



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

A Year of the Word



The Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales have designated 2020 as 'The God Who Speaks': A Year of the Word to celebrate the 10th anniversary of *Verbum Domini* - Pope Benedict XVI's Apostolic Exhortation on 'The Word of the Lord', and the 1600th anniversary of death of St Jerome, who first translated the Bible from Greek.

Therefore, 2020 will be a year of **celebrating, living and sharing** God's word, through a

range of events, activities and resources, available across the Diocese.

We are invited to listen afresh to the word of God as did Our Blessed Lady at the Annunciation, to encounter anew the presence of that word, and to proclaim it afresh in the Church and the World.

Where does the Bible fit into your daily life?

Ahead of **2020 Year of the Word**, we would like to hear how people currently make use of Holy Scripture. The information, which is submitted anonymously, will help us to plan events and resources that will help you and those you meet to hear more effectively

The God Who Speaks.

Please take part in our 'The God who Speaks' survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/LDGRCYM>

Thank you for taking part in our survey.

Each parish is being asked to respond to this initiative under the three themes:

Celebrating.

We read the Scriptures at every Mass, and this is our primary celebration of the Word of God. We are also encouraged to read the Bible at home as an integral part of our prayer life, and this is also a celebration of the Word. There are forms of prayer, such as "Lectio Divina" which help us to listen to God through the Scriptures, and

many people use "Bible Alive" to help them follow the daily readings at Mass.

We are also blessed in having the "Bible Timeline" and other courses available. This coming year would be an excellent opportunity to benefit from one of these courses —, "Bible Timeline" is the place to begin.

The quality of the proclaiming of the Scriptures at Mass is of fundamental importance in our celebration, and in the autumn there will be a special course for **all** who proclaim the Scriptures in church, which will focus on communicating the meaning of what is read. "Ezra read from the book of the Law of God, so that the reading was understood." (*Nehemiah 8:8*).

Living

We not only need to hear and receive God's word, we also need to put that word into practice. Scripture shapes our actions, our choices and how we relate to God, to ourselves, to our neighbours and to our world. It guides all our relationships and how we live our lives.

Scripture teaches us how to live in society, to respect each human being and to work towards the common good. The Scriptures inspire us to put faith into action, living God's word and doing God's word. "Your word is a lamp for my steps and a light for my path" (*Psalms 118 (119):105*)

Sharing

One of the benefits of the "Bible Timeline" courses is that they help to build up confidence in sharing our faith. The Church is called to proclaim the Good News in every generation and in every country; this is the vocation of every Christian. We do this in many different ways: whether in ordinary conversation with family and friends or in a more structured setting such as in helping in first Holy Communion or Confirmation preparation, or in a group at Alpha.

This year could be really exciting if it is embraced wholeheartedly!





22 Park Avenue North
Northampton. NN3 2HS

Website: www.stgregory.org.uk

Sunday 2nd June 2019 Seventh Sunday of Easter Parish Mass Book - Year C Page 143

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>7th Sunday of Easter</i>	9.00 am	Mass	The Parish
	11.00 am	Mass	Thomas Lynch RIP
Monday SS Charles Lwanga & Companions	9.00 am	Mass	Theresa Leary RIP
Tuesday Feria	9.00 am	Mass (Followed by prayers for the sick)	Holy Souls
Wednesday St. Boniface	9.00 am	Mass	Barbara Porter RIP
Thursday Feria	9.00 am	Celebration of Word & Communion Benediction Mass	Tony Bull - Thanksgiving
	6.45 pm		
	7.00 pm		
Friday Feria	9.00 am	Mass	Malcolm Allen RIP
Saturday Feria	9.00 am	Mass	Derek Hodgkinson RIP
	9.45 am	Confessions	
Sunday <i>Pentecost</i>	9.00 am	Mass	Bridie Kean
	11.00 am	Mass	The Parish

Your Offering To The Parish: Last Sunday's collection was £894.67. 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: Mass Media.
Counters This Week: Paul and Claire Sefton
Cleaners This Week: Big Clean.

Readings for This Sunday

Acts 7: 55-60. *I can see the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.*
Apocalypse 22: 12-14, 16-17, 20. *Come, Lord Jesus.*
John 17: 20-26. *May they be completely one.*

Readings for Next Sunday

Acts 2: 1-11; Romans 8: 8-17; John 14: 15-16, 23-26. (Page 26)

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)

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
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 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

Anniversaries:

May they Rest in Peace

Mary Simpson	John Gilligan
Harry Bosworth	George Taylor
Otto Abrahams	George Wrench
Peter Ledwith	Mary Cummings
Ursula Humphries	Pauline O'Shea
Frank Knight	Edward Tranter
Hilda Adames	Gertrude Cutler
Elizabeth McEwan	Esther Manley
Hugh McLoughlin	Mary Slaughter
Timothy Costello	Mary McHale
Kathleen Riley	Vera Rice
Dorothy McCarthy	Peter Solonski
Beryl Gilchrist	Anna Wilson
Norman Stephenson	William Bray
Giuseppe Petrella	Derek O'Toole

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.

Notices of Interest

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



We welcome into the family of the Church
Maximilian Mark Clements
Rance Aeden Javier De Jesus
Harlee Anne Foord
who received Christian Baptism last week.
Please pray for them and their families.

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.**

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 Carvll 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.

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*

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.

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: 11th June 2.30-4.30 pm at St. Matthews Church Room. Talk by Several U3A members on various topics followed by tea & chat. All Welcome.

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.

Blessed Cyprian Tansi Prayer Group continues monthly on 1st Saturday of each month in the Sacristy at 10am. (Next meeting is July 6th) All welcome.

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

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!

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.

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.

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: Next Saturday to Walsingham!

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:

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

This prayer is inspired by words from St Matthew's Gospel: "And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (*Matthew 28:20*)

St Matthew does not recount the Ascension, but concludes his narrative on a mountain in Galilee where Jesus gives them the "Great Commission" to go out "and make disciples of all nations" (*Matthew 28:19*)

We also have a reference to Mark's account: "The Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them was taken up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God" (*Mark 16:19*)

Graciously hear our supplication, O Lord,
so that we,
who believe that the saviour of the human race
is with you in your glory,
may experience, as he promised,
until the end of the world,
his presence among us.

who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

As in so many prayers, there is a 'parallelism' which is clearer in the Latin text between "credimus" (we who believe) and "sentiamus" (may we experience). Belief and experience are closely linked because our belief, our faith is not merely and intellectual assent, but rather the mainspring of our life.

Scripture Readings 2nd June 2019, 7th Sunday of Easter, Year C

Our final reading from Acts before Pentecost describes the martyrdom of Stephen, in which he echoes Jesus' words of forgiveness on the Cross. Stephen's death was followed both by persecution of Greek-speaking believers who fled, spreading the gospel outside Jerusalem, and by Paul's life-changing journey to Damascus.

The psalm rejoices in God's justice: as judge over all the world those obedient to God's Law will be rewarded, and the disobedient will be punished.

The book of Revelation ends with these promises: God's justice will be seen in action, the just will receive everlasting life in the New Jerusalem; all who ask may have the water of life; Maranatha, come Lord Jesus, Jesus come as Lord.

In John's Gospel, at the climax of the Last Supper, immediately before his arrest, Jesus makes this heart-felt "high-priestly prayer" to his Father. He has done all that his Father asked; like Isaac he is willing to be the sacrifice of his Father's only son. Before going to his death he prays that his followers may be as united as He and the Father are, and that they may share in the Father's love.

Psalm Response:

**The Lord is king, most high
above all the earth.**

(Acts 7:55-60, Ps 96 (97), Rev 22:12-14, 16-17, 20, John 17:20-26)

Chris Oliver

Pentecost Novena

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.

Sunday 2nd June John 17: 20 - 21

Monday 3rd June Acts 19: 1 - 7

Tuesday 4th June Apocalypse 14: 6 - 7

Wednesday 5th June John 17: 17 - 19

Thursday 6th June Romans 10: 11 - 15

Friday 7th June Matthew 28: 16 - 20

Saturday 8th 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')

Corpus Christi Procession at Great Billing

There is a record of the Corpus Christi procession at Billing in 1875, at which the Bishop Amherst, the second Bishop of Northampton presided. The report in the "Tablet" says that there were over 1,000 people present. It was described: "It was a most glorious sight, for all the way of its long course was amongst large trees celebrated even here for their size and beauty; and the Blessed Sacrament was treated with the utmost respect by the villagers, who were Protestants, and devotion, of course, by

Catholics; and to see the groups kneeling about as it passed was a sight that will, I know, be long remembered here"

The procession has continued down the years, and is now the occasion for all those who have received Holy Communion for the first time to walk in front of the Blessed Sacrament, and it always an occasion of great joy. This year it will be on Sunday 23rd June, and the procession begins at 3.00 pm. All our First Holy Communion children are invited to take part, as is everyone. Please mark that date in your diary!

Pastoral Area Reflection Day: July 6th

Bishop Peter has asked all Pastoral Areas to have a "Reflection Day", to consider pastoral provisions for the future. This is not to do with the deployment of priests; rather it is to do with the third part of the "Together in Faith" campaign which was the development of Lay Ministry. We will be led by Avril Baigent, and it is important that each parish is well represented.

The event will be at St Edmund Campion school in Wellingborough, and will begin at 10.30 am and end at 4.00 pm. A sandwich lunch will be provided for all those who attend. Please mark this date in your diary also