



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

On the road again!

Procession at 9.00 Mass

- 1 Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising,
give me joy in my heart, I pray.
Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising.
Keep me praising till the end of day.

*Sing hosanna! Sing hosanna!
Sing hosanna to the King of Kings!
Sing hosanna! Sing hosanna!
Sing hosanna to the King!*
- 2 Give me peace in my heart, keep me resting,
give me peace in my heart, I pray.
Give me peace in my heart, keep me resting.
Keep me resting till the end of day.
- 3 Give me love in my heart, keep me serving,
give me love in my heart, I pray.
Give me love in my heart, keep me serving,
keep me serving 'till the end of day.

Procession at 11.00 Mass

- All glory, laud and honour,
to thee, Redeemer King,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring.*
- 1 Thou art the King of Israel,
thou David's royal Son,
who in the Lord's name comest,
the King and blessed one.
 - 2 The company of angels
are praising thee on high,
and mortal folk, with all things
created, make reply.
 - 3 The people of the Hebrews
with palms before thee went:
our praise and prayer and anthems
before thee we present.
 - 4 To thee before thy passion
they sang their hymns of praise;
to thee now high exalted
our melody we raise.
 - 5 Thou didst accept their praises,
accept the prayers we bring,
who in all good delightest,
thou good and gracious king.

**At both processions, the verses of the
hymns are repeated until everyone is
in the church and in their place. Please
try to keep together in the procession.**

Holy Week

Penitential Liturgies and opportunities for Confession

Penitential Liturgies at 7.00 pm. Monday, Cathedral,
Tuesday, St Gregory's
Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday after the morning Mass.

For Children

MAUNDY THURSDAY, 14th APRIL at 10am

We will have some fun activities to explore the Last Supper and
what it means to us as Catholics, followed by refreshments.

GOOD FRIDAY 15th APRIL, at 10am

Today we will take the young people on a journey learning about the
Stations of the Cross followed by refreshments.

Liturgies of the Triduum(Three Holy Days)

- Holy Thursday, Mass of Chrism in the Cathedral at 11.00 am
- Holy Thursday, Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7.00 pm,
followed by the watch until Midnight.**
- Good Friday: Solemn Liturgy of the Passion at 3.00 pm**
- Good Friday: Stations of the Cross at 7.30 pm
- Holy Saturday: Easter Vigil Mass at 9.00 pm
(Please note, there is no 9.00 am Mass)**
- Easter Sunday: Mass at 9.00 am and 11.00 am**

Notices of Interest

The Crucifix facing the road: this should now be in place. Many thanks for the financial contribution to pay for the repair.

Bible Alive for Lent and Easter is now available - only £3.00! If you wish to purchase a copy, they are near the hand-sanitiser in the narthex as you come into church.

Repository: The Repository is open after every Sunday Mass and there is a small supply of Easter cards together with a display of First Communion and Confirmation cards and mementoes. We need more helpers prepared to stand for a few minutes after Mass – all stock is marked, so an easy task! *Contact Kath.healey.789@ gmail.com*

Easter Flowers: Envelopes are available for donations for Easter flowers on the table in the narthex. If you wish your flowers to be in memory of a particular person, please write their name on the envelope. This will appear in the Easter newsletter.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Baptism Preparation: Next date to be in the Sacristy on Monday 2nd May, 7pm. Please note you will need to phone Deacon Michael on 07999808997 before you attend, to book your place.

First Holy Communion 2022: Congratulations to those who have celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time during the past week. The preparation now turns to the receiving of Holy Communion for the first time, and we look forward to this in May. Thanks also to the parents in providing support and becoming catechists for their own children.

Confirmation in 2022: Registration for confirmation preparation and for confirmation this year is now closed, no further applications can be accepted. The sessions will run on a Sunday morning from 10.15 am - 11.30 am. Please join us for 9.00 am Mass as part of this course. Confirmation Mass is on Saturday 2nd July at midday.

Deputy Director of Schools – A strategic lead for Catholic schools across the Diocese for Catholic life and Mission, RE and Collective Worship. The Diocesan Education Service is looking to recruit a Deputy Director of Schools (£45,000 - £60,000 depending on experience). For more details or an informal discussion about the role please contact Collette Curtis (Director of School) 07758057244 or email curtis@nores.org.uk. The full application pack is on the notice board or available on the website www.nores.org.uk

Courses for Readers: The Bible Timeline course on Wednesdays ends this week. There will be a break for Easter, but there is the possibility of running a short course after Easter and before the summer holiday season.

Food Parcels: Please get in touch with Gregory Care (07434669011) if you or anyone you know would benefit from receiving a food parcel.

Parish Finances: Much the easiest way to support the parish financially is through a standing order directly from your own bank account. The information required for this is as follows:

Bank; **NatWest**
Sort Code; **60-06-11**
Account Number; **46898093**
Account Name; **Northampton Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust**
Payment Ref; Parish Name/Area: **(St. Gregory's, Northampton)**

Parish and Diocesan Finances: We have drawn up a budget for the coming year and submitted it to the Diocese. We are hoping for an increase in giving as more people come back to Mass week by week. If this materialises, we forecast a very small surplus. One significant help would be to make your giving through standing order; the details of our account are above, and if you pay income tax, please ask for a Gift Aid form.

Pro Life Chain - Saturday 30th April: On Sat. 30th April SPUC Northampton is holding a Pro-Life Chain on St Peters Way Northampton. This act of silent witness is to remember the millions of lives lost to abortion since the Abortion Act 1967. It will take place between 11am & 1pm. Please consider joining us at this important event. Last year twelve pro-life supporters stood together in order to proclaim the pro-life message. Abortion is a tragedy for babies, Mothers, Fathers, & society as whole. We have a moral duty to speak out against the horror of abortion. If you can join us or want more information, please contact William on 07393965643(text is fine) or wpcurie@btinternet.com. Our Lady of Guadalupe, pray for us.

Ukrainian Refugees: Anyone interested in helping, contact Caritas caritas@northamptondiocese.org - Deacon Jim Hannigan. Address: Director of Caritas Northampton, Northampton Roman Catholic Diocese, St Thomas Centre, Primrose Hill, Northampton, NN2 6AG. Tel: (01604) 434362 Mob: 07756 685220

Bl. Cyprian Tansi Prayer Group continues to pray together online via Skype and by telephone.

Choir Practice in Lent: Practices on Friday 1:45-3pm Apr 1 and 8. *Alec*

Gregory Care Update on Toiletry Donations: Continued thanks to all who have donated toiletries & hygiene products to the Cathedral Food Store. There is a need for shampoo & washing up liquid. If you are aware of anyone who would benefit from this please get in contact with Gregory Care through Fr Andrew.

Tots @ St Gregory's: TINY TOTS look forward to seeing you: if you have charge of a pre-school child, from 9:30- 11:30 on a Tuesday morning, you are most welcome!

Pivotal Players: This series of videos has been really interesting, but is now ended. This Monday there will not be a session because there is the Penitential Liturgy in the Cathedral.

Mass for the Sick, 30th April, 3pm, livestream and Cathedral: Bishop David will celebrate a special Mass for the Sick on Sat. 30th April at the Cathedral. This is specially for all our household, & we hope that they will be able to follow it on the Cathedral livestream via the diocesan website: <https://northamptondiocese.org/live/>. There will be a downloadable Mass sheet so everyone can join in. All are also welcome to attend in person.

Inspire Younger Generations With CAFOD: Do you enjoy working with children & young people? If so, you are invited to be part of CAFOD's education programme which inspires students to act on their sense of justice. A background in education is not necessary. We are looking for people with good interpersonal skills, an interest in CAFOD's work & who can connect well with young people. You will be asked to go into Catholic schools in the locality to deliver prepared assemblies and/or workshops about once a term. All necessary training, travel expenses & resources will be provided & you will have the ongoing friendship & support of a local team. Please get in touch with Deborah to know more about this amazing role: northampton@cafod.org.uk We look forward to welcoming you to our wonderful team.

Thomas Becket Catholic School: Induction Mass for Paul McCahill, Headmaster at the Cathedral, Tues. 26th April, 6pm, followed by refreshments in the St. Thomas Centre. RSVP by 20th April to scrawford@tbc.nor.olicatschools.org.

Seder Meal: Thanks to Martyn and Fiona for leading this, to Catherine and her helpers in the kitchen, to those who helped prepare the room and to everyone who came, making it a memorable evening.

Scripture Readings 10th April 2022, Palm Sunday, Year C

In this suffering servant song Isaiah expresses the despondency of an exiled people apparently deserted by their God. But it is they who have fallen away. God has not gone back on his promise to them, and he will come to their help. But first they must turn back to him and put all their trust in him, in spite of their sufferings.

On the Cross Jesus uttered the first words of Psalm 22, which goes on to reflect his suffering. But rather than a cry of despair, the Psalm expresses Jesus' complete confidence in his Father and praises the redemption bought by his Cross.

Paul pleaded for unity among the Philippians, divided by rivalry and personal vanity. He urged them to "do nothing out of selfishness or out of vainglory; rather humbly regard others as more important than yourselves". Unlike Adam, Jesus did not try

to be equal to God. Instead his crucifixion gives us the supreme example of unselfish love. Therefore he was raised to new life, as also will be those who follow his example.

Luke says that at the Last Supper Jesus declares he will "not drink wine until the kingdom of God comes". Mark and John say that immediately before he died Jesus was given wine to drink from a sponge, then saying "It is finished".

Psalm Response:

**My God, My God,
why have you forsaken me?**

(Isaiah 50:4-7; Psalm 21(22); Phil 2:6-11; Luke 22:14-23:56)

Chris Oliver

Prayers for Ukraine: Please continue to pray for an end to the war in Ukraine.

O God, author and lover of peace,
to know you is to live,
to serve you is to reign
defend against every attack
those who cry to you
so that we, who trust in your protection,
may not fear the weapons of any foe.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns for ever and ever.
Amen

LIFETEEN SUMMER CAMP 2022

Sunday 24th to Thursday 28th July 2022
Alton Castle: For more information and to go to the bookings page visit
<https://nymo.org/summercamp/>

40 Hours Adoration

There will be our annual 40 hours Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament for 2022, from 7.00 am on June 24th until 11.00 pm on Saturday June 25th. Please keep this date in your diary.

Health and Safety

There is a concern regarding the mix of cars and people in the church car park on Sundays before and after Mass. In particular, small children cannot always be seen by drivers if they are close. Parents and Carers, please make sure children do not run round unsupervised in the car park.

**Our Lady, Queen of Peace,
Pray for Russia and Ukraine**

The diocese is working closely with a number of organisations to provide support to parishes and parishioners who would like to consider providing a home in the UK for Ukrainian families. We already have good experience and knowledge gained from bringing refugees from Syria to our diocese. It is important to be aware that there is a great deal of work to do before families arrive and the ability to match Ukrainian families with UK hosts is fundamental to this scheme.

We are currently working on a number of options for this matching service, and we hope to bring an initial group of Ukrainians over to host families as soon as possible.

While the visa and matching services are taking time to get sorted, we are encouraging parishes, pastoral areas and parishioners to make preparations for Ukrainian families once they arrive. They will need access to such things as translation assistance, support to register with a G.P and obtaining medical help, registering children in local schools, therapists that can assist with mental health and trauma issues that will



no doubt arise, assistance with opening bank accounts and applying for benefits and introducing them to like minded other families in their locality so that they can support each other going forward. We also need to put in place a support network for the host families to help as and when issues arise. Based on previous experience, we are recommending that groups of parishioners / parishes

work closely together to enable several Ukrainian families to be housed in close proximity to each other. This will provide some element of community support for the families, and reduce the dangers of isolation. Parishes could hopefully provide access to facilities for the families to meet together for support and friendship. Perhaps they could watch Ukrainian films, the children could play together and practical day to day support could be provided for the group.

In addition to the parishioner providing the actual accommodation, it will be important that there are others supporting the Ukrainian family and their host. The host family will certainly need and benefit from other parishioners around them to share the load.

If you want to find out more about how you could help or be involved, please visit: <https://northamptondiocese.org/ukraine/>

St Gregory's next Alpha:

To the right are the dates of the next Alpha course which will be in the hall and in person. It is highly recommended for everyone, and is very enjoyable. Each session starts with a good meal (A proper evening meal, not just a snack), then we watch a film together about our faith. After the film we have a conversation around our table about what we have seen and heard. Please come, and if you can, bring a friend. There is no charge, but donations are cheerfully accepted. For catering purposes, please register at www.stgregory.org.uk/alpha

First session:	April 26 th 2022:	Is there more to life than this?
Second Session:	May 3 rd 2022:	Who is Jesus?
Third Session:	May 10 th 2022:	Why did Jesus die?
Fourth Session:	May 17 th 2022:	How can I be sure of my faith?
Fifth Session:	May 24 th 2022:	Why and how do I pray?
Sixth Session:	June 7 th 2022:	How does God guide us?
Seventh Session:	June 14 th 2022:	Why and how should I read the Bible?
Away-Day:	June 16 th – 17 th 2022:	Who is the Holy Spirit?
Eighth Session:	June 21 st 2022:	How can I resist evil?
Ninth Session:	June 28 th 2022:	Why and how should we tell others?
Tenth Session:	July 5 th 2022:	What about the Church?
Eleventh Session:	July 12 th 2022:	What about the rest of my life?

How Alpha Works — and Why

Alpha works because it uses the same methods that Jesus himself used. It uses personal contacts. Jesus said to Andrew: “Come and see” (*John 1:39*), and it is the same invitation that we make. Like Jesus, who so often in the Gospels is seen at a meal with others, Alpha is set in the context of a meal. It is not Mass, but could be seen as looking forward to when everyone at Alpha can share in the Eucharistic meal — what theologians call an ‘allegory’ of the Mass. St Paul speaks of ‘children in the faith’ not being ready for solid food (*1 Corinthians 3:1-2*), and Alpha is like coming to see Jesus in the person of some of his disciples. Having ‘come and seen’, people are free to make their own decision. Thankfully, many decide to get to know Jesus better. Alpha is also ideal for the Church community as it uses so many different talents and skills, and does not force people out of their ‘comfort zones’. It needs the talents of the cooking team; the team who prepare the room, the table hosts and table leaders. It needs the skill of the technicians, and of musicians. Above all, it needs the support of prayer, and it needs people to invite others to ‘come and see’.

DIocese of Northampton Liturgy Commission- Liturgical Formation

The God Who Speaks - Our Liturgy of the Word



A Series of online Zoom Sessions exploring the upcoming Lectionary Readings and Seasons of the Liturgical Year. A valuable opportunity to develop our engagement with the Scriptures that we hear proclaimed at the Liturgy of the Word at Mass.

Led by the Liturgical Formation Team with presentations by Liz Clark, Fr Allan Jones CRIC, Mgr Kevin McGinnell & Fr Andrew Behrens

Wednesday 23 February 2022, (7.30-8.30pm)

Preparing for Lent

Wednesday 6 April 2022, (7.30-8.30pm)

Preparing for the Triduum

Wednesday 20 April 2022, (7.30-8.30pm)

Celebrating Eastertide

Each session will include input, prayer and the opportunity to make comments and ask questions.

Cost: No charge but there will be the opportunity to make a donation

Please register in advance to secure a place by e mail or phone: email admin@nores.org.uk or phone: 01582 723312 (ext 1)

Once your booking is received you will be sent details of how to join the online Zoom sessions. Thank you.

(Photo from www.pexels.com)

Adsumus Sancte Spiritus

We stand before You, Holy Spirit,
as we gather together in Your name.
With You alone to guide us,
make Yourself at home in our hearts;
Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it.
We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder.
Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path
nor partiality influence our actions.
Let us find in You our unity
so that we may journey together to eternal life
and not stray from the way of truth and what is right.
All this we ask of You,
who are at work in every place and time,
in the communion of the Father and the Son,
forever and ever. Amen

Recently, Revolution Zero have opened a community food larder (social supermarket) in the former UCR Church, The Headlands. Their aim is to make food accessible to everyone & reduce the amount of food going to landfill. 15 items of choice for £5. Please take a look at the link-<http://www.revolutionzero.org/> They have a Facebook page & are open Tues 1-3pm, Wed 1-4pm, Thurs 1-3pm & Sat 11-12 noon.

Thank you again for amazing contributions and please keep this initiative in your prayers.

An act of Spiritual Communion

I prostrate myself at your feet, O my Jesus,
and I offer you the repentance of my heart,
which abases itself in its nothingness
and in your Holy Presence.
I adore You in the Sacrament of your Love;
I desire to receive You in the poor abode
that my heart offers You.

While awaiting the happiness of Sacramental Communion,
I wish to possess you in spirit.
Come to me, O my Jesus, that I may come to You. May
your Love inflame my whole being
in life and in death.
Jesus, I believe in You, I hope in You,
I love You. Amen. *Pope Francis [20 March 2020]*

Repainting in the church: If you can help, please can you contact Cliff Snelling at cliff.snelling@btinternet.com, indicating which weeks (when weather is warmer) you would be available to help.

