



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

Christ our King

In the series of Bible Timeline courses, the one which covers St Matthew's Gospel is entitled “The King and his Kingdom”

“The Gospel of Matthew was written to prove that Jesus Christ is Israel's long-awaited, promised Messiah, the King of all the earth, and to make plain the Kingdom of God. The expression “kingdom of heaven” is used 32 times in Matthew.

As the first book in the New Testament, Matthew is the joining link to the Old Testament, focusing on the fulfillment of prophecy. The book contains more than 60 quotations from the Septuagint, the Greek translation of the Old Testament, with the majority found in Jesus' speeches. Matthew is the second longest of the four Gospels and contains more teachings of Jesus than any of the others.

Matthew appears to be concerned with teaching Christians who are new to the faith, missionaries, and the body of Christ in general. The Gospel of Matthew organizes the teachings of Jesus into five major discourses: the Sermon on the Mount (chapters 5-7), the Commissioning of the 12 Apostles (chapter 10), the Parables of the Kingdom (chapter 13), the Discourse on the Church (chapter 18), and the Olivet Discourse (chapters 23-25).”

Mary Fairchild

The concept of “kingship” is one which covers many different understandings. In the United Kingdom we are used to a constitutional monarchy in which the sovereign is head of state but relatively powerless. At the other extreme there are regimes where the king is an absolute monarch, ruling as a dictator or a tyrant. We need to be careful not to overlay our 21st century understanding on words which go back for three thousand years.

It was about 1,000 BC that the Israelite people first became a monarchy under King Saul, in spite of having been warned that “he will take your sons and direct them to his chariotry and cavalry, and they will run in front of his chariot” (*1 Samuel 8:11*) — in other words, he will use the common people as soldiers to fight his battles. “He will make them plough his fields and gather in his harvest and make his weapons of war and the gear for his chariots” (*1 Samuel 8:12*) — he will make them his slaves. The passage continues with all the disadvantages of an absolute monarchy but the people are

determined to have a king “to be like the other nations” (*1 Samuel 8:20*).

Saul turned out not to be a great success as king, but was followed by David who (initially) seemed to show that there is some merit in monarchy, although he was not perfect by any means.

Some time before Saul the people had asked for a king, and Gideon had refused, saying that “God shall rule you” (*Judges 8:23*). Later they asked his son, Jotham to be their king, and he told a parable about the trees (*Judges 9:7-15*). All this did not end well — read the rest of Judges chapter 9!

Lord Acton's saying that “Power tends to corrupt, and absolute power corrupts absolutely. Great men are almost always bad men.” (*in a letter to Bishop Mandell Creighton in 1887*) He was perhaps influenced by a former Prime Minister, William Pitt the elder who had said: “Unlimited power is apt to corrupt the minds of those who possess it” (*in a speech to the UK House of Lords in 1770*).

Gideon spoke well: “God shall rule you”. Christ our King is not a constitutional monarch, but, because he is without sin, he is not a tyrant or a dictator. His rule is a rule of love, and he reveals his kingly power through his loving protection of his Kingdom.

In 1918 Cecil Spring Rice re-wrote a poem he had previously composed, and has now become a popular if jingoistic hymn, but the second verse speaks of the kingdom of Christ:

And there's another country, I've heard of long ago,
Most dear to them that love her, most great to them that know;
We may not count her armies, we may not see her King;
Her fortress is a faithful heart, her pride is suffering;
And soul by soul and silently her shining bounds increase,
And her ways are ways of gentleness, and all her paths are peace.

It is this Kingdom of which we are the subjects, and Christ is our King. His way must be our ways — ways of gentleness and peace. Thus shall the Kingdom increase, soul by soul.

At the end of Matthew's Gospel he records Jesus saying: “All authority in heaven and on earth is given to me.” (*Matthew 28:18*) Thus he proclaims himself the King; an absolute monarch. He then gives us the command of the King: “Go therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you.” (*Matthew 28:19-20*) He concludes by indicating that his Kingdom is eternal: “I am with you always, yes, to the end of time.”



22 Park Avenue North
Northampton. NN3 2HS

Website: www.stgregory.org.uk

Sunday 25th November 2018

Christ the King

Parish Mass Book - Year B

Page 93

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>Christ the King</i>	9.00 am	Mass	The Parish
	11.00 am	Mass	Jean O'Neill's Intentions
Monday Feria	9.00 am	Mass	Anthony Healey RIP
Tuesday Feria	9.00 am	Mass (Followed by prayers for the sick)	Marie Therese Whittaker
	5.00 pm	Reception of the body of	Tony Refoy RIP
	7.00 pm	Requiem Mass	Deceased of the Parish
Wednesday Feria	9.00 am	Mass	Pat O'Sullivan RIP
	11.00 am	Funeral Mass	Tony Refoy RIP
	11.00 am	Celebration of Word & Communion (St Andrew's)	
	5.00 pm	Reception of the body of	Diana Cornwell RIP
Thursday Feria	9.00 am	Celebration of Word & Communion	
	12.00 pm	Funeral Mass	Diana Cornwell RIP
	6.45 pm	Benediction	
	7.00 pm	Mass	Hugh Bonner RIP
Friday St. Andrew	9.00 am	Mass	Clare McKenna
	10.15 am	Funeral Mass	Bridget Lalor RIP
	2.20 pm	Healing Mass	Philomena Fraher
Saturday St. Edmund Campion	9.00 am	Celebration of Word & Communion	Amanda Niland RIP
Sunday <i>1st Sunday of Advent</i>	9.00 am	Mass	Dante Davighi
	11.00 am	Mass	The Parish

Your Offering To The Parish: Last Sunday's collection was £482.73. 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: Sick & Retired Clergy £199.37. Thank you!
Counters This Week: Mrs Quinn, A. Gibson.
Cleaners This Week: Big Clean.

Readings for This Sunday

Daniel 7: 13-14. *His sovereignty is an eternal sovereignty.*
Apocalypse 1: 5-8. *Rulers of the kings of the earth.*
John 18: 33-37. *It is you who say that I am a king.*

Readings for Next Sunday

Jeremiah 33: 14-16; 1 Thessalonians 3: 12-4:2; Luke 21: 25-28, 34-36. (Page 26)

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

An important message for any who sometimes attend Mass at the Cathedral:
The Cathedral 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

Hryhorn Pleskanka	Helen Ledwith
Stefan Kustoszyn	Herbert Woolard
Dmytro Semianiw	Roger Salter
Francis Walker	Harry Bosworth
Conal Carney	Dorothy Pallett
Christopher Paintin	Olive Blackiston
Mary McCallig	Patrick Ryan
Mary Harnett	Frederick Barker
James McNally	Tom Fitzgerald
Joan Dolman	Bill Lowdon
Catherine Hewitt	Christina Murray
Monica Payne	Elisabeth Kent
John Reilly	Herbert Sellers
Francis Mangan Rip	Mary Worby
Susan Murphy	

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! 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, but 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 the box marked 'Books & Papers' in the entrance lobby.**

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.

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.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Baptism Preparation: The next Baptism Preparation will be on Monday 21st January 2019, 7pm in the Sacristy.

First Holy Communion — 2019 An important meeting for parents and carers after the 11.00 am Mass today. We have registered a large number of young people for First Holy Communion for the coming year, and **registration is now closed.**

Confirmation Preparation: Application forms for next year's Confirmation preparation programme available from the Sacristy after both Masses for the next few weeks. Programme starts Sat. 24th November, and all dates & venues are on the application form.

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!

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.

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.

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.

Choir Matters: Please note that Tony Refoy's funeral is next Wed. at 11am & Diana Cornwell's is on Thurs. at 12pm. Since the choir are involved in both, I have cancelled our practice scheduled for Thurs. evening 29 Nov. On Sat. 1 Dec, we have a Choir Day out to Coventry (dep from the car park 10am) and on Sat. 8 Dec we are visiting Kingsthorpe Grange Care Home to sing carols for the residents for about an hour in the afternoon (dep from the car park 1:45pm). Two Christmas practices remain: Thurs. 6 & 13 Dec. *Alec*

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

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 Fáilte. For further info please phone Pat Franks on 07710624921

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 25th November 2018, Christ the King, Year B

The Book of Daniel was written about 165 BC. It looks forward with certainty to the day of the Lord at the end of history, when the kingdom of God will triumph. In this vision the worldly kingdoms opposed to God have been portrayed as various beasts. In contrast, the glorified people of God who will form his kingdom on earth, is represented in human form, as "one like a son of man". This became the most characteristic way in which Jesus referred to himself, as the one through whom the salvation of God's people is realised.

The psalm praises the eternal kingship of the Lord, who triumphs over rebellion and chaos.

The Revelation to John was probably written about 90 AD, during a time when Christians were being persecuted. Today we hear John's greeting to the seven churches of Asia, before he criticises

them. His summary of the Christian faith includes a reference to Daniel's vision.

The Gospel of John was also probably written near the end of the 1st century. It is very different from the other 3 gospels, which are read over the 3 year cycle. In today's reading Jesus clearly tells Pilate the nature of his kingship, reflecting how much the understanding of Jesus had developed over the 60 years since his death.

Psalm Response: **The Lord is king, with majesty enrobed.**

(Daniel 7: 13-14; Psalm 92(93): 1-2.5; Rev 1: 5-8; John 18:33-37)

Chris Oliver

Parish Requiem; Tuesday evening at 7.00 pm. All welcome!

“He has let us know the mystery of his purpose, the hidden plan he so kindly made in Christ from the beginning to act upon when the times had run their course to the end: that he would bring everything under Christ, as head, everything in the heavens and everything on earth. (*Ephesians 1:9-10*)

The Latin word which is translated as “restore” literally means “to make to stand up straight”, but actually comes from the same root word as that used in the Gospels to mean “The Cross”.

Almighty ever-living God,
whose will is to restore all things
in your beloved Son, the King of the universe,
grant, we pray,
that the whole creation, set free from slavery,
may render your majesty service
and ceaselessly proclaim your praise.

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

It is by the Cross that the world is restored and set free from slavery. The Cross is the supreme throne of Christ our King. This is what our King has done for us. Our King is not one who makes us slaves; rather he is the one who has rescued us from slavery.

Our service to him is first and foremost one of Eucharist - of thanksgiving for what he has done for us. Therefore we “ceaselessly proclaim” his praise.



The altarpiece in the chapel at Palazzola, depicting (left to right) St Ralph Sherwin, St Edward the Confessor, St John Fisher, St Thomas More

flame CYMFED

#SIGNIFICANCE

2nd March 2019

The theme for our day is ‘Significance’.

Significance is defined as “worthy of attention,” “with meaning,” “important.”

In terms of Scripture, it is a word which resonates deeply with God’s words from heaven at the Baptism of Jesus, and the Transfiguration, “You are my Beloved.”

We are in a world where it’s easy to feel constrained to measure self-esteem in Twitter and Instagram “likes”, responses to Facebook status updates, and Snapchat conversations.

We hope that Flame2019 offers a fresh depth of perspective for young people, centred in their creation in the image and likeness of God.

There will be a coach to the Flame Congress from St Gregory’s. More details soon

THE THEME FOR OUR DAY IS 'SIGNIFICANCE'.

Significance is defined as “worthy of attention,” “with meaning,” “important.”

In terms of Scripture, it is a word which resonates deeply with God’s words from heaven at the Baptism of Jesus, and the Transfiguration, “You are my Beloved.”

We are in a world where it’s easy to feel constrained to measure self-esteem in Twitter and Instagram “likes”, responses to Facebook status updates, and Snapchat conversations.

We hope that Flame2019 offers a fresh depth of perspective for young people, centred in their creation in the image and likeness of God.

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>.

•

2nd March 2019

5490

seats booked

so ***THE THEME FOR OUR DAY IS 'SIGNIFICANCE'***.

Significance is defined as “worthy of attention,” “with meaning,” “important.”

In terms of Scripture, it is a word which resonates deeply with God’s words from heaven at the Baptism of Jesus, and the Transfiguration, “You are my Beloved.”

We are in a world where it’s easy to feel constrained to measure self-esteem in Twitter and Instagram “likes”, responses to Facebook status updates, and Snapchat conversations.

We hope that Flame2019 offers a fresh depth of perspective for young people, centred in their creation in the image and likeness of God.



THE THEME FOR OUR DAY IS 'SIGNIFICANCE'.

Significance is defined as “worthy of attention,” “with meaning,” “important.”

In terms of Scripture, it is a word which resonates deeply with God’s words from heaven at the Baptism of Jesus, and the Transfiguration, “You are my Beloved.”

We are in a world where it's easy to feel constrained to measure self-esteem in Twitter and Instagram "likes", responses to Facebook status updates, and Snapchat conversations.

We hope that Flame2019 offers a fresh depth of perspective for young people, centred in their creation in the image and likeness of God.

©2017 For all enquiries please contact admin@cymfed.org.uk. Registered Charity number: 1158109.
Registered in England & Wales as a Company Limited by Guarantee No: 7970334. Recognised & supported by
the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England & Wales.