



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

This proves it – you’re amazing

August is a month for finding out results and celebrating achievement so we’d like to take this opportunity to celebrate some of the things we’ve achieved together.

Thanks to your incredible support, we were able to reach over 1.3 million people last year. That’s an amazing impact and it wouldn’t have been possible without you. Every time you donated, volunteered, raised your voice or kept CAFOD in your prayers, you’ve stepped up and lent a hand in building a better world. Here are just three examples of the incredible impact your support has. All of this is made possible through the dedication of our local partners, the strength of hardworking communities and the generosity of supporters like you. We can’t wait to share these stories with you.

Helping people affected by war in Ukraine

Since the full-scale invasion of Ukraine, at least 6.8 million people have fled abroad to escape the conflict and another 3.6 million people remain displaced within the country. Millions of families are in urgent need of food, healthcare, shelter and psychological support.

Our sister Caritas agencies and partner organisations are helping people across Ukraine and the wider region. Your generous contributions to the Ukraine Humanitarian Crisis Appeal have helped over 195,000 vulnerable women, men and children.

You’ve helped:

- Get food to over 120,000 women, men and children.
- Provide emergency health services to more than 20,000 people.
- Support 15,000 people with emergency shelter, home repairs, and warm clothing and fuel to survive the winter.
- Reach out to more than 11,000 people with mental health and psychosocial support services.

Investing in the ambitious plans of women and girls

In Sierra Leone, your support is helping women and girls plan and invest in their own futures.

In Yeabu’s village, our local partners helped a group of women and girls set up a savings and loans group.

“My name is Yeabu. This is my story. I just turned 16 and I have six siblings: four sisters and two annoying brothers! I am in third year of secondary school and I am passionate about education and wish to become a professional nurse and be of service to my community. I presently live with my old grandmother. I asked my parents to let me come stay with her so I will be supporting her with the household chores - and that makes me happy!”

The group was given a starting fund of 5,000 Leones, to invest as they saw fit, and training in how to manage lending and borrowing fairly within the group. Yeabu had an idea for a business, so went to the group for a loan.

“I received 200 Leones and started baking and selling bread. I had mastered the art of bread baking from my grandmother as that was her trade. She, however, stopped the business two years ago due to her poor health and I took the opportunity to revive the business. I am sure my decision to revive the bread baking business makes her proud as I saw the smile on her face when I started a few months ago.

“The business has been good, and I have increased my contribution to the savings and loan group from two to four shares per week, and just last week I bought a science textbook which I have been wanting for the past year. With the mentorship support we are now receiving from our (local female entrepreneur) role model, I am sure of attaining my dream of becoming a passionate nurse and can perhaps set up a well-structured bakery and name it after my grandmother.”

Adapting to climate change in Bangladesh

With its many intertwining rivers and wide flood plains, Bangladesh has been ranked seventh in a list of the countries most vulnerable to the climate crisis. This is despite the fact that the country produces just 0.56% of the world’s harmful emissions.

On the southern coastal belt, ever more frequent cyclones and tidal surges threaten the lives and livelihoods of thousands of families who rely on farming to feed themselves and make a living.

But with our local partners, we are helping families find new ways to make a living, even in the harshest conditions.

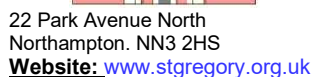
By growing organic on the roofs of houses, on trellises above ground, and on floating vegetable gardens on flooded or waterlogged land, farmers have more space to grow the food they need.

Many families have begun using earthworms to create an organic compost to grow vegetables without the need for expensive and environmentally damaging chemical fertiliser. The compost can even be sold to large-scale farmers for extra income.

And all of these techniques help regenerate and protect the environment, and give families ways to cope with the worst effects of the climate crisis.

In the Patuakhali district alone we have helped to support more than 14,000 people, the majority of whom are women, landless families or people living with disabilities.

St Gregory’s sent £3,466.62 to CAFOD in the last financial year.



Priest:
Fr Andrew Behrens ☎ 713015
E-mail: frandrew.behrens@northamptondiocese.org

Deacon:
Rev Michael Fleming ☎ 647750
E-mail: mvf@btinternet.com

Parish Secretary:
Caryll Comley ☎ 713015
Email: parish.stgregory@northamptondiocese.org

Safeguarding representative
Carol McNeil ☎ 07906802615

Sunday <i>19th Sunday Of the Year</i>	9.00 am 11.00 am 4.30 pm	Mass Mass Mass (Syro Malabar Rite)	Ann Ganderton RIP & Ann McCarron- Shipman The Parish
Monday St. Clare	9.00 am	Mass	Josephine Ahern's Intentions
Tuesday Feria	9.00 am	Mass	Bridie Walsh's Intentions
Wednesday Feria	9.00 am	Mass	Fred & Barbara Jones RIP
Thursday St. Maximilian Kolbe	9.00-11.00 7.00 pm	Holy Hours of Adoration Mass	Maureen Moriarty's Intentions
Friday The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Page 1166)	7.00 am 9.00 am 7.00 pm	Mass Mass Mass	Teresa Kilker RIP The Parish
Saturday Feria	9.00 am	Mass	Catherine Clarke RIP
Sunday <i>20th Sunday Of the Year</i>	9.00 am 11.00 am 4.30 pm	Mass Mass Mass (Syro Malabar Rite)	Donato Suzzo RIP The Parish

<u>Your Offering to the Parish:</u>	Last Week Was £353.27. Thank you!
<u>Standing Order gifts to the Parish:</u>	Each week £557 is given through standing orders.
<u>Donations through the Diocese:</u>	An average of £75 is given each week.
<u>Gift Aid benefits to the parish:</u>	The value of Gift Aid averages £171 per week.
<u>Second Collection This Week:</u>	Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary
<u>Cleaners This Week:</u>	The Church is cleaned & sanitised on a regular basis.
<u>Counters this Week:</u>	CC & RM.

Readings for this Sunday: — see inside for details

Wisdom 18: 6-9:	<i>By the same means by which you punished our enemies you called us to yourself and glorified us.</i>
Hebrews 11: 1-2, 8-19:	<i>He was looking forward to the city whose designer and builder is God.</i>
Luke 12: 32-48:	<i>You also must be ready.</i>

Readings for next Sunday (CTS New Sunday Missal Page 1042)

Jeremiah 38: 4-6, 8-10; Hebrews 12: 1-4; Luke 12: 49-53.

<u>During This Season of Ordinary Time, Summer, We Are Asked to Pray For:</u>	Human Life; Seafarers; Victims of Persecution or oppression; Europe; Christian/Jewish Relations; The Environment.
--	---

Yet more thoughts on our Parish Vision

We speak of ourselves as ‘a community’. We are made up of hundreds of families, and each family is itself a community. In this sense we are a ‘community of communities’. There are many other smaller communities within the parish community; school communities, local geographical communities, interest group communities.

As the Catholic Community, we seek to bring together our diverse communities. Our diverse community is part of a bigger community, the Diocese of Northampton, and again part of a global community, the Catholic Church which is the Church on earth, part of an even bigger community, the entire Church of God, living and departed.

Please Pray for the Sick:

[illegible]

Anniversaries:

May they Rest in Peace

William Bayliss	Michael Graney
Christopher McLoughlin	Mary Costello
Agnes Brugger	Douglass Pereira
Angela Cywinski	Kenneth Barber
Sean McAdam	Anita Chadwick
Michael Dowling	May Robinson
Edmund Shanahan	Robert Webb
Maud Currid	Irmguard King
John Fitzgerald	Peter O'Farrell
Christopher Tydings	Noel Duffy
Ferdinand Libich	Arthur Eyles
Gerald Gardner	Frederick Coughlan
Michael Burke	James McInerney
Patrick Kelliher	Catherine Clarke
John O'Leary	Patrick Decourcy
Christopher Styles	Martha Doyle

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS **FOR AUGUST**

Let us pray that societies where coexistence seems more difficult might not succumb to the temptation of confrontation for ethnic, political, religious, or ideological.

**Prayer for Peace for Ukraine, the Holy Land
and all places of strife.**

Please continue to pray

for an end to wars,

and for all victims of war:

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.

Notices of Interest



We welcome into the family of the Church
Yohaán Job Devasta
who received Christian Baptism recently.
Please pray for him and his family.

Repository: The Repository is open after Sunday Masses for the sale of cards and religious goods. There is a small display of cards and items to commemorate Confirmation in September available at the Repository from this week. Any queries or volunteers please contact Kathleen on 01604 629103 or Kath.healey.789@gmail.com

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

Two Missals, of Great Sentimental Value, were left in the Church after the 9am Mass on 6th July. If anyone has seen them, please hand them in – there are items of great sentimental value inside them. Thank you!

Parishioners With Young Children: Please, please, do not allow your child to play with/throw around pamphlets/leaflets/booklets etc which are displayed either in the Narthex or the Foyer. They are not toys. Thank you!

Bl. Cyprian Tansi Prayer Group prays together online via Whatsapp & telephone on the 1st Saturday of the month, in the Hall: 10 am-12pm.

Ceili Dancing: There is no dancing for the month of August. Dancing starts again on Wednesday 3rd September at 7.30pm & continues every first & third Wednesday of the month in the Parish hall. All welcome.

News From the Office: I will be on holiday from 16th August until 31st August (I know, how dare I!). If you know you are going to need something, please try to come in or phone before 15th August. Many thanks. *Caryll*

Tots @ St Gregory's: We start again on Tuesday 9th September!! If you have care of a pre-school child on a Tuesday morning we would be delighted to welcome you. Looking forward to seeing you!

Church Cleaning: Helpers needed to clean the Church on last Sat. every month (next – 30th August), after morning Mass. All welcome, especially the younger, more energetic ones!

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Baptism Preparation: The next session will be in the Sacristy, 7pm, on Monday 1st September. Please note you will need to phone Deacon Michael on 07999808997 before you attend, to book a place.

First Holy Communion 2025/6: First Holy Communion 2026 Registration will be on Sunday 19th October after the 11.00 Mass. If you know that you cannot come on that date, there is an alternative after the 10.30 Mass at Sacred Heart, Weston Favell on Sunday 12th October. Whichever day you register, it is for the same course, and makes no difference to where First Holy Communion is received.

Confirmation in 2025: The Confirmation will be in the afternoon of Sunday September 7th 2025.

Choir Notes: next practices are from 11-12 on the 2nd Saturday of the month: Aug 9, Sep 13, Oct 11, Nov 8. *Alec*

Wonderful Singing at 11: In recent Sundays I have been aware of greater participation by the congregation. This was especially so last Sunday. For me, and the rest of the choir, it was a huge, spiritual, uplift. Perhaps we have entered a new phase of us all singing together in our praise of the Lord; long may that continue and develop. I appreciate feedback regarding choice of hymns etc. *Alec*

Cathedral Sale new and nearly new, clothes, toys and household goods. Saturday 16th August, 10.00 am - 1.00 pm and 7.00 - 8.00 pm and Sunday 17th August, 9:30-10:30 am, 12 noon – 2.00 pm and 6:15-7:15 pm. All proceeds to support the Cathedral Foodstore.

Supporting Your Parish: 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)**

Please remember that if you pay income tax, the Church can reclaim this on your giving, (£2.50 for every £10 given) and this is much simpler if you give by standing order.

Gregory Care: dates for your diary:-

20th September 11-3pm African Unity in Diversity Event.

15th November (time to be confirmed) Indian Unity in Diversity Event

On both days the host community will be sharing their culture through food and entertainment.

11th October Parish Quiz and Supper Evening.

28th February Table top Sale.

9 March St Gregory's Fun Day as part of Headlands celebration.

6th June Picnic in the Park.

We hope as many people as possible can join us at these events.

Year of Pilgrimage, Pilgrims of Hope.

We are delighted to be-able to sponsor Smitha Robin on a Pilgrimage to Lourdes, working as a nurse on the Across bus, representing Gregory Care. *Across* is a charity created specifically to provide transport and support to enable those with special care needs to go on pilgrimages to Lourdes.

As part of this pilgrimage Smitha will be taking petitions and intentions of this Parish with her. We will soon have a box in Church for any petitions you would like praying for.

Please keep Smitha and her two teenage children (who are also making the pilgrimage as helpers) in your prayers.

Refreshment Donations: Below is the schedule for refreshment donations through the year:

From the first Sunday in Advent
to the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord: The Hope Centre

From the Second Sunday in ordinary time
to the last Sunday before Ash Wednesday: Gregory Care

Through Lent and Eastertide: CAFOD

Ordinary Time until the end of August: Refreshment Fund

September until the Harvest collection: CAFOD

After harvest until the beginning of Advent: The Bible Society

Alpha in the Autumn 2025 — Dates and Subjects

First session:	September 16 th	Is there more to life than this?	Alpha is a basic introduction to faith in God, in Jesus and the Holy Spirit. It is not a complete teaching scheme for the entire Christian faith. We need to recruit more helpers; if you are able to help in any way, please contact Daniel Davighi or speak to Fr Andrew. For more information and to book please see: https://stgregory.org.uk/alpha
Second Session	September 23 rd	Who is Jesus?	
Third Session	October 7 th	Why did Jesus die?	
Fourth Session	October 14 th	How can I have faith?	
Fifth Session	October 21 st	Why and how do I pray?	
Sixth Session:	November 4 th	Why and how should I read the Bible?	
Seventh Session	November 11 th	How does God guide us?	
Eighth Session	November 18 th	Does God heal today?	
Alpha Away-Day	November 22 nd (Saturday)	Who is The Holy Spirit?	
Ninth Session	November 25 th	How can I resist evil?	
Tenth Session	December 2 nd	Why and how should I tell others?	
Eleventh Session	December 3 rd	What about the Church?	

Scripture Readings: 19th Sunday of the Year, 10th August 2025

The Wisdom of Solomon was the last book of the Old Testament to be written. It was written in Greek, not Hebrew, so only in the Septuagint* and therefore not in the Protestant Bible. The final chapters meditate on the Exodus, contrasting the woes visited on the Egyptians at the first Passover with the gifts given by God to the Israelites.

The Psalm celebrates God's faithfulness, power and wisdom, justifying our confidence in him.

The 2nd readings in August from Hebrews describe faith, which gives assurance to our hopes. Abraham is the prime example of a man of faith: he obeyed God's command to go to a new land; he believed God's promise that he and Sarah would have a child in their old age; and he passed the supreme test of faith when God asked

him to sacrifice his only son, Isaac. God's last minute reprieve for Isaac is seen as a return from the dead.

In Luke's Gospel, following the parable we heard last week about the rich man building a bigger barn, Jesus assures us that we will be given all the resources we need to meet the Lord's demands. He then urges us to have faith and to be prepared.

Psalm Response: **Blessed the people
the Lord has chosen as his heritage.**

(Wis 18:6-9; Ps 32(33):1-22; Heb 11:1-2, 8-19; Lk 12:32-48)

Chris Oliver

Please pray for the soul of Chris Oliver who died on 22nd June. May he rest in peace and may God reward him for all the good he has done.

Coming Up

Anniversary of the Consecration of the Church and the Feast of St Gregory
Sunday 31st August
Anniversary of the Consecration of the Church
Mass at 9.00 and 11.00 am

Wednesday 3rd September
Feast of St Gregory
Mass at 9.00 am and 7.00 pm

Sunday 7th September
Bishop's Visitation
Mass at 9.00 and 11.00 am
Confirmation Mass at 3.00 pm

Tuesday 30th September
"Vale et Salve"
(Farewell and Welcome)
Farewell to Fr Andrew; welcome to Fr Christopher
Mass at 7.00 pm

The Septuagint is the Greek version of the Old Testament, translated in Egypt in the 3rd and 2nd centuries before Christ. However it contains some books and portions of books which are not in the Hebrew texts accepted by Jewish Rabbis. The Catholic and Orthodox Churches do accept them, but Protestants generally do not, which

Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Mother of Christ



The Congregation of the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Mother of Christ is a feminine Institute of Pontifical Right under the Jurisdiction of the Holy See. It was founded in Onitsha Nigeria on the 7th of October 1937 by an Irish Missionary of the Holy Ghost Congregation his grace Archbishop Charles Heerey, CSSp of a blessed memory 1890 -1967. The Congregation was founded for the greater glory of God, the sanctification of its members and services to the people of God especially the poor and the less privileged , women and children through works of apostolate in schools, hospitals, nursing homes, pastoral services, and other works of charity according to the needs of the Church and the signs of times in the Spirit of Humility and the Charism of Compassion.

Faithful to our Charism and Spirit we have served the people of God in all parts of Nigeria and others following countries of Africa: Ghana, Kenya, Sierra Leone, Chad, Cameroun, Tanzania, Benin Republic and some countries of Europe: Italy, Germany, United Kingdom, Ireland and in the United States America and Canada.

In keeping with the needs of the Church and the Signs of Times, we have been engaged in different works of charity and compassion especially among the poor and the less privileged of the societies where we live and work. We have developed diverse ways of reaching out to them through: our Health Care Services, Schools especially in remote and rural areas, Pastoral Care in every dimension, Care of the Vulnerable, Scholarship Programmes and Infrastructures.

On the 8th of September 2019, The Philanthropic Development Office of the sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Mother of Christ was opened in Birmingham United Kingdom. Philanthropy is all about serving and giving with joy. It is a system of appreciation of God's love, generosity and gifts to His children on the part of the giver and the receiver. The opening event was begun with the celebration of the Holy Mass. Within the celebration of the Holy Mass all the governing and advisory board members too their oats of office. Immediately after the Holy Mass was the official blessing and the opening of the Philanthropic Development Office. This was followed by the launching of each of the different advocacies in collaboration with the Spring Rain Global Corporation. Indeed the following advocacies were launched:

- FORMATION AND SCHOLARSHIP
- COMMUNITY HEALTH DEVELOPMENT
- CARE OF THE VULNERABLE, DISABLED, ELDERLY AND HIV/AIDS PATIENTS
- HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
- PASTORAL CARE IN HEALTH
- PHYSICAL STRUCTURES AND EQUIPMENT UPGRADING.

All of the above and more are effective ways of reaching out to the poor and the less privileged of our societies. It is really a call to service and to reach out to others with joy. As indeed there is great joy in serving, giving and sharing.

From: <https://caringaid.org/charity/aboutus.php>