



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

Jesus continues teaching

Luke did not hear the teaching of Jesus himself, but it is clear that the disciples remembered at least much of what he had taught them, and when the Gospels started to be written down these were recorded, but sometimes the context in which the particular teachings were given might have been forgotten.

Luke places parts of Jesus' teaching in the context of the journey to Jerusalem; so last Sunday we heard how he taught the disciples about missionary activity by giving them the experience of being sent out in pairs to proclaim a message of peace and the coming of the Kingdom of God. This was important for Luke, as he was a companion of Paul in his missionary travels, and is important for us too as we are called to be missionary disciples and this to be a missionary parish.

Today the key teaching is about love of God and of neighbour, with emphasis on recognising who one's neighbour is. The method of teaching in this instance is by a parable; a memorable story with a deep meaning. This was important for Luke as a doctor who would have taken the 'Hippocratic Oath' including the words: "Into whatsoever houses I enter, I will enter to help the sick, and I will abstain from all intentional wrong-doing and harm, especially from abusing the bodies of man or woman, bond or free."

The following week the disciples (and we too) are taught of the importance of spending time with Jesus; in prayer, in sacred study, in worship and in avoiding being a slave to housework. Luke had a great interest in prayer and tells us more about the prayer life of Jesus than any other evangelist.

The theme of prayer continues into the following week, when we hear Jesus teaching us the 'Our Father', and hear of the importance of telling God of our needs. We know that prayer was important to the Church in the early days through, for example, the time between the Ascension of Jesus and the coming of the Holy Spirit, (*see Acts 1:14*) or when Peter was arrested and thrown into prison, the community were praying (*see Acts 12:3-19*), or Paul's final departure from Ephesus. (*see Acts 20:36-38*)

The week after that we will hear another parable warning us against putting our trust in material possessions. As the weeks of the summer pass by, it is not only the disciples that Jesus is teaching; as we hear his words, he is also teaching us, and Luke's understanding and experience of living a missionary life is revealed in the way in which he frames the teaching of Jesus on this journey. The events of the journey rather than the places on the way form the framework for the way in which Jesus is forming the disciples for the task that he will give them after the crucial events that will take place in Jerusalem. They are not just heading for the place of the Passion; they are heading for the launch-pad of the mission to which they are called.

However, this week we are particularly invited to go deeper into the theme of prayer, as on Friday and Saturday we have our annual 40 Hours of prayer and adoration.

Next Sunday we will be reminded of the importance of listening to Jesus, as Mary (sister of Martha) did. The opportunity of the continuous Adoration should not be missed - to get away from the kitchen sink, to put down the vacuum cleaner, to leave the ironing, to turn off the television and to spend time with Jesus.

Prayer is not just talking to Jesus; it must also be listening to him. Listening to him in the Scriptures, and particularly in the New Testament and listening to him in the silence of our hearts.

In two weeks' time we will hear Jesus teaching us to pray in the familiar words of the 'Our Father'. This prayer begins with a word of adoration: 'hallowed be thy name'. The name of Jesus is our means of addressing him directly and in our prayer it is to him that our hearts must turn. The 'Litany of the Holy Name of Jesus' is a good prayer to say at the beginning of our time of adoration.

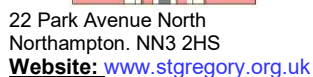
'Thy kingdom come' begins our petitionary prayer, and it begins with God, not ourselves. The kingdoms of this world seem far from the ideals of the kingdom of God. A kingdom that seeks its own greatness is set on a different trajectory, and a kingdom that seeks to oppress its neighbours is working in opposition to God's kingdom. Our prayer is for a world in which the political leadership of all nations is in tune with the divine will of justice, love and peace.

Our prayer can become very abstract - that a distant 'they' will change, or will do better, or be replaced by a different 'they', but here we can take time to listen the Holy Spirit in our hearts, and ask for guidance: 'what do you want **me** to do to advance the Kingdom of God'.

The prayer continues in petitionary form, but in the plural: 'give us, each day, our daily bread'. We are reminded in this of the giving of manna in the wilderness, where there was enough for each day given each day (except on the day before the Sabbath when two days was given, but none on the Sabbath itself). (*see Exodus 16:1-8*)

'Give **us**': not 'give me'. Our prayer is not that I will have what I need, but that all people will have what they need. The 'Good Samaritan' reminds us that love of neighbour has no end. Again, time to ask for guidance. What can I do to help my neighbour?

The prayer ends with a request for forgiveness, and when we have understood what we could be doing to further God's Kingdom, and what we could be doing to support our neighbours, this may be a time for repentance that we have not already been doing it! There is a catch here, for we are only asking for as much forgiveness for ourselves as we are prepared to give to others!



13th July 2025
Fifteenth Sunday of the Year
CTS New Sunday Missal - Year C
Page 1020

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

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

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

Safeguarding representative
Carol McNeil ☎ 07906802615

Sunday <i>15th Sunday Of the Year</i>	9.00 am 11.00 am 4.30 pm	Mass Mass Mass (Syro Malabar Rite)	Theresa Hope Conduah RIP The Parish
Monday Feria	9.00 am	Mass	Mary McLoughlan RIP
Tuesday St. Bonaventure	9.00 am	Mass	Rita Barry's Intentions
Wednesday Feria	9.00 am	Mass	Violette Caillebotte RIP
Thursday Feria	9.00-11.00 7.00 pm	Holy Hours of Adoration Mass	Anna MMA
Friday Feria	7.00 am 9.00 am	Mass Mass	<i>Start of 40 Hours Devotion</i> Marie Azedo's Intentions
Saturday Feria	9.00 am 10 pm	Mass Mass	Kathy Clarke's Intentions <i>End of 40 Hours Devotion</i>
Sunday <i>16th Sunday Of the Year</i>	9.00 am 11.00 am 4.30 pm	Mass Mass Mass (Syro Malabar Rite)	Thanksgiving The Parish

Your Offering to the Parish:

Last Week Was £347.25. Thank you!

Standing Order gifts to the Parish: Each week £557 is given through standing orders.

Donations through the Diocese: An average of £75 is given each week.

Gift Aid benefits to the parish: The value of Gift Aid averages £171 per week.

Second Collection This Week:

Stella Maris (Sea Sunday)

Cleaners This Week: The Church is cleaned & sanitised on a regular basis.

Counters this Week:

CC & LA.

Readings for this Sunday: — see inside for details

Deuteronomy 30: 10-14: *The word is very near you, so that you can do it.*

Colossians 1: 15-20: *All things were created through him and for him.*

Luke 10: 25-37: *Who is my neighbour?*

Readings for next Sunday (CTS New Sunday Missal Page 1025)

Genesis 18: 1-10a; Colossians 1: 24-28; Luke 10: 38-42.

During This Season of

Human Life; Seafarers;

Ordinary Time, Summer, We

Victims of Persecution or oppression:

We Are Asked to Pray For:

Europe; Christian/Jewish Relations; The Environment.

From Friday 7.00 am to Saturday 11.00 pm



Please Pray for the Sick:

[illegible]

Anniversaries:

May they Rest in Peace

Ronald Jeffrey	Rachel Leith
Sylvia Creasey	Mary McKay
William Nolan	George Bradley
Doris Bonnett	Patrick Cotton
Ann Kiely	Mabel Keohane
Patricia Rumball	Richard Fitzgerald
Michael Hart	Ronald Howells
Joseph Browne	Sydney Harrold
Ginevra McConnichie	Violette Caillebotte
Tony Bull	Ronald Hawtin
Alfred Bosworth	Helen Slinn
Maureen Routhorn	Antonio Di Ieso
Margaret Stevenson	Mary Cramphorn
Mary Petrella	Eileen Mannion
Theodosia Dix	Lawrence Leonard
John MacKay	

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR JULY

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

**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
 Ryana Veridiana Maresi
 who received Christian Baptism recently.
 Please pray for her and her family.

Repository: The Repository is open after Sunday Masses for the sale of cards and religious goods. The date of the publication of the new Weekday Missal has been seriously delayed. The new date I have been given is September 27th. The reason for the delay has not been fully explained. Further news when I get it. Any queries or volunteers please contact Kathleen on 01604 629103 or Kath.healey.789@gmail.com

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

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!

Tots @ St Gregory's: We are holding our last session this year in Abington park (near the cafe) from 9:30.

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!

Pilgrimage to Walsingham: Reparation & Prayer for the Sanctity of Life Sat. 2nd August. Coach departs from Cathedral at 7.15am prompt. £25 Adults, £15 children & unwaged. Bring packed lunch & drinks. To book call Bernadette 07488261065. More info: www.prolifepilgrimage.org

Church Cleaning: Helpers needed to clean the Church on last Sat. every month (next – 26th July), 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 29th July. 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.

Notre Dame High School 50th Anniversary Mass at Northampton Cathedral to mark the closure of Notre Dame High School - celebrated by Canon Dr Brendan Killeen, and with the Choir of St Thomas Becket School is at Noon on Saturday July 19th. There will be a Reception afterwards for Past Pupils in The St Thomas Centre. Please contact Cathy Chaplin on 07802913124 or cathychaplin@hotmail.co.uk for more details if you'd like to attend the Reception. Thank you. We hope the Mass will be live streamed.

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

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

Invitation to Sing: You are invited to join members of the choir and music team in singing for the residents at Nazareth House. A Summer Songs of Praise will take place on Thursday 17th July at 2.30pm. Please let Alec or Ro on the organ bench if you would like to come along and share the joy! We can offer lifts there!

Missio Matters: The Summer edition of "Mission Today" is available in the usual place as you enter church through the main doors. Envelopes have names on & are in alphabetical order. Please collect your copy to save it having to be delivered by hand. There are over a million priests & religious sisters working through Missio to spread & develop the Gospel message; you can read where and how in the magazine. New supporters welcome. Any issues speak to Dorothy (9am Mass) or Alec (11am).

Your help needed: The organisers of the event in Abington Park on 27th July are collecting small clear plastic pots with lids, e.g. Humus pots for the Christians Together Cherishing Creation event. Please can you leave them on the table at the back of the church for collection. To find out how they are to be used, you will need to come to the event. Many thanks for your kindness.

Christians Together Cherishing Creation: Everyone is invited to the event in Abington Park on Sun 27th July, from 2 to 4pm. Over the past few years people from St Gregory's have worked together with people from Abington Avenue URC, St Peter's Weston Favell, the Quaker community & other Christian congregations to encourage care for God's creation. Please support this event.

Women of Hope: A Special Diocesan Gathering: The Women in Ministry group in the Diocese of Northampton are running a special event on Sat 19th July 2025 at St Mary's Woburn Sands from 11am-4pm. Sign-up using the link:

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/northamptondiocese/1600230>

Or contact Helen Burgess helen.burgess@northamptondiocese.org

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.

40 Hours of Prayer - "Quarant' Ore": This will start with Mass at 7am this Friday & continue until Mass at 10pm Sat 19th. There will be a sign-up sheet, and groups wishing to lead particular times are invited to participate. This is an important part of the prayer-life of the parish, & over the course of the 40 hours, it is hoped that everyone will find just one hour to be with the Lord.

Gregory Care: Forthcoming events for your diary:

20th September African Unity in Diversity Event. We are looking for someone to help organise this day, so if you are African and would like to showcase your culture please get in touch with us.

15th November Indian Unity in Diversity Event.

Our first Event hosted by our Romanian and Polish communities was a great success and has set a very high bar which was matched by the Irish event (not that it's a competition!)

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

Scripture Readings: 15th Sunday of the Year, 13th July 2025

The book of Deuteronomy, the “second law”, evolved over many centuries. It restates the Jewish Law and the covenant God made with Abraham. Our reading starts with an imperative, but this follows "if": "you will prosper if" you choose to follow God's law. And God's Law is not difficult to find: it is “in your mouth and in your heart”. Put the covenant into practice, and so choose life, not death.

The Psalm implores God to save him from unmerited suffering. The reference in an omitted verse to "vinegar to drink" and the expectation that "God will save Zion" led Christians to think of Messiah – Christ.

In this beautiful hymn from Colossians Paul spells out the awesome reality of Christ: “Christ Jesus is the image of the invisible God”.

We know God through Jesus. Jesus is fully human in the way God intended all humanity to be, and so He shows us the way to God.

Jesus has rejoiced and given thanks with the 70 disciples for their successful mission. He then responds to a sincere questioner by updating the Jewish Law to what was originally intended. Everyone is our neighbour. The priest and the Levite were more concerned with ritual purity than with love.

Psalm Response: **Seek God, you who are poor, and your hearts will revive.**

(Deut 30:10-14; Ps 68(69):14-37; Col 1:15-20; Lk 10:25-37)

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.

A new reason to sign up to CASPAR

A new priest coming to a parish is at a great disadvantage. The people of the parish have only one new person to remember, but the new priest has hundreds. It is, in fact, a feat beyond the capability of most people to remember that number, and since the advent of the Data Protection regulations, parish databases can only be held according to strict principles. The list from CASPAR is the only address book for the parish that can be passed on to the new priest without the specific permission of each person!

If you have not already, please register as soon as you can, and include your home address, telephone number and email address in the ‘About You’ tab and ask for the newsletter in the ‘Your Church’ tab. It is helpful if you can indicate which Mass you normally attend.

www.caspar.church/me?ID=56067

You will need internet access for a security code which will be sent to you by email. (Check junk/spam and set CASPAR not to be treated as spam.)

From the Vatican message for Sea Sunday

We want to recognize seafarers - as the Jubilee 2025 motto calls us all - ‘pilgrims of hope’. Whether consciously or not, they embody the desire of every human being, of whatever people or religious faith, to live a life of dignity, through work, exchange, encounters. They do not stand still: they have had the need and the audacity to set out, like so many men and women Sacred Scripture recounts. People who travel within the journey of life. ‘Hope’ is the word that must always remind us of our goal: we are not wanderers without a destiny, but daughters and sons whose dignity no one and nothing can ever erase. We are consequently brothers and sisters. We come from the same home, and we are returning to the same home: a homeland without borders or customs, where there are no privileges that divide and no injustices that wound. Because this awareness is firm, indestructible, we can hope.

May Mary, Star of the Sea, guide and enlighten our hope.

Card. M. Czerny, S.J.

(Prefect of the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development)

Timetable for 40 Hours Adoration

Friday 18 th July 2025	
7.00 am	Opening Mass
8.00 am	Morning Prayer
9.00 am	Parish Mass – Adoration continues after Mass
10.00 am	
11.00 am	
12 noon	
1.00 pm	
2.00 pm	
3.00 pm	Divine Mercy – led by Cyprian Tansi prayer group
4.00 pm	Cyprian Tansi Prayer Group
5.00 pm	
6.00 pm	Evening Prayer
7.00 pm	
8.00 pm	
9.00 pm	Night Prayer
10.00 pm	Jesus Youth
11.00 pm	Jesus Youth
Midnight	Jesus Youth

Saturday 19 th July 2025	
1.00 am	Jesus Youth
2.00 am	Jesus Youth
3.00 am	Jesus Youth
4.00 am	Jesus Youth
5.00 am	Jesus Youth
6.00 am	Jesus Youth
7.00 am	
8.00 am	Morning :Prayer
9.00 am	Parish Mass – Adoration continues after Mass
10.00 am	Prayer and Praise led by Alex Heath
11.00 am	Childrens’ Hour
12 noon	
1.00 pm	
2.00 pm	
3.00 pm	Divine Mercy – led by Cyprian Tansi prayer group
4.00 pm	Cyprian Tansi Prayer Group
5.00 pm	
6.00 pm	Evening Prayer
7.00 pm	
8.00 pm	
9.00 pm	Jesus Youth
10.00 pm	Closing Mass followed by Night Prayer
11.00 pm	40 Hours completed.

Jubilee 2025: The new global debt crisis

Thank you to everyone who signed the CAFOD petition to end the debt crisis last week. We hope and pray for a more just and equitable system of world finance. Keep praying.