



The Catholic Parish of
Saint Gregory the Great
 Northampton



PART OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF NORTHAMPTON, REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 234951



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



What a great week-end!



What a joy it was to be able to share in the ordination to the Priesthood and First Mass of Fr David Donaghue. Fr David writes:

"I wish to thank you all for contributing to the wonderful occasion of my First Mass and for all your cards and gifts. I have been overwhelmed by the love and generosity shown to me and I am very grateful. Thank you! See you all very soon. Fr David."

For many people we are entering the month of holidays, and a break from schools, and maybe, a continuing heatwave. The temperature as this is being written is in the mid-30s; and this brings into sharp

focus the question of global warming and climate change. It is certainly true that single events cannot be extrapolated to prove bigger theories, but the reality that the climate is changing is undeniable. There are those who say that climate is cyclic, and that history shows a pattern of alternate eras of high and low temperature, and that these fluctuations always correct themselves. However, this is the first warming phase since the industrial revolution and the intense burning of fossil fuels and also the first since the vast destruction of the rain-forests. Among serious scientists, there are few who deny that the situation is serious. *(More inside)*



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

Sunday 28th July 2019
Seventeenth Sunday of the Year
Parish Mass Book - Year C
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Priest:
Fr Andrew Behrens ☎ 713015
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Deacons:
Rev Michael Fleming ☎ 647750
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Rev Rory Stewart (ret) ☎ 408407
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Sunday <i>17th Sunday of the Year</i>	9.00 am	Mass	Tommy Gill RIP
	11.00 am	Mass	The Parish
Monday St. Martha	9.00 am	Mass	Ash Anthony's Intentions
Tuesday St. Peter Chrysologus	9.00 am	Mass (Followed by prayers for the sick)	Cornelius Dunne RIP
Wednesday St. Ignatius of Loyola	9.00 am	Mass	Mary Rumsey's Intentions
Thursday St. Alphonsus Liguori	9.00 am	Celebration of Word & Communion Benediction Mass	Derek Hodgkinson RIP
	6.45 pm		
	7.00 pm		
Friday St. Eusebius of Vercelli	9.00 am	Mass	James Doherty RIP
Saturday Feria	9.00 am	Mass Confessions	Dominic & Mary, Joseph & Mary
	9.45 am		
Sunday <i>18th Sunday of the Year</i>	9.00 am	Mass	Frederick Jones RIP
	11.00 am	Mass	The Parish

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	James Power
Owen	Khanh Phan
Kath Seemark	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 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 Donnely
Catherine Stratten	May Eamons
Stephen Aneke	Michael Folon
John Bosco Cullen	Mary Rumsey
Paul Greaves	Michael Rowback
Maureen Smith	Edward Taylan
Fr. Malachy Eleanya	Peter
N. Donegan	Norma Bryan
Maureen Bell	Deacon Rory
May Murtagh	

Your Offering To The Parish: Last Sunday's collection was £1303.32. 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.
Counters This Week: C.P., L. Allen.
Cleaners This Week: Aideen & Another.

Readings for This Sunday

Genesis 18: 20-32. *I trust my Lord will not be angry, but give me leave to speak.*
Colossians 2: 12-14. *He has brought you to life with him, he has forgiven us all our sins.*
Luke 11: 1-13. *Ask, and it will be given to you.*

Readings for Next Sunday

Ecclesiastes 1: 2, 2: 21-23; Colossians 3: 1-5, 9-11; Luke 12: 13-21.
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During this season of Ordinary Time, Summer,
We are asked to pray for:
Human Life; Seafarers;
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

With sadness we record the death of Violette Caillebotte and Mark Bingham.
Violette's funeral Mass will be on 13th August at 11.30 am. May she rest in peace.
Details of Mark's funeral will be announced soon.

Anniversaries:

May they Rest in Peace

Malcolm Rudkin	John Condron
William McCarthy	Sean Kennedy
Anna McGinty	Joseph Madden
Michael Cahill	Joanne Duddridge
Emily Jeffs	Winifred Magog
Meta Baldwin	Thomas Linnane
Doris Burton	Anne Matthews
Elsie Carter	Patrick Ryan
John Wade	Anthony Rush
Arthur Allibone	Catherine King
Margaret McKernan	Marie English

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. *Kathleen Healey*

Bible Alive for 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
William Fredrik Stockwell
who received Christian Baptism last week.
Please pray for him and his family.

I wish to thank you all for contributing to the wonderful occasion of my First Mass, for all those who brought food and helped with the celebrations in the hall, and for all your cards and gifts. Many visitors to the parish commented on the lively community they experienced here. I have been overwhelmed by the love and generosity shown to me and I am very grateful. Thank you! See you all very soon. Fr David.

Society for the Protection of Unborn Children: Please come to our next meeting on Fri. 9th Aug, at 7pm in the Sacristy. This is a vital time for the pro-life movement, with decriminalising abortion & assisted dying, back on the political agenda. You don't have to commit yourself to anything at the meeting, but it will be an opportunity to discover more about pro-life work in the town. If you can't attend but are interested in learning more about the group, please contact William Currie at wpcurie@btinternet.com

Choir Matters: Practices are usually on the 1st Thursday of the month following evening Mass till 9pm : 1 Aug, 30 Aug* (instead of 5 Sep to prepare for the Feast of St Gregory), 3 Oct. Weekly practices start in Nov until Dec to prepare for Christmas. *Alec*

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 and Open Air Mass
at Mount St. Bernard Abbey Leics, LE67 5UL,
Sunday 1st September 2pm. See poster for full
details. Bring a folding chair/seat & picnic
lunch. All welcome.

Our Common Home: There will be a special day of prayer & celebration of creation on Sunday, Aug. 4th, which focuses on the CAFOD climate change campaign. There is information about this opposite.

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 (9 subsidised) 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 31st 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: Please speak to a member of the Clergy.

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: Details of the next Confirmation Preparation will appear here shortly.

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.

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! You can sign up online at: <http://stgregory.org.uk/alpha/>

Our burglar has been back: To call him “our” may be a little presumptuous, although he seem to think that anything in the church is his, so maybe it is appropriate! This time he appears not to have stolen anything of value, but has done serious damage to the side door-frame. We now have a much more secure office safe which is bolted to the wall.

The reference to “a firm foundation” brings to mind the passage in the Sermon on the Mount to the house built on the rock, as opposed to that built on sand. (Matthew 7:24-27)

The context of this passage is about those who, having heard the words of Jesus, act upon them (whose house is built on rock) and those who, having heard those words, fails to act on them.

We can therefore link the principle of using “the good things that

O God, protector of those who hope in you,
without who nothing has a firm foundation,
nothing is holy,
bestow in abundance your mercy upon us
and grant that, with you as our ruler and guide,
we may use the good things that pass
in such a way as to hold fast even now
to those things that ever endure.

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.

pass” with acting on the words of Jesus. As we think of climate change, we can see that the way in which we use the fruits of the earth is of fundamental importance to the practice of our faith.

If we fail in our stewardship of the earth, we are living in a house built on sand; a house that will ultimately fall. If we fail in our stewardship of the earth, we will have no home at all!

In holding fast to those things that ever endure, we remember that Jesus said his words would “never pass away” (Matthew 24:35)

Scripture Readings 28th July 2019, 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

After promising Abraham a son next year, God hesitates before revealing his plans for Sodom and Gomorrah. Abraham urges God to be just to the threatened towns, where his nephew Lot lives. Later Lot defends his angelic guests from the depraved demands of the men of Sodom, and escapes before Sodom is destroyed.

The psalm expresses heartfelt thanks to the Lord for his justice and love, confident in his continual help.

Paul urges the Colossians, whom he has never visited, to be confident in their understanding of “God’s mystery”, Christ. As Gentiles they were seen as sinners, outside the Jewish Law. But now the Law is overridden, so, “buried in Christ”, they should follow only Christ. For Paul, the list of our debts, owed to God for failing to carry out our duties under the covenant, is graphically nailed to the Cross and so destroyed.

Luke's version of the Our Father is shorter and more abrupt than Matthew's. Both versions look to the end days, especially "Do not put us to the test". "Daily bread" may refer to the Eucharist. Or it may mean "tomorrow's bread" – the heavenly banquet, like the double portion of manna collected in the desert before the Sabbath. God promises to respond to all our requests, as he did to Abraham.

Psalm Response: **On the day I called, you answered me, O Lord.**

(Gen 18:20-32, Ps 137(138):1-8, Col 2:12-14, Lk 11:1-13)

Chris Oliver



Our local contribution to the “Year of the Word” is the courses that we are running helping people to understand the Bible better. Successive Popes have encouraged all Catholics to have a better understanding of the Bible, and in recent years we have been blessed with many new resources to help us. The monthly “Bible Alive” is a great publication, and the video courses that we run have helped many to have a clearer understanding of the words that are read from the Bible at every Mass.

The “Bible Timeline” course is the place to start. This is where an overview of the entire Bible can be gained. It takes you through God’s plan of salvation from the very beginning right up the the work of the Church as told in the Acts of the Apostles.

Do not be frightened by the idea of a “course”. It is not over-demanding, and although it offers the opportunity to do “homework”, you can simply come; watch the video and join in the conversation. There are always some for whom the pressure of time and other commitments makes anything more than the time of the course impossible.

This course will be run at Sacred Heart on Tuesday mornings at 10.00, starting on September . Sadly, this is not possible for everyone, but there will be further opportunities. There are others courses running here, in Wellingborough and in Rushden; more information to follow.



Our Common Home

Pope Francis reminds us that our earth was here before us and it has been given to us freely, not to exploit, but to care for. We need to reimagine our common home - a precious gift given to us by God. Not just for ourselves, but for the world’s poorest people and for those generations still to come. By coming together for a Creation Celebration, we can give thanks for the gift of God’s creation – a gift we are invited to enjoy together.

Ten years ago, the UK Government took a global lead and passed the pioneering Climate Change Act, committing us to reduce carbon emissions by 80 per cent by 2050. But we’ve come a long way since then and recent research by climate scientists has stressed that this is no longer enough. We need to go further, faster. Unless we make dramatic changes, the damage caused by climate change will be irreversible.

We now have a new Prime Minister and a new government; it is not (at the time of writing) clear who in government will be responsible for overseeing the national policy (if anyone). However, there is a

petition to the Prime Minister (<https://e-activist.com/page/44225/petition/1>).

There was a Department of Energy and Climate Change, but Theresa May abolished it in July 2016, giving the responsibility to the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS). What the new Prime Minister will do is not yet known.

Climate change affects our homes, our health, our heritage and our beautiful landscapes. Our community centres where we meet, our sports fields where we play and our places of pilgrimage where we reflect and pray. Climate change ruins the work we do to fight poverty and to live better lives.

We will be celebrating God’s wonderful creation in a special way at both Masses on Sunday 4th August. This is a great opportunity to come together to act on the biggest issue of our time – climate change. We are all part of God’s creation and we are called to care for, protect and restore our common home, the earth.