



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

Ad multos annos!



In English this Latin acclamation means **“For many more years”** and it is commonly sung at great celebrations. It could therefore have been sung on Monday and Tuesday of last week as with joy we commemorated the 175th Anniversary of the Restoration of the Catholic Hierarchy of

England and Wales (on 29th September, see the back page for more details) and after the Mass of Induction for **Canon Christopher Perry** as our new Parish Priest. Naturally on both occasions there was a sense of looking forward “For many more years” to come, and rightly of looking back to the past and to what has brought us this point in time. Therefore, we rightly give thanks to Almighty God for the wonderful ministry of **Fr Andrew** to our parish over more than two decades, and we recognise the great contribution made to our parish by Carol and their family.

Over the coming days and weeks, we shall come to learn more about Fr Christopher, including, how a boy from Croydon came to call Cornwall his home during the most formative period of his life! We shall also have an opportunity to meet **Fr Wayne Coughlin**, our Priest in Residence, for whom Wales is the place he still calls home, even though he has spent a large part of his life and ministry in England.

Fr Christopher and Fr Wayne have known each other since their time studying theology at the University of Leeds, where they then lived alongside a Benedictine community. In addition, they studied for the Sacred Priesthood at The Royal and Pontifical College of St Alban (Spain) and at St Mary’s College (Oscott) and most recently they ministered together in the Corby parishes of Our Lady of Walsingham and St John Ogivile; where they founded **“The Confraternity of the Holy House”** – expect to hear more about this!

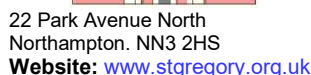


Fr Christopher and Fr Simon Penhalagan (the Dean of our Cathedral) after their Installation as Canons; an occasion to sing “Ad multos annos”!

We have yet another reason to celebrate and that is the recent news that Pope Leo XIV will declare **St John Henry Newman** a Doctor of the Church on 1st November. On Thursday we celebrate the Feast Day of this saint and therefore at 6:45pm we shall offer a chaplet in thanksgiving (all will be explained).



Ad multos annos! / For many more years!



CTS New Sunday Missal - Year C
Page 1069

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

Please Pray for the Sick:

Sunday <i>27th Sunday Of the Year</i>	9.00 am 11.00 am 4.30 pm	Mass Mass Mass (Syro Malabar Rite)	Eric Hasdell RIP The Parish
Monday Feria	9.00 am	Mass	Wilkinson (Fdtm)
Tuesday Our Lady of the Rosary	9.00 am 7.00 pm	Mass Mass	Thomas
Wednesday Feria	9.00 am	Mass	Mary Rumsey & Family
Thursday St. John Henry Newman	9.00-11.00 7.00 pm	Holy Hours of Adoration Mass	Redmond Family
Friday Feria	9.00 am	Mass	Middleton (Fdtm)
Saturday Feria	9.00 am	Mass	Janet Hayes & Family
Sunday <i>28th Sunday Of the Year</i>	9.00 am 11.00 am 5.30 pm	Mass Mass Mass (Syro-Malabar Rite)	The Parish Roseanne Ogbata & Family

Last Week Was £419.41. Thank you!

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

An average of £75 is given each week.

Evangelii Gaudium £254.08. Thank you!

CAFOD: Harvest.

The value of Gift Aid averages £171 per week.

The Church is cleaned & sanitised on a regular basis.

CC & LA.

Readings for this Sunday:

The righteous shall live by his faith.

Do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord.

If you had faith.

Readings for next Sunday (CTS New Sunday Missal Page 1072)

2 Kings 5: 14-17; 2 Timothy 2: 8-13; Luke 17: 11-19.

Teachers & Pupils; The Harvest;

The Spread of the Gospel; Victims of War;

Prisoners & Their Families; Children & Young People.

CAFOD Harvest Fast Day and Collection

Waré is a mother of five and a goat farmer living in southern Ethiopia, where four years of severe drought meant she had to get up at 5am every day and walk at least five hours to find water - even whilst pregnant. Waré spoke about feeling so weak, she was worried that her children would be left without a mother.

"We have lost so much", Waré told us.

But there is a happy ending. With your gifts at Family Fast Day, CAFOD worked to help Waré and her community build an underground water storage tank, able to support 300 families. Now, Waré has water just a 10 minute walk from her home.

Our parish's support this Family Fast Day will mean that more of our neighbours can get safe water for their families.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR OCTOBER

Let us pray that believers in different religious traditions might work together to defend and promote peace, justice and human fraternity.

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
Christina Kitty Connors,
Chizara Jolene Ugboaja,
Chizero Jenelle Ugboaja
And Chezet Etum Ugboaja
who received Christian Baptism recently.
Please pray for them and their families.

Repository: The Repository is open after Sunday Masses for the sale of cards and religious goods. Weekday Missals are now available @ £55. Due to the price I will be ordering by request, so if you want one please contact me at the Repository or the email below. Any queries or volunteers please contact Kathleen on 01604 629103 or Kath.healey.789@gmail.com

Bible Alive: The November/December issue is now available in the Narthex. The two-month edition is priced at £6. Extremely good value! Please put money into the 'Books & Papers' box in the narthex wall.

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!

Church Cleaning: Helpers needed to clean the Church on last Sat. every month (next – 25th October), after morning Mass. All welcome, especially the younger, more energetic ones!

Parking: Our car-park is small, & many have to park on the road. We are in a residential district, & our neighbours also like to park. Please be considerate, & remember that there are laws regarding where you may park. It is illegal to block a drive to a house where there is a dropped kerb or where a white line is painted indicating the needs of a disabled driver. It is also illegal to park at a road junction. There is usually space on Wellingborough Road at the side of Abington Park opposite the bottom of Lime Avenue.

Marriage support: Does your relationship need some TLC? Need help with deeper issues? The next programme starts on 17th October www.retrouvaille.org.uk Tel: 07887 296 983

Tots @ St Gregory's: 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!

Ceili Dancing: Dancing continues every first & third Wednesday of the month in the Parish hall. All welcome.

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

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

Season of Creation Event: Sunday 28th September; 6.00 pm,
Mount Pleasant Baptist Church

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION:

Baptism Preparation: The next session will be in the Sacristy, 7pm, on Monday 13th October. 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 11am 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 2026: Confirmation details for 2026 will appear here in due course.

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:-

Saturday 11th October Parish Quiz and Supper Evening. 7.00 pm
Tickets are available this week. — Light Supper Bring your own drinks. Teams of 6 people per table. Get a team together and join us for some fun and "healthy" competition! £7:50 per person in aid of Gregory Care.
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.

28th February Table top Sale.

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

6h June Picnic in the Park.

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

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

Third Session	October 7 th	Why did Jesus die?	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. 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
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?	

Let's get *inviting.* 
alpha.org.uk/promote

Scripture Readings: 27th Sunday of the Year, 5th October

From Scott Hahn: Because of his faith, the just man shall live. We hear in today's First Reading the original prophetic line made so central by St. Paul (see Romans 1:17; Galatians 3:11; Hebrews 10:38). We are to live by faith in Christ who loved us and gave Himself on the Cross for us (see Galatians 2:20).

The world, though, can seem to us as seventh-century Judah seemed to Habakkuk—in the control of God's enemies. The strife and discord we face in our own lives can sometimes cause us to wonder, as the prophet does, why God doesn't seem to hear or intervene when we cry for help. We can't let our hearts be hardened by the trials we undergo. As today's Psalm reminds us: Israel forgot His mighty works, lost faith in the sound words of His promise. They tested God in the desert, demanding a sign.

But God didn't redeem Israel from Egypt only to let them die in the desert. And He didn't ransom us from futility only to abandon us in our trials. He is our God and we are the people He shepherds always—though at times His mercy and justice seem long delayed.

My dear brothers and sisters,

Monday, 29 September, is an important birthday. It is the birthday of our Diocese of Westminster, established on that day 175 years ago. The first Archbishop of Westminster, Nicholas Wiseman, was appointed by Pope Pius IX on 29 September 1850 and created a Cardinal the very next day. He served as our Archbishop until his death in 1865 and is now buried in our Cathedral.

So today and tomorrow we may rightly celebrate the Catholic life of this great Diocese, in the spirit of the words of St Paul we have just heard: 'Fight the good fight of the faith, take hold of the eternal life to which you were called' (1 Timothy 6:12). To mark this moment, I have asked Fr Nicholas Schofield, the Diocesan Archivist, to prepare a brief history of the Diocese, and this is readily available for you.

There are two dimensions I would like to suggest for these moments of celebration. They are, of course, centred on the grace of God and the immensity of God's goodness to us, His people. This grace works according to God's intentions, and not our own, and in ways that ebb and flow within the patterns of our own history and personalities.

Our Diocese in 1850 was not the Diocese of today. Catholic life was slowly emerging from centuries of opposition and suppression. Only gradually did we regain a recognised place in public and political life. Since then, circumstances, economic conditions, and provisions of public services such as education and health have changed beyond recognition. The violence of wars and international conflicts has taken its heavy toll. Throughout it all, our mission has survived and been fruitful. Parish life has been established, giving stability in neighbourhoods, schools have been founded and give witness to our faith, failures and problems have been faced, and we have played our part in public life and communal effort. There are so many ways in which we can be proud of those who have gone before us and handed on to us this great inheritance. Our duty is to hand it on to the next generations, better tuned to contemporary circumstances, responding to today's challenges and strengthened as ever by the bounteous grace of God. For the enduring resilience and responsiveness of so many in our past, and of so many today, we give great thanks to our loving God and Father.

Then there is a second reason for our gratitude to God on this birthday of our Diocesan family. While the offer of salvation and eternal happiness given in our Blessed Lord does not change, the manner of its proclamation, the ways in which it enters our lives,

If we call on the Lord, as the Apostles do in today's Gospel, He will increase our faith, will stir to a flame the Holy Spirit who has dwelt within us since Baptism.

As Paul tells us in today's Epistle, the Lord will always give us the love and self-control we need to bear our share of hardship for the Gospel - with a strength that can come from God alone. Our task is to continue doing what He has commanded—to love and to build up His kingdom - trusting that His vision still presses on to its fulfilment. For His vision still has its time. One day, though we are but "unprofitable servants," we will be invited to eat and drink at our Master's table. It is that day we anticipate with each celebration of the Eucharist.

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

Habakkuk 1:2–3; 2:2–4 / Psalm 95:1–2, 6–9 / 2 Timothy 1:6–8, 13–14 / Luke 17:5–10

and bears fruit change greatly. The gift of faith knows no boundaries of nationality, culture, identity, or race. Today, in our parishes, there are wonderful Catholics who have come from very many different countries. Our parish congregations have a variety of colours and customs that reflect the streets of our cities today. What binds us together, of course, is not our taste in food, nor in music, nor in pathways of piety or devotion. Rather, it is what lies at the heart of our faith: our intimate and shared love for Jesus, the Christ. He is the one who, in His life, death, and resurrection, gives joy to our days, forgiveness for our darkness, and hope for eternal life when our pilgrimage here is done. The gift of this faith finds a home in the people of every land. Their traditions, rich and varied, enliven and deepen the life of the Church in our Diocese. Together we stand before our Blessed Lord, welcoming one another, being formed into one body in Him, a visible demonstration of the universality of the Church which our forebears could never have imagined.

The appointment of Cardinal Wiseman as the first Archbishop of this Diocese of Westminster came as part of what is known as the '**restoration of the hierarchy in England and Wales**'. This re-established in these lands a succession of bishops appointed by Rome. Today, we gladly thank God for the great gifts of ministry of the Archbishops who have served this Diocese. Together with the clergy, with countless religious sisters, with lay leaders, they have guided our Church through so many difficult times and challenges, often with courage and at great personal cost. We know, of course, that Archbishops come and go. We know that God always provides, through the Church, for their succession and, even more importantly, for the fidelity of the Church through its holy people.

May God continue to bless our Diocese, the God who, in the words of St Paul, 'is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see. To him be honour and eternal dominion' (1 Timothy 6:15-16). May God continue to bless our Diocese. May the Archangels Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, our patron saints, our Blessed Lady, St Joseph, St Peter, St Edward the Confessor together with all the saints closely linked to us, including St John Southworth, St John Henry Newman and St Carlo Acutis, pray for us on this anniversary, encouraging us always to greater faithfulness and joy in the Lord.

May God bless you all.

Yours devotedly, **Cardinal Vincent Nichols**
Archbishop of Westminster