

The Northampton Circle of the Catenian Association

The Catenian Association started in The UK just over 100 years ago in 1908 and has spread to several other countries including Ireland, Australia, India, Malta, South Africa, Zimbabwe and The Holy Land.

The Association is organised into groups known as Circles of Catholic men who meet monthly across the country. It currently has about ten thousand members. The Association provides an opportunity for Catholic men to meet socially and to provide support for members and their families.



Northampton Catenian Circle was set up on 12th November 1918 and now covers all the parishes of Northampton, Wellingborough, Kettering and Daventry. One of the most important aims of the



Catenians is to strengthen family life through friendship and faith within our parishes and communities. We meet once a month to pray and discuss Circle matters as well as join each other in a meal afterwards. At least five times a year we are joined for the meal by our wives, friends, and the widows of our past members. During the year we organise occasional masses and events. Our social calendar is aimed at including as many family members and friends from the parishes as possible. Where possible, these events are advertised in our Parish newsletters prior to them taking place.



Our annual events include a formal meal with our clergy and religious, usually attended by the Bishop of Northampton; a Charity Gala Dinner and Dance to celebrate St. George's Day, to which The Mayor of Northampton is invited; a lunch for the incoming



Circle President; Masses followed by a fish and chip supper; a gourmet meal at Northampton College; golf tournaments and other visits and events such as trips, and theatre or cinema visits, which are decided annually. These events are all organised by the Social Committee. 2020 was obviously an unusual year, but the Circle maintained its programme of meetings by moving them on-line, and we also held two quizzes, a Bake-off event on-line and a socially distanced picnic in August.



In normal times we meet monthly at the Marriott Hotel, Eagle Drive, Northampton on the fourth Thursday of each month.

Although we are mainly a social organisation, we support charities, and over the past few years have supported a

diverse range of local, national and international charities, such as CAFOD, The Apostleship of the Sea, The Daventry Street Pastors, Nazareth House, The Bedfordshire and Northamptonshire MS Therapy Centre, The Hope Centre, The Karuri School Project in Kenya, Northampton Sailability and Action for Pulmonary Fibrosis. We have also contributed towards providing Rosaries for Zimbabwe. Through the Catenian Bursary Fund, we have assisted young people to attend Lourdes Pilgrimages as helpers.



We also look to be active in our parishes, supporting various committees and through taking on roles such as Readers and Eucharistic Ministers. If you would like to become involved with the Northampton Catenians, we will be pleased to invite you to one of our meetings so that you can see more of what we do and to meet other members. Should you wish to consider this offer, please contact our Secretary –

Gareth Davies at secretary.northamptonca35@gmail.com . He would like to hear from you.

Further details on the Catenian Association can be found at: <https://www.thecatenians.com>