



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 New Pentecost

This was the title of a significant book by Cardinal Suenens, Archbishop of Mechelen-Brussels, published in 1974. In it he writes:

“How can we Christianise today such a vast number of nominal Christians? How can we evangelise a world which has become, to a large degree, post-Christian? What can we do, so that there may be a real flowering of a Christianity, freely chosen in which a Christian is recognised as someone who, fully aware of what is implied, is “converted” to Christ, who, by an act of personal allegiance ratifies the sacraments of his Christian Initiation, Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist: who moreover opens himself, in expectant faith, to the action of the Holy Spirit and to his gifts, that he may be faithful to his supernatural calling. This is the heart of our pastoral problems: the glaring contrast between the nominal and the authentic Christian.”

Later on in the same chapter he continues:

“We need, in short, a Church composed of those who want to belong, in whom the freedom of God’s children is so plain to see that the consequences of being a Christian appear not as authoritarian injunctions imposed from without under pain of mortal sin, but as imperatives felt deep within us springing up from a source that is the logic of our faith”

He then says:

“The Christian of tomorrow will not be able to face the future if we have not passed on to him a Christianity full of hope. We must give to him a faith which is strong and exhilarating: grafting on to the power of the Holy Spirit, protected under the shadow of his wings, performing “signs and wonders” which attest that we too live in that burgeoning of new life which is Pentecost.”

Cardinal Suenens had hoped that the Second Vatican Council would bring a more immediate response to the opening of the “windows of the Church so that we can see out and the people can see in” (*reportedly words of Pope St John XXIII*), often (wrongly) quoted as opening the windows to let the Holy Spirit in. It is now understood that the fruits of Church Councils are not seen until the second generation after the council; that is to say, about now!

He speaks of “a source that is the logic of our faith”, and in so doing, is speaking of the Holy Spirit. Theology speaks of two sources of knowledge, natural law and revealed law. Natural law is that which we can discover or infer from purely human understanding — the

laws of physics, for example. Revealed law is that which we know through the teaching of Jesus; through the Scriptures or through the teaching authority of the Church. In both of these, the Holy Spirit is a key player. “In the beginning . . . the earth was a formless void and a darkness covered the face of the deep, the Spirit of God swept over the face of the waters, and God said ‘Let there be light’; and there was light.” (*Genesis 1:1-3*) All creation, and therefore human understanding is a gift of the Holy Spirit. It was the Holy Spirit that inspired the Scriptures and the Holy Spirit that, as Jesus promised, would guide the Church into all truth. (*John 16:13*)

In our generation, “Divine Renovation” is a fruit of the Holy Spirit, and with the Spirit’s inspiration, our Alpha courses are a manifest blessing. There are those who are coming to faith for the first time or are recognising that the faith they already had has brought them into the community of the Church. There are others for whom their faith has come alive to them in a new and wonderful way, and are experiencing for themselves what it means to be an “authentic Christian”.

The feast of Pentecost was a new beginning — it is sometimes called the Birthday of the Church. This is the day when the Church first began to obey the “Great Commission” to “go out to the whole world and proclaim the Good News”. While in the calendar of the Church it marks the end of Eastertide, its real significance is as a starting point.

Before the reforms which followed the Second Vatican Council, the weeks for the rest of the Church’s year were described as “after Pentecost”, and this reminder that we are living in an era which is “after Pentecost” should have directed the Church in the path that Cardinal Suenens was indicating in his book, which would have made his book unnecessary! For nearly 2,000 years the Holy Spirit has been guiding the Church, although sometimes through human frailty, those in the Church have failed to follow that guidance; sometimes because they were not listening to the voice of the Spirit, sometimes because they (mistakenly) thought they knew better, and sometimes simply through human pride and sinfulness.

Today we continue to seek to follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit in faith and loyalty to the community of faith that was founded by Jesus, and obedient to his teaching. Our “Bible Timeline” courses, our Alpha, the weekly Thursday Adoration, our various prayer groups and small communities and many other activities are all manifestations of this.



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

Sunday 9th June 2019

Pentecost

Parish Mass Book - Year C

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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>Pentecost</i>	9.00 am	Mass	Bridie Kean
	11.00 am	Mass	The Parish
Monday The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church	9.00 am	Mass	Tom Lynch RIP
	10.30	Funeral Mass	Sue and Voldis Dauksta
	7.00 pm	Mass (followed by Rosary)	Vocations
Tuesday St. Barnabas	9.00 am	Mass (Followed by prayers for the sick)	Catherine Clarke
Wednesday Feria	9.00 am	Mass	Hugh McLoughlin RIP
Thursday Our Lord Jesus Christ, Eternal Priest	9.00 am	Celebration of Word & Communion	
	6.45 pm	Benediction	
	7.00 pm	Mass	Michael McDonagh
Friday Feria	9.00 am	Mass	Philomena Fraher RIP
Saturday Feria	9.00 am	Mass	In Thanksgiving for those who prayed for Nancy Ginnelly during her illness and who attended her Requiem Mass. Agnes & Nancy's Family.
	9.45 am	Confessions	
Sunday <i>Trinity Sunday</i>	9.00 am	Mass	Kathleen & Michael Cooke's Intentions
	11.00 am	Mass	The Parish

Your Offering To The Parish:

Last Sunday's collection was £644.63. 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 Last Week:

Mass Media. £132.43. Thank you!

Second Collection Next Week:

Day for Life

Counters This Week:

M. Murtagh, L. Allen, Anna Smith

Cleaners This Week:

Pru & Another.

Readings for This Sunday

Acts 2: 1-11.

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak.

Romans 8: 8-17.

Everyone moved by the Spirit is a son of God.

John 14: 15-16, 23-26.

The Holy Spirit will teach you everything.

Readings for Next Sunday

Proverbs 8: 22-31; Romans 5: 1-5; John 16: 12-15. (Page 30)

During this season of

Human Life; Seafarers;

Ordinary Time, Summer,

Victims of Persecution/Oppression

we are asked to pray for:

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.

**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 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
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
N. Donegan	James Power

Anniversaries:

May they Rest in Peace

Kathleen Golding	Edith Withey
Marthe Perrin	Ana Pavia
Beryl Eldred	Ciro Sautto
Margaret Cox	Margery Doran
Alfonsina Amato	Avril Pearce
Margaret Collier	Julia Guest
Mary Ryan	Mary Moloney
Nellie Middleton	Charles Davis
Robert Warnes	John Downes
Nora Boulllemier	Connie Neale
David Halton	Joseph Cullen
Margaret Platts	Anna Wilson
Margaret Kijewski	James Dunne
William Haynes	Teresa Geraghty
Denise Ihme	Thomas Robinson
Thomas Neeson	Roland James
Patrick Manley	Elvira Longrigg
Bridget Page	Daniel Gillen
Patrick Hefferman	Mary Donohoe
Christina Dunne	

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
Arie Marowa
who received Christian Baptism last week.
Please pray for her and her family.

Bible Alive for June & July 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.**

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.

Rosary |Link for Vocations: On Monday of this week there will be Mass followed by Rosary and Benediction for Vocations. This is an initiative which was promoted by Fr Damien, and we have been joining in this prayer at St Gregory's each year. The need for those whom God is calling to Priesthood to respond to that call is clear: if you can come, please do!

33rd Rosary Rally at Mount St Bernard's Abbey: This begins with Mass at 2.00 pm on Sunday 1st September. See the poster for more information.

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 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.

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!

Climate Lobby in London - 26 June: Join CAFOD & many other charities at an unforgettable event in London on 26 June. It's time to confront this climate & environmental crisis & tell our leaders that Britain should no longer contribute to the destruction of our common home. You can make a difference by joining in. Please register if you would like to attend (see <https://cafod.org.uk/Campaign/Climate/Climate-lobby> for more details).

Our Common Home There will be a special day of prayer and celebration of creation on Sunday August 4th, which will focus on the CAFOD climate change campaign. Keep a watch-out for more information about this

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 9subsidised) to an actual cost of £295. More information can be found at www.nymo.org or call Fiona on 01582 720627

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.

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.

St Gregory's Catholic Primary School PTFA Summer Fair. Saturday 15th June, 1-4pm. There will be music, stalls, games, face painting, bouncy castles, raffle and tombola. BBQ and refreshments will be available throughout the afternoon. There will also be stocks and you may have the rare opportunity to throw wet sponges at your favourite teacher or you could volunteer to put yourself in the stocks! Admission is free and everyone is welcome!

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.

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.

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 announced soon: keep looking at the newsletter!

First Holy Communion – 2020 Enrolment for next year's First Holy Communion preparation will be in September.

Confirmation Preparation: Check your programme!

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

The Charismatic Movement has reminded us of a truth that has always been the teaching of the Church. This beautiful prayer is about 1,400 years old!

It is a prayer of extraordinary breadth. First, and most obviously it is Trinitarian. It is addressed to God; it recalls the preaching of the Good News of Jesus and it prays for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

It speaks of the beginnings "when the Gospel was first proclaimed" and it

O God, who by the mystery of today's great feast sanctify your whole Church in every people and nation, pour out, we pray, the gifts of the Holy Spirit across the face of the earth and, with the divine grace that was at work when the Gospel was first proclaimed, fill now once more the hearts of believers.

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.

speaks of "now".

It speaks of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit "across the face of the earth" and also that the Spirit will fill our own hearts, as each one of us is numbered among the believers.

"It will be given to you, a good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over will be put into your lap". A true cornucopia of blessings!
(See Luke 6:38)

Scripture Readings 9th June 2019, Pentecost, Year C

The Jewish feast of Pentecost, 50 days after Passover, was less well known than the other two pilgrimage feasts. Passover was linked to the nomadic sacrifice of lambs and the barley harvest in the Spring. Tabernacles after the grape harvest was associated with the wanderings in the desert. Recently it was realised that Pentecost was associated with God giving the Covenant on Sinai. So the coming of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles at Pentecost fits neatly with this Covenant feast: the formal birth of the Christian Church. Acts lists the regions where the Church was to grow.

The psalm calls us to praise God's creative wisdom. Filled with wonder at the details of God's glorious works, this psalm is well worth reading in full.

Paul urges the Romans to live by the Spirit who, with Christ, has made his home in us. We are now Sons of God. If we are led by

the Spirit within us to follow God's laws, we will have confidence that the Father will "give life to our mortal bodies", just as Jesus was raised.

In John's Gospel we hear from Jesus' long Last Supper talk, promising that his Father would send the Advocate, through whom he and the Father would be with his church for all time.

Psalm Response: Send forth your Spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.

(Acts 2: 1-11; Psalm 103(104); Romans 8: 8-17; John 14: 15-16, 23-26)

Chris Oliver

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.

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.



The Karuri School Project

Supporting Sacred Heart School, Naivasha, Kenya — "A Dream for Something Better" - Wangari Cecilia

It's approximately one year since my last visit to England. I was delighted to have an opportunity to visit your church and to share with you the charity work I do, caring for the orphans and destitute children in Kenya. Thank you to all the priests for allowing me to visit your Parish.

The first 15 children that we took in 2011 completed Year 8 in 2014 and joined secondary school in 2015. Out of those 15 children, 11 are going to join university, while 4 are going to join colleges. It's amazing. Thank you so much. Last year November our year 8 performed excellently well in the national primary exam.