



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

Missio: Sharing faith, giving life

Missio brings the hope of the Gospel where there is turmoil, poverty and uncertainty in the world, and where the Church is new, young or poor.

Missio empowers local people to form and sustain communities of faith and we train and nurture future leaders so that the vital work of the Church in the world can take place.

Back in February we had a visit from Fr Donie O'Connor of the Mill Hill Missionaries making an appeal for the “Red Box” collection which funds the work of “Missio”, the primary Catholic overseas missionary organisation. Many new subscribers were enrolled, and we have just received the list of donations from each parish throughout the diocese. The list is in the narthex; it is gratifying that we are one of the best supporters of the “Red Box” appeal in the entire Diocese. This is not a source of pride, but of thanksgiving; thanksgiving for the generosity of this parish.

The fruits of this generosity is told in many stories from different places across the world. For example, in Cameroon, the seminary in Bamenda has 37 students for the Priesthood. As in all seminaries, students engage in pastoral work as part of their formation.

Felix was sent to a village where he was put up with a family whose living conditions were less than basic. He was appalled that the room he was given to stay in was squalid and smelt terribly. The food tasted unfamiliar and was quite unpalatable. He felt totally out of place and was sorely tempted to do a runner. But he persevered. What was it that kept him there? Sheer bloody-mindedness and the inspiration of the Bible!

Ronald was assigned to a school for physically-challenged pupils, mostly orphans. His initial reaction to working with blind or deaf youngsters was one of considerable unease. He felt totally unprepared and helpless, but gradually he learnt to just be with them and ‘walk’ with them: ‘In the end I did not want to leave,’ he says wistfully.

Brian was called to the bedside of a very sick man. He went accompanied by some catechumens – they prayed over him and soon

after they left, the man died. When Brian heard the news, he was overcome by fear. Would he be implicated in this death? The catechumens had told him of a priest who had a similar experience and was subsequently accused of ‘having killed’ the person (such accusations are not uncommon within the context of traditional African beliefs). A few days later the wife of the deceased came looking for Brian. He was so afraid, he hid in his room. Later, he managed to calm his inner panic and went to visit the family. To his utter amazement and grateful relief, rather than blaming him for the death of their beloved, they thanked him for having accompanied him in his final hours.

Others report how they often have to resist being put on a pedestal by villagers who tend to look up to them or attribute to them knowledge they do not possess. Alternatively, some of them are not made to feel welcome when they move around a community to visit people at home.

Sometimes they find themselves challenged in their very vocation. What do you do when you receive a marriage proposal? With some humour one of the students shares his experience of being propositioned twice during his stay in a particular village community.

These and many other stories are related in the “Mission Today” magazine. It is thanks to the generosity of our many donors that the seminary at Bamenda is able to exist and many other projects continue and flourish in over 1,000 dioceses across the world.

It is significant that in many cases it is these missions that are also the local bases for the distribution of the aid that we give through CAFOD. This is a far more effective means of distributing aid than through government agencies.

This parish is also generous in its giving to the work of CAFOD, these two causes go hand-in-hand revealing the love of God to the world at large. Many thanks for your generous giving; please continue in your magnificent support for both these organisations.

European Elections

We will not know the result of the elections to the European Parliament until after the last votes are cast on Sunday evening; neither will we know whether our MEPs will ever fulfil the role to

which they have been elected. However, we must pray for those who serve us in public office; that they may remember that they have been elected to serve us, not just to have a platform for their opinions.



22 Park Avenue North
Northampton. NN3 2HS
[Website: www.stgregory.org.uk](http://www.stgregory.org.uk)

Sunday 26th May 2019 Sixth Sunday of Easter Parish Mass Book - Year C Page 138

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>6th Sunday of Easter</i>	9.00 am	Mass	Legion of Mary
	11.00 am	Mass	The Parish
Monday St. Augustine	9.00 am	Mass	Ann Marie & Richard O'Neill's Intentions
Tuesday Feria	9.00 am	Mass (Followed by prayers for the sick)	Teresa RIP
Wednesday Feria	9.00 am	Mass	Thomas Lynch RIP
Thursday The Ascension of the Lord. Holy Day (Page 140)	7.00 am	Mass	The Parish
	9.00 am	Mass	Teresa Redmond's Intentions
	6.45 pm 7.00 pm	Benediction Mass	Greeshma Varghese's 18 th Birthday
Friday Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	9.00 am	Mass	Christopher Paintin
	2.10 pm	Healing Mass	Bridgie McCarren
Saturday St. Justin	9.00 am	Mass	Con Costello's Intentions
	9.45 am	Confessions	
Sunday <i>7th Sunday of Easter</i>	9.00 am	Mass	The Parish
	11.00 am	Mass	Thomas Lynch RIP

Your Offering To The Parish: Last Sunday's collection was £930.72. 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 Next Week: Mass Media.
Counters This Week: Mrs Quinn, A. Gibson.
Cleaners This Week: Big Clean.

Readings for This Sunday

Acts 15: 1-2, 22-29. *It has been decided by the Holy Spirit not to saddle you with any burden beyond these essentials.*
Apocalypse 21: 10-14, 22-23. *He showed me the Holy City.*
John 14: 23-29. *The Holy Spirit will remind you of all I have said to you.*

Readings for Next Sunday

Acts 1: 1-11; Hebrews 9: 24-28, 10: 19-23; Luke 24: 46-53. (Page 138)

During this season of Easter, we are asked to pray for: New Members of the Church; Human Work; Priestly Vocations; Right Use of the Media; The Church.

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)

The funeral of Dolores Behan will take place at The Sacred Heart on Friday (31st) at 11.00am. Dolores has been the Group Scout Leader for many years with the Cathedral Scout Group and organized the Centenary celebrations last October. May she rest in peace.

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	Ziadi Family
Owen	Khanh Phan
Kath Seamark	Robert Moore
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 Diccico	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
Jennifer Ogbata	May Eamons
Stephen Aneke	Michael Folon
John Bosco Cullen	Mary Rumsey
Paul Greaves	Michael Fraher
Maureen Smith	Edward Taylan
Fr. Malachy Eleanya	Peter
Catherine Stratten	

Anniversaries:

May they Rest in Peace

Catherine Robinson	Fanny Hearn
Theodor Jilek	Hugh Finegan
Rose Williamson	Joyce Rama
Margaret Bryant	Gareth Bates
Daniel Quinn	Oswin Barber
Ellen Osborne	Ronnie-boy Huarns
David O'Grady	John Finn
Michelle Achong	Jane Wallis
Katherine Cosgrove	Percival Timmins
Henry King	Charles Attard
Ken Thorley	Joseph Harte
William Johnson	Rosa Tortora
Eric Hilsden	Celia De Verteuil
Mary Forrester	Richard Meagher

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR JUNE

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

With sadness we report the deaths of both Sue and Voldis Dauksta. Theirs will be a double funeral on Monday 10th June at 10.30 am. May they both rest in peace.

Notices of Interest

The Repository: The Repository is open after both Sunday Masses. 1st Holy Communion and Confirmation cards are now on sale. *Kathleen Healey*

Bible Alive for June 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.**

May Rosary: During the month of May the Legion of Mary recites the Rosary in the homes of parishioners. There is a list in the porch - please write your name & address on it if you would like us to come and pray with you. Please also write a contact number, and a date and time that you would like us to visit.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham: 8th June:



A coach will leave from St. Gregory's at 8am on Saturday 8th June, leaving Walsingham at about 5.00pm. **Cost £13 per person (payable in advance).** Please see poster for full details. **To book, please speak to Caryll in the Office, or add your details to the list in the Lobby area and see one of the Clergy to pay.**

APF Red Boxes: The Spring collection is underway. Please bring envelopes/boxes to the Sacristy when ready. In 2018 St. Gregory's collections raised an excellent £2478. Missio warmly thanks all contributors for their generous support of the work of the Missions. A chart showing contributions for the Diocese is in the Lobby area.

Rotas for Readers and Eucharistic Ministers for the period June to September 2019 have now been issued to all on email. Hard copies available in the sacristy for all others.

Choir Matters: Brilliant news! Deacon David will celebrate his first Mass at St Gregory's on July 21 at 11:00 Mass. Our next two choir practices (June 6 and 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*

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

Vianney Mission Prayer Group meets every 2nd Wednesday of the month in the Sacristy, 6pm - 7pm. Next meeting 12th June. 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.

Ecumenical Prayer Walk: The date has been set for Friday 7th June, 6.45 for 7.00 pm start. Gather at Park Avenue Methodist Church where we'll have a short time of prayer together before going out in twos and threes to pray for the local area. There will be some guidance before we set off & each group will have a designated area to cover. We will gather at Park Avenue Methodist Church for light refreshments & feedback at 8 pm.

Northampton Notre Dame Association Annual St. Julie Mass at St. Aidan's Church, Kingsthorpe. Celebration of the 50th anniversary of the canonisation of St. Julie Billiart 22nd June 2019. Refreshments afterwards. All welcome.

Pentecost Novena: To promote prayer for a new outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Free & easy to use resources are being offered by

Northampton Diocese. www.northamptondiocese.org (follow links for 'Faith' and 'Evangelisation'). Also see opposite.

Bible Timeline - Spreading the Word of God's Kingdom: Sat. 13th July, 10am - 4pm at St. Gregory the Great. Includes presentation & testimonies, prayer & Mass. Morning & afternoon tea & coffee - please bring a packed lunch. No charge, but a collection will be made to defray costs. Please see poster for full details.

Mass for victims and 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.

Summer Reflection Day at Turvey Abbey: Saturday 22nd June, 10am - 4pm. Talk by Br. John OSB, Mass, Prayers & more. Please see poster for full details.

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.

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!

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

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.

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!

Catholic Basics Course: Part Four: Prayer 13 June. Join us for another day of engaging teaching with interaction & discussion. £25 per person per day (£10 for the unwaged), includes lunch. No qualifications needed - just interest, good will & a sense of humour! To book, contact admin@nores.org.uk or phone Jackie on 01582 723312.

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.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Baptism Preparation: The next Baptism Preparation will be at 7.00 pm, Monday 3rd June 2019, in the Sacristy.

First Holy Communion - 2019 Congratulations to the children receiving Holy Communion for the first time at this time. Please keep coming every Sunday!

Confirmation Preparation: 2nd June at Sacred Heart.

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.

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

The first word of this prayer: “Grant” is rather weaker than the literal translation which would say: “Make us celebrate with heartfelt joy”. However, acknowledging the fact that God is indeed “almighty” indicates that what God grants he can make to happen. More importantly though, in making this prayer, we are genuinely wanting this to be the case.

The concept of “reliving in remembrance” is at heart what we do at every Mass. When we “celebrate

Grant, almighty God,
that we may celebrate with heartfelt devotion
these days of joy,
which we keep in honour of the risen Lord,
and that what we relive in remembrance
we may always hold to in what we do.

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.

the memorial”, (*words in all the Eucharistic Prayers*) we are reliving in remembrance the entire “Jesus event”; his taking flesh, his life, death, resurrection and ascension; but supremely, his sacrificial death on the cross.

The final purpose is that we may make this celebration a reality in our daily life; that all our thoughts, words and actions should be inspired by and reveal the “Jesus event” in us..

Scripture Readings 26th May 2019, 6th Sunday of Easter, Year C

In Acts, after the success of the first mission of Paul and Barnabas in setting up Gentile churches, Jewish Christian visitors from Jerusalem came to Antioch saying Gentiles must be circumcised to be saved. So Barnabas and Paul went up to Jerusalem for what is called the First Council of the church. The issue appears simple, but underneath were two other issues: whether Christianity could remain within Judaism; and whether Paul’s new Gentile Christian communities could remain in communion with the rest of the church. The Holy Spirit leads the discussion to a decision.

The psalm calls on all peoples to praise the Lord because he governs wisely and makes the earth give food.

From Revelation we have part of John’s vision of the new Jerusalem, the church, founded on the apostles. Here Christ dwells among men, so no Temple needed.

In John’s gospel, Jesus’ Last Supper discourse shows his joy that he will soon return to his Father. He promises to send “another” Advocate who will make Jesus present in his church for the rest of time. The name “advocate” captures the several roles the Holy Spirit plays in the church and for us. He both consoles and advises or counsels us, while also representing us to God in the heavenly court.

Psalm Response:

**Let the peoples praise you, O God,
let all the peoples praise you.**

(Acts 15:1-2, 22-29; Psalm 66(67); Rev 21:10-14, 22-23; John 14:23-29)

Chris Oliver

Pentecost Novena

On Thursday of this week we celebrate the Ascension of Our Lord, and this begins the nine days of prayer leading up to the celebration of Pentecost.

“It is only after the coming of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost that the apostles depart to all the ends of the earth in order to begin the great work of the Church’s evangelization. Peter explains this event as the fulfillment of the prophecy of Joel: “I will pour out my spirit.”(Acts 2:17) Peter is filled with the Holy Spirit so that he can speak to the people about Jesus,



the Son of God. (Acts 4:8)
(Pope St Paul VI, *Evangelii Nuntiandi* §75)

In the same paragraph Pope Paul VI is even clearer: “Evangelization will never be possible without the action of the Holy Spirit”. The greatest need of the Church in our generation is evangelisation, and this gives us an indication of our prayer for each day during this important time that God gives us each year. Please make this part of your prayer too.

Here is a passage of scripture for you to read each day. Before reading the passage, pray that the Holy Spirit will reveal to you what its particular and personal message is for you.

Thursday 30 th May	John 14: 25 - 27	Tuesday 4 th June	Apocalypse 14: 6 - 7
Friday 31 st May	Zechariah 8: 20 - 23	Wednesday 5 th June	John 17: 17 - 19
Saturday 1 st June	Matthew 10: 20	Thursday 6 th June	Romans 10: 11 - 15
Sunday 2 nd June	John 17: 20 - 21	Friday 7 th June	Matthew 28: 16 – 20
Monday 3 rd June	Acts 19: 1 - 7	Saturday 8 th June	Acts 1: 6 - 8

After reading the passage, spend some time in silence to allow the Holy Spirit to speak to you. Finally, pray that the Holy Spirit will strengthen you to do what God wants you to do. There are further prayer suggestions available at: www.northamptondiocese.org (follow links for 'Faith' and 'Evangelisation')