on which side he stands. Mary’s song is not mistaken and continues quietly to echo throughout history. For the Lord remembers the promise he made to our fathers: “he has scattered the proud in their conceit; he has cast down the mighty from their thrones and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty” (*Lk 1:51-53*). We feel shame when we realize that our style of life has denied, and continues to deny, the words we recite.”

(*Letter to the people of God, 20th August 2018*)

In 2000 the Catholic Church in England and Wales commissioned the “Nolan Report”, which was published in 2001 and from then onwards dioceses and parishes have been required to make checks on all clergy and parish volunteers and employees. More importantly the Church has sought to bring in a culture of safeguarding at every level of Church life.

Six years later Baroness Cumberlege reviewed the provision of safeguarding in the Catholic Church, and concluded that the Church had become a much safer place, but that there was still room for improvement. She re-stated Lord Nolan’s hope that there would be a “culture of vigilance where every single adult member of the Church consciously and actively takes responsibility for creating a safe environment for children, young people and vulnerable adults.”

This “time of distress” will not last for ever, The Church has been through difficult times before, but such times have been followed by eras of faith and strength. It is the building up of the community in faith and commitment to Christ that will provide the background for a truly safe community.

Pope Francis ends his letter of 20th August:

“If one member suffers, all suffer together with it”, said Saint Paul. By an attitude of prayer and penance, we will become attuned as individuals and as a community to this exhortation, so that we may grow in the gift of compassion, in justice, prevention and reparation. Mary chose to stand at the foot of her Son’s cross. She did so unhesitatingly, standing firmly by Jesus’ side. In this way, she reveals the way she lived her entire life. When we experience the desolation caused by these ecclesial wounds, we will do well, with Mary, “to insist more upon prayer”, seeking to grow all the more in love and fidelity to the Church (*Saint Ignatius of Loyola, Spiritual Exercises*, 319). She, the first of the disciples, teaches all of us as disciples how we are to halt before the sufferings of the innocent, without excuses or cowardice. To look to Mary is to discover the model of a true follower of Christ.

May the Holy Spirit grant us the grace of conversion and the interior anointing needed to express before these crimes of abuse our compunction and our resolve courageously to combat them.

Pope Francis

We are all part of the Body of Christ, and that body is hurting; is suffering. As a body, we turn to Christ our head in prayer, and with a new commitment in his service.



22 Park Avenue North
Northampton. NN3 2HS

Website: www.stgregory.org.uk

Sunday 18th November 2018
Thirty Third Sunday of the Year
Parish Mass Book - Year B
Page 91

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>33rd Sunday of the Year</i>	9.00 am	Mass	The Parish
	11.00 am	Mass	Eddie Moriarty
Monday Feria	9.00 am	Mass	Bridgie McCarran
Tuesday St. Edmund	9.00 am	Celebration of Word & Communion (Followed by prayers for the sick)	
Wednesday Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	9.00 am 11.00 am	Mass Celebration of Word & Communion (St Andrew's)	Roseanne Ogbata's Intentions
Thursday St. Cecilia	9.00 am 6.45 pm 7.00 pm	Celebration of Word & Communion Benediction Celebration of Word & Communion	
Friday Feria	7.00 am	Mass	
Saturday Sts. Andrew Dung-Lac & Companions	9.00 am 11.00 am	Mass Mass	Amanda Nyland RIP Valentina Joseph (Birthday)
Sunday <i>Christ the King</i>	9.00 am 11.00 am	Mass Mass	The Parish Jean O'Neill's Intentions

MASSES TO BE OFFERED BY FR. ANDREW IN ROME THIS WEEK:

Jack Smith RIP, Gloria Azedo, Rac & Philomena.

Your Offering To The Parish:

Last Sunday's collection was £546.98. 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 This Week:

Sick & Retired Clergy

Counters This Week:

C.P., L. Allen.

Cleaners This Week:

Kathleen & Another.

Readings for This Sunday

Daniel 12: 1-3.

When that time comes, your own people will be spared.

Hebrews 10: 11-14, 18.

By virtue of one single offering, he has achieved the eternal perfection of all whom he is sanctifying.

He will gather his chosen from the four winds.

Readings for Next Sunday

Daniel 7: 13-14; Apocalypse 1: 5-8; John 18: 33-37. (Page 93)

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.

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 Wppard	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 Donnelly
Jennifer Ogbata	May Earmons
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**

Kellie Falsey	Winifred Grigg
Margaret Nicholson	Rudolpho Berni
George Franklin	Jozef Luha
Norah Holloway	Leo Bullemier
Bridget Rushmore	Paul Hanley
Winifred Wittich	Thomas Allitt
Carmel Smith	John Driscoll
Margaret Byrne	Arthur Lewin
Veronica Sheppée	Alice Jepson
Mary Confue	George Ganderton
Ronald Battle	Florence Treacy
Noel Ridpath	Angela Glibbery
Anthony Latimer-Sayer	Carmel Doherty
John Smith	Edward Moriarty
Harry Carpenter	Frances Dorridge
Marie Williams	Terence Phelan
Mary Cahill	Victor Neville
John Twomey	Mary Turner
Frederick Lewin	Florence Ginnis
Elizabeth Mbamara	Maria Hernik
Kathleen Brown	Leonard Pullen
Bernard O'Hara	Christopher Mulcahy
Maria Mansi	John Dooley
Margaret Nolan	Alice Thresher

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS

FOR NOVEMBER

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

Notices of Interest

The Funeral of Tony Refoy RIP will be on Wednesday 28th November at 11am

Repository HELP! Cards & other items for Christmas are on sale in the Hall after both Masses, as well as our other stock. As I have had a major operation I will not be able to help for some weeks. This means our loyal, small, band of sellers will be under pressure and we desperately need offers of help for at least the Christmas period. It only involves a few moments after Mass & perhaps some help moving the tables in & out of the Hall. Please help if you can. Ring (01604) 629103 or just turn up! Kathleen Healey

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.**



We welcome into the family of the Church
Teona Grigorjeva
who received Christian Baptism last week.
Please pray for her and her family.



Life House: We thank everyone for supporting our Cakes & Bring and Buy sale last Sunday. **We raised £257.00 for the Life House.**
THANK YOU

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!

Blessed Cyprian Tansi Prayer Group continues monthly on 1st Saturday 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 12th December.** All welcome.

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!

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.

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! Céad Mile Failte.
For further info please phone Pat Franks on 07710624921

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

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

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

First Holy Communion — 2019 This Sunday all those enrolled are asked to come to the 9am Mass when they will be presented to the Parish. We have registered a large number of young people for First Holy Communion for the coming year, & registration is now closed.

Confirmation Preparation: All candidates for Confirmation should now be registered. **The programme starts on Sat. 24th November**, and all dates & venues are on the application form.

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.

Safe Haven: Kevin and Aideen thank everyone for the wonderful support for the coffee morning. We received £956.50 for the Safe Haven Northampton .We need £9,000 to settle a vulnerable Syrian refugee family in Northampton. So far we are half way there. The Traidcraft stall made £425.

Monastic Experience Weekend 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

Catholic Basics Course: Want to know more about your Faith? Join us for a basic introduction to the Catholic Faith in 4 parts: God, The Church, The Moral Life and Prayer. For each part there is a day of engaging teaching with opportunities for interaction & discussion. Cost: £25 per person per day (£10 for the unwaged). Price includes full lunch. No qualifications needed - just interest, good will & a sense of humour! **Launch and Part I: Jan. 31, 10-3pm (arr. 9.30 for refreshments).** NORES Centre, 33 Westbourne Road, Luton, LU4 8JD. To book, contact admin@nores.org.uk or phone Jackie on 01582 723312.

APF Red Boxes: The Autumn collection of donations to the missions via the Red Boxes has now started. **If you haven't already returned your donations, please do so now.** If you need collection from your home, or if you have any queries, contact Des or Mary on (01604) 416474. Many Thanks!

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.

The Wassail Evening returns: On Sun. 16th Dec. the Sacred Heart Lourdes Group will be holding a Wassail Evening in the Sacred Heart church hall - a fun family evening of favourite Christmas songs & carols which should put everyone in the right mood to celebrate. Come along, enjoy, & support the fundraising to enable the group to raise enough money to assist the passage of those giving up their time to help others in Lourdes.

Fitness & Pilates for Mid Life & Beyond! Classes Wednesdays, 10.30am, in the Church Hall with Theresa. Classes run for 8 weeks, led by Theresa who is fully qualified & insured. For further info, please contact Theresa on 07773577804

Open Days at St Gregory's School

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

Scripture Readings 18th November 2018, 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

The Book of Daniel belongs to “apocalyptic” literature, which looks forward to the day of the Lord at the end of history, when all will be made right. It was written about 165 BC to strengthen the Jews who were suffering bitter persecution. The hero, Daniel, is saved by adhering to his faith in face of many trials. In this reading, and in the Psalm, we hear an early expectation that the just will live forever.

Our final reading from the Letter to the Hebrews also looks forward to the end time. The daily animal sacrifices in the Temple could not take sins away. They have been replaced by the one sacrifice of Christ, who now sits enthroned until he comes again. His perfect sacrifice made forgiveness available to all. No further sacrifices for sin will ever be needed.

This prayer invites us to think of the Parable of the Talents in Matthew chapter 25; one of the final parables of the Gospel, appropriately here as we come to the end of the Church’s year. Those who had made good use of the talents entrusted to them were told: “join in your master’s happiness”.

St Paul also writes about happiness: “I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord; I

An earlier chapter in the Book of Daniel, which we will hear next week, describes a vision of “One like a Son of Man” coming to rule God’s kingdom on earth. In today’s Gospel Jesus graphically describes the heavenly signs that will accompany his return as the “Son of Man”. Together we should look forward confidently in the Lord. But, as for Daniel, when this day will be is not known, except to the Father.

Psalm Response: **Preserve me, God,
I take refuge in you.**

Daniel 12: 1-13; Psalm 15(16): 5.8-11; Hebrews 10: 11-14.18; Mark 13: 24-32

Chris Oliver

Grant us we pray, O Lord our God
the constant gladness of being devoted to you,
for it is full and lasting happiness
to serve with constancy
the author of all that is good.

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.

repeat, what I want is your happiness.”
(*Philippians 4:4*)

The true service of God should bring us true happiness — that deep joy which is one of the fruits of the Holy Spirit (*Galatians 5:22*). This service is found in using the talents that God has given us; all the gifts that we have been given in the way that God intends; in the service of God, of the Church and of all God’s people.

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>.

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.