



# 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

# CAFOD Harvest Day

We do take water for granted; indeed all too often we are granted more water than we want!

One of the tragic aspects of climate change is that rainfall patterns are changing dramatically, and a further aspect of this is that those most affected by this are those least able to protect themselves against it. In this country we have built reservoirs so that in times of less rainfall we have water stored. We are having to build more defences against floods, as events that used to be regarded as “once in a century” are now occurring much more frequently. However, we do have the resources to do this.

Many parts of the world do not have these resources, and both flood and drought are serious hazards.

These happen from time to time, but all the time, if there is no clean drinking water, the risk of disease is ever-present. Below are some of the worst. (Sources: “Livpure” and “CBM”)

## 1. Dysentery

Dysentery is a combination of nausea, abdominal cramps coupled with severe diarrhea. In cases of acute dysentery, one may also experience a high fever and traces of blood in the faecal matter. There are two types of dysentery—Bacillary dysentery, caused by bacteria and Amoebic dysentery caused by amoebae. When either of these is ingested through contaminated water or food, one will develop dysentery within a gestation period of four days.

## 2. Arsenicosis

Arsenic is a poisonous substance often released as wastewater by industrial units situated on the banks of rivers. Arsenicosis or Arsenic Poisoning is caused due to chronic exposure to small amounts of arsenic through drinking water. This disease is characterised by painful skin lesions (keratosis), which can progress to cancer. It can also affect your lungs, kidneys, and bladder.

## 3. Polio (Infantile Paralysis)

Poliomyelitis is commonly known as polio. It’s an acute viral infection caused by a virus, which passes through water from the faeces of an infected individual. This disease affects the central nervous system. Once an individual contracts this virus, they suffer from fever, headache, and seizures, followed by paralysis.

## 4. Trachoma (Eye Infection)

This infection is caused by bacterium Chlamydia Trachomatis that is found in contaminated water. Trachoma results in a coarsening of the

inner surface of the eyelids. This leads to pain in the eyes, lesion on the outer surface or cornea, and eventual blindness. Trachoma spreads because of poor sanitation and hygiene conditions.

## 5. Typhoid fever

Across the world annually, around 12 million people are affected by Typhoid fever. This infection is caused by Salmonella Typhi bacteria. This disease is contracted by consuming contaminated food or water. Its symptoms include nausea, loss of appetite, and headache.

## 6. Schistosomiasis

This disease is caused by worms that are spread by freshwater snails living in polluted water. It’s very common in rural areas where people use local water bodies for bathing and recreational purposes. The worms in the water penetrate into one’s skin while in contact with the contaminated water, causing infections in the liver, lungs, intestines, and bladder.

## 7. Cholera

Cholera is an infection of the small intestine by the bacterium Vibrio Cholerae. This disease can kill within hours if not treated in time. Symptoms of cholera include diarrhoea and vomiting, as well as abdominal cramps and headache. According to the World Health Organisation, every year, there are 21,000 to 143,000 deaths worldwide due to this infection.

## 8. Diarrhoea

Diarrhoea is one of the most common diseases caused by water pollution. It is most often caused by water-borne viruses. But bacteria and parasites from water contaminated with faeces are also common causes. It results in dehydration and death to young children and infants.

## 9. River Blindness

River Blindness is the second most common way to go blind due to infection. The infection is spread by blackflies, breeding in fast flowing rivers, which carry a parasite. When they reach the eyes, they cause unbearable itching, painful inflammation and scarring which, if left for too long, can lead to permanent blindness.

Our regular CAFOD giving as well as the Harvest appeal are going to help provide clean and safe water for drinking and washing. Our support for efforts of reduce climate change are also important.



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

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2019**  
**Twenty Seventh Sunday of the Year**  
**Parish Mass Book - Year C**  
**Page 82**

**Priest:**  
Fr Andrew Behrens ☎ 713015  
E-mail: [priest@stgregory.org.uk](mailto:priest@stgregory.org.uk)  
**Deacons:**  
Rev Michael Fleming ☎ 647750  
E-mail: [mvf@btinternet.com](mailto:mvf@btinternet.com)  
Rev Rory Stewart (ret) ☎ 408407  
**Pastoral Assistant:**  
Maria Heath ☎ 07952 040830  
E-mail: [maria.heath@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:maria.heath@yahoo.co.uk)

<b>Sunday</b> <i>27<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year</i>	9.00 am	Mass	Stephen Healy RIP
	11.00 am	Mass	The Parish
Monday Our Lady of the Rosary	9.00 am	Mass	John Shoreland RIP
Tuesday Feria	9.00 am	Mass (Followed by prayers for the sick)	Catherine Clarke
Wednesday Bl. John Henry Newman	9.00 am	Mass	Sheila Bull RIP
Thursday St. Paulinus of York	9.00 am	Celebration of Word & Communion	Mr Chris Strong
	6.45 pm	Benediction	
	7.00 pm	Mass	
Friday Pope St. John XXIII	9.00 am	Mass	Chris Strong RIP
Saturday St., Wilfred of York	9.00 am	Mass	Mary Timmins
	9.45 am	Confessions	
<b>Sunday</b> <i>28<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year</i>	9.00 am	Mass	Paddy Mullen RIP
	11.00 am	Mass	The Parish

**Your Offering To The Parish:** Last Sunday's collection was £503.44. Thank you!  
**Standing Order gifts to the Parish:** Each week £390 is given through standing orders.  
**Gift Aid benefits to the parish:** The value of Gift Aid averages £133 per week.  
**Second Collection This Week:** CAFOD. (Family Fast Day was 4<sup>th</sup> October)  
**Counters This Week:** C.P., L. Allen.  
**Cleaners This Week:** Aideen & Another.

**Readings for This Sunday**

**Habakkuk 1: 2-3, 2: 2-4.** *The upright man will live by his faithfulness.*  
**2 Timothy 1: 6-8, 13-14.** *Never be ashamed of witnessing to our Lord.*  
**Luke 17: 5-10.** *If only you had faith!*

**Readings for Next Sunday**

**2 Kings 5: 14-17; 2 Timothy 2: 8-13; Luke 17: 11-19.**  
**(Page 85)**

**During this season of Ordinary Time, Autumn,** Teachers & Pupils; The Harvest;  
**We are asked to pray for:** The Spread of the Gospel; Victims of War  
Prisoners & Their Families; 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.

**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)

**Hall Keys:** Please, please, please, will everyone who has used the hall in recent months, and was given a key to get in, please make sure that you have returned it to the office. There are a number missing, and they are very expensive to replace. Thank you. Caryll.

Are you new to the parish?  
You are welcome! Please introduce yourself to one of the clergy

Flowers in front of the Altar are given by Mrs Irene Howell  
in thanksgiving for the prayers offered for her by the congregation.

**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	James Power
Owen	Khanh Phan
Kath Seamark	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
May Murtagh	Eileen Howell
Maurice Murphy	Doris Old
Michael O'Dea	Rita
Lorraine Woolard	Erica Campbell
Frances Duffus	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 Rowback
Maureen Smith	Edward Taylan
Fr. Malachy Eleanya	Peter
N. Donegan	Norma Bryan
Maureen Bell	Deacon Rory
Margaret M	Breege Manix
Simone Bergin	

**Anniversaries:**

**May they Rest in Peace**

John Glazebrook	Margaret Frisby
Hilda Donovan	John Higgins
Noel Kipes	Stephen Healy
Robert McAfee	Ellen Barker
Doris Hughes	John Guare
John Flynn	Frederick Pearce
Anthony Nash	Theodor Pewitka
Kathleen Mann	Billy Shanaghan
James Anderson	Mary Barry
Joseph Ryan	Fred Crouch
Eileen Woods	Catherine Hoare
Raymond Douglas	Francis Byrne
Zena Goff	Tom Whelan
John Albon	Baby Cian Coles
Michael Atkinson	Badih Molfarecge
Sean Cadman	Donald Hart
Bernard Heitzman	May Wrighton
William Higginbottom	Eric Muddiman
Patrick Connolly	Rose Naylor
Monica McMahon	

**POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR OCTOBER**  
**That the breath of the Holy Spirit engender a new missionary "spring" in the church.**

# Notices of Interest

**The Repository:** Due to further staff illness, I am now desperate for help, especially after the 11am Mass. All stock is priced and it only needs a few moments after Mass. Please help!  
If you can spare some time, please phone me on 629103, or speak to Fr. Andrew. *Kathleen Healey*

**Bible Alive** for October 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.**

**The Hope Centre** are looking for empty ice cream tubs and margarine tubs (NOT yoghurt pots). Please continue to donate only the large ice cream tubs and margarine tubs, as these can be used for placing dinners and puddings in for the homeless. Thank you!

**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.



**Rosary:** If you wish to have the Rosary said in your home during October, please fill out the form in the lobby area. Two members of the Legion of Mary will come on the day and time you prefer. Thank you.

**Sacred Heart are praying the Rosary in October:** We're beginning each session with a 25 minute video 'Called and chosen' but there will be no planned discussion with it. Next session is Friday 11<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. We'll be praying the Mysteries of Light, some in English, some not, & we'll be offering refreshments afterwards. Please come and join us; language other than English very 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 warmly welcome newcomers!

**Bl. Cyprian Tansi Prayer Group** meets 1st Saturday of every month in the Sacristy, 10am. **Next meeting November 2<sup>nd</sup>.** All welcome.

**Vianney Mission Prayer Group** meets 2nd Wednesday of every month in the Sacristy, 6pm - 7pm. **Next meeting October 9<sup>th</sup>.** All welcome.

**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, survivors of abuse, their families & supporters are invited to this Mass. There will be light refreshments after the Mass.

**Choir Matters:** Practices are usually on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month following evening Mass till 9pm. Weekly practices until Dec to prepare for Christmas. *Alec*

**LUX.VOX** – a weekend for young people aged 11-18! 31<sup>st</sup> Jan-2<sup>nd</sup> Feb 2020 – Please contact [fiona@nymo.org](mailto:fiona@nymo.org) or call 01582 720627 for more details.

**Safe Haven Coffee Morning** (Syrian Family Sponsorship scheme) at 337 Billing Road East, NN3 3LL on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October from 10.30am. Traidcraft Stall, Christmas Cards, Crafts & Gifts, Raffle. Kevin & Aideen Fogarty.

**A Request from Bishop Peter:** We need people who, in the midst of all changes to education policy, will keep Christ at the centre of everything they do. Do you have experience in business, education, charities or HR? I would like you to consider whether you are someone who could serve our children as they grow in faith by volunteering as a Director for our new Multi Academy Trust. For details contact Debbie Main on [main@nores.org.uk](mailto:main@nores.org.uk) or 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 Session will be on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October, 7pm, in the Sacristy.

**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 today and next Sunday after either Mass. The main preparation sessions will take place on seven Saturdays leading to First Holy Communion in May 2020.

**Confirmation Preparation:** Those interested in Confirmation next year are invited to join the Youth Alpha programme. While this is not a compulsory part of the preparation, it is an excellent and enjoyable prelude. Young people in Year 7 and above wishing to be Confirmed, should collect and complete a registration form from the hall after Mass. Forms will be available from 6<sup>th</sup> October. Please then attend one of the registration sessions after Masses on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup> November. (8am at St Anselm's, 9.15am at Our Lady's, 10.30am Sacred Heart and 9am and 11am at St Gregory's) Classes will begin in January 2020 and will generally be held on Saturday afternoons leading to Confirmation in July. If you have problems attending registration please email Kathleen on [kathfish@hotmail.com](mailto:kathfish@hotmail.com)

**Tots @St Gregory's:** If you have charge of a pre-school baby or child on Tuesday mornings why not come along to Tots @ St Gregory's which runs in the parish hall from 9:30 - 11:30? We are a friendly, welcoming group where all have fun & refreshments are provided. The cost is £1 for each adult regardless of how many children you bring! We run throughout the school terms and begin again on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> September.

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

## Autumn Courses at St Gregory's:

Monday at 1.00 pm – 3.00 pm	Catholicism	starts 16 <sup>th</sup> September
Monday at 7.00 pm – 9.00 pm	Acts	starts 16 <sup>th</sup> September
Tuesday at 10.00 am – 12 noon	Psalms	starts 24 <sup>th</sup> September
Tuesday at 7.30 pm – 9.30 pm	Alpha	starts 17 <sup>th</sup> September
Wednesday at 2.00 pm – 4.00 pm	Matthew	starts 18 <sup>th</sup> September

## Autumn Course at Sacred Heart:

Tuesday at 10.15 am Bible Timeline starts 17<sup>th</sup> September

**More information on local courses can be found at:**

[www.bible-groups.info/timeline](http://www.bible-groups.info/timeline)

**A change to the Youth Alpha dates: (5.30 pm – 7.00 pm)**

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November  
Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November  
Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November  
Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November  
Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December  
Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December



There will be food and drink at each meeting!

**Our Catholic Schools:** We welcome today children and staff from both St Gregory's Catholic Primary School and Thomas Becket Catholic School. They form an important part of our Catholic Community in Nothampton.

The progression that we saw last week: “from repentance and forgiveness to hastening (following fast!) and finally to heaven” is recalled this week, recognising that God’s forgiveness is greater than we deserve (our merits), or even than what we can reasonably desire or dare to ask.

St Thérèse of Lisieux understood “holy daring” That is the title of a book on her spirituality written by Fr John Udris,

Almighty ever-living God,  
who in the abundance of your kindness  
surpass the merits and the desires  
of those who entreat you,  
pour out your mercy upon us  
to pardon what conscience dreads  
and to give us what prayer does not dare to ask.

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.

As he points out, this is expressed most clearly in the introduction to the Our Father at Mass: “At the Saviour’s command and formed by divine teaching, *we dare to say:*”

We have the confidence to call God “Father”, “Abba” (*Romans 8:15, Galatians 4:6*), and this expresses and intimacy between ourselves and God.

God knows our needs before we ask (*Matthew 6:8*), so we can talk to him with complete confidence.

## Scripture Readings 13th October 2019, 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

Habbakuk appears to have prophesied while Judah was being threatened by Babylon, who destroyed Jerusalem in 586 BC. Habbakuk expresses the ever-present frustration of mankind that evil people always seem to triumph. Since God is good and just, why doesn't He intervene to help those who worship Him? Instead of punishing his erring people by a nation even more wicked? God's answer here is that "the upright man will live by his faithfulness". So Habbakuk agrees to “quietly wait” for the invaders to be punished.

The Psalm's message is also not to lose faith in God.

In the first of four readings from Paul’s second letter to Timothy, he is urged to “bear the hardships” relying on God’s power, using and developing his skills to testify to the good news. You should “guard

the rich truth that has been entrusted to you by the Holy Spirit who dwells within us” ie the truth about Jesus, who “has abolished death”.

In Luke’s Gospel Jesus continues to teach, as he makes his way to Jerusalem. We must have confidence in God’s plan, and carry out fully the tasks God has given us. But we must not expect God to put this world to rights in our lifetime.

Psalm Response: **O that today you would listen to his voice!  
“Harden not your hearts”.**

(Hab 1:2-3,2:2-4 Ps 94 2 Tim 1:6-8,13-14 Lk 17:5-10)

Chris Oliver

# The Season of Creation

### Tip No.3 Living Sustainably with creation:

In your weekly shop buy one ORGANIC vegetable more than you would usually; to preserve the soils.

### Tip no.4 Living sustainably with creation:

Find ECO friendly household cleaners; to reduce chemicals going into our water sources.

### PRAYER

#### CREATOR GOD

You gave us responsibility for the earth  
A world of riches and delight.  
Create in us a desire to live sustainably,  
So that those who follow after us  
May enjoy the fruits of your creation

Many thanks to Harry and Helen Charles who have offered to co-ordinate our parish’s work towards the “Living Simply Award”.  
Anyone who is interested is being involved in this, please contact them, or speak to Fr Andrew

# The Year of the Word



On the feast of St Jerome last week, the day that Cardinal Nichols launched for us the “Year of the Word”, Pope Francis issued a decree setting aside the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time (in 2020 January 26<sup>th</sup>) as a special Sunday to celebrate the Word of God in Holy Scripture. He also states that: “A day devoted to the

Bible should not be seen as a yearly event but rather a year-long event, for we urgently need to grow in our knowledge and love of the Scriptures and of the risen Lord, who continues to speak his word and to break bread in the community of believers. For this reason, we need to develop a closer relationship with sacred Scripture; otherwise, our hearts will remain cold and our eyes shut, struck as we are by so many forms of blindness.” (*Aperuit Illis* §8).

He speaks of the importance of the training of those who proclaim the Word of God in Scripture: “Renewed efforts should be made to provide members of the faithful with the training needed to be genuine proclaimers of the word, as is already the practice in the case of acolytes or extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion.” (*Aperuit Illis* §3)

Pope Francis refers to the Vatican II document “*Dei Verbum*”: which he says “deserves to be read and appropriated ever anew” and to Benedict XVI’s Apostolic exhortation “*Verbum Domini*”, “whose teaching remains fundamental”.

Training for those who proclaim the Word of God to us will be on Monday and Tuesday evenings, 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> October.

