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Email: [parish@stedwardskettering.org.uk](mailto:parish@stedwardskettering.org.uk)

Parish Priest: Fr. Gregory Marchwiński

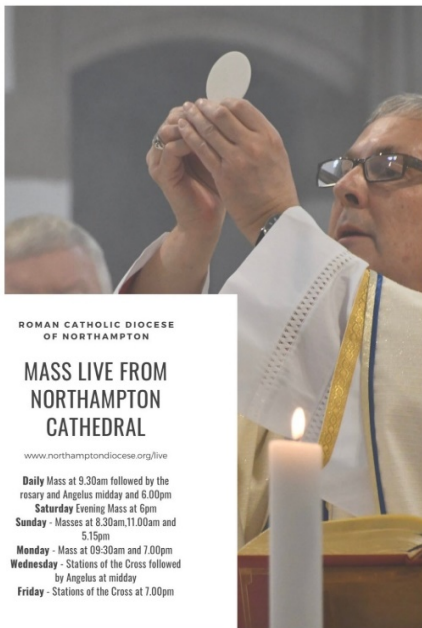
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Third Sunday of Advent

13th December, 2020

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## SPIRITUAL COMMUNION



Please join us in saying a **Spiritual Communion** at:

<http://www.stedwardskettering.org.uk/when-mcannot-be-celebrated-publicly-making-a-spiritual-communion/>

Or visit live streaming broadcasts of Mass from Northampton Cathedral at

<https://northamptondiocese.org/live/>

Alternative Masses, adoration, prayer, etc. can be found at:

<https://www.churchservices.tv/timetable/>

Sunday or Daily Readings:

<http://www.stedwardskettering.org.uk/spirituality/sunday-and-daily-readings/>

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Keep an eye on the Vatican News channel for live streaming of events.

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en.html>

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## **Pre-Booked Masses are Scheduled for the Following Times**

**Tuesday mornings at 10am**

**Friday evenings at 7pm**

**Saturday Vigil at 6.30pm**

**Sundays at 8.30am and 10.30am**

To attend Mass at St. Edward's you must book a seat. You are now able to book for seats for two Masses in advance.

Please call our dedicated phone number –

**0739 6606 881**

Line opens Monday and Wednesday 9.30am -12. Thursday evening 6 - 8pm only. The telephone will not be manned at other times.

Please do not turn up for Mass without booking

Please note that the obligation to attend Sunday Masses continues to be suspended. Also please do not feel guilty if you currently prefer not to attend Mass in church at all during these strange times, as permission is still granted for Spiritual Communion via live streaming, details of which can be found in the Bishop's Coronavirus (COVID-19) section. Alternatively visit <https://www.churchservices.tv/timetable/>

Funerals will continue but can only be attended by a maximum of 30 people and it is advised that only close friends and family attend. Social distancing should be maintained between people who do not live together or share a support bubble and stewarding is required.

Under Tier 2 regulations, we cannot meet parishioners inside the presbytery unfortunately. Please telephone or email instead.

**FIND OUT MORE ABOUT RECONCILIATION AND CHRISTMAS MASSES  
FURTHER BELOW**

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### **THIS WEEK'S INTENTIONS**

Saturday - **6.30pm** - Clare Donegan RIP

Sunday - **8.30am** - Dodwell and Dale families RIP / **10.30am** - Kathleen McAuley, James McAuley, Ellien Pearce RIP

Monday - Fr David Donaghue, birthday int. and Fr Kamil Stawiski int.

Tuesday - **10.00am** - Thanksgiving Mass from Philomina Thottam  
Wednesday - Patsy Curry and Agnes Gallagher RIP  
Thursday - George Nichols RIP  
Friday - **7.00pm** - Mangan and Diver families int.  
Saturday - **6.30pm** - Holy Souls int.  
Sunday - **8.30am** - Taylor Lovett, Anne and Tony and all family and friends RIP /  
Janette Stokes RIP / **10.30am** - Holy Souls int.

To request a Mass Intention please send an email to:  
[parish@stedwardskettering.org.uk](mailto:parish@stedwardskettering.org.uk)

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## PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE RECENTLY DIED

In our prayers, let us remember our deceased parishioners, family members and friends.

Let us especially remember those who have recently passed away.

**Catherine Ann Cook** (aged 58 years) - Her funeral service will be held at Kettering Crematorium on Wednesday, 16th December at 12 noon.

**Reginald James Brian Beale** (aged 85 years) - His funeral will be held at Kettering Crematorium on Tuesday, 22nd December at 11.30am.

**Sheila Greenaway** (aged 90 years) - Her funeral will be held at Kettering Crematorium on Tuesday, 22nd December at 3.00pm.

**May Christ, the Good Shepherd welcome them and all who have died into the peace of eternal life and may He comfort their families in their time of grief.**

Let us also pray for **Pat** and **Martin** who lost their little baby girl **Ryker** - Her funeral will be held at Kettering Crematorium on Tuesday, 15th December at 12.30 pm.

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Canon John, 2009

## CHRISTMAS WISHES FROM CANON JOHN

Canon John thanks everyone for their kindness and prayers and sends us his best wishes and prayers for Christmas. He is busy arranging his move to Wellingborough, where he hopes to move into a new flat on Thursday 17th December.

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## HOMILY



“A few weeks ago, some of my friends asked me to remember and share with them my childhood memories of Advent and waiting for Christmas. So, after a moment of thought, I decided to tell them about one of the most beautiful Polish customs which is still practiced in many parishes, in the country where I was born, grew up and where I became a priest.”

In this homily for Gaudete Sunday Fr. Gregory shares his experience of Advent in Poland and reflects on Joyful Sunday. The homily is available to read on the website [www.stedwardskettering.org.uk](http://www.stedwardskettering.org.uk) on Sunday morning, or via the Parish Facebook page.

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St. Edward's Parish  
Christmas Services





## PENITENTIAL CONFESSIONS BEFORE CHRISTMAS

**Thursday December 17th**

As we cannot hold a full Penitential Service during Advent at the moment, I am opening the church twice on **THURSDAY DECEMBER 17<sup>th</sup>** to hear Confessions for those who wish, **10am to 12 noon** and **5pm to 7pm**.

Due to social distancing restrictions, we will not be able to use the confessionals. Confessions will be heard on the Sanctuary before the tabernacle, away from the main seating in church to ensure your privacy. I ask that you restrict your time in confession to ten minutes as I am not able to get help from other priests at this busy time. You will need to book your 10 minute slot by calling the dedicated booking line on:

**0739 6606 881**

**Lines are open this Monday and Wednesday 9.30am to 12** to book your confession slot. The phone is not manned outside these hours. Please don't telephone the presbytery as they will not be able to help you.

Please do not come to church too early - **this time is reserved for the Sacrament of Reconciliation only, not for private prayers before or after your confession.** Afterwards, leave the church in silence so that others can go to confession whilst maintaining social distance. This is to ensure privacy and minimise contact with others and to reduce the need for cleaning as there will be no stewards on that day. Thank you for your co-operation.

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# CHRISTMAS MASSES

**St. Edward's Church**

**Christmas Eve: 6pm and 8pm.**

**Christmas Day: 8am, 9.30am and 11am.**

Unfortunately, we will not be able to hold Masses at St. Bernadette's, Holy Trinity or St. Nicholas Owen this Christmas.

Booking line opens **Monday December 14<sup>th</sup>**

**0739 6606 881**

Bookings taken on Monday 9.30am to 12. Wednesday 9.30am to 12 and Thursday evening 6pm to 8pm. **It is essential to book for these busy Masses to avoid being turned away.**

Please be flexible - if the Mass you would like is full, you will be offered a less busy alternative. Dispensation remains to not attend Mass if you are concerned about Covid to livestream at home for a Spiritual Communion instead. A huge choice of Catholic churches are offering livestreams at <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/our-work/health-social-care/coronavirus-guidelines/online-mass-directory/> or at <https://www.churchservices.tv/whats-on-now/>

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## READERS NEEDED FOR CHRISTMAS MASS

If you are prepared to read at the Christmas Mass you intend to attend, please say so when you book your place, and give a contact number so that we can contact you beforehand.

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## GUIDANCE ON THE VACCINE

**A letter to Catholics from Bishops' Conference of England and Wales**

The development of a vaccine against COVID-19 presents an important breakthrough in protecting others as well as oneself from the virus; a virus which has not only caused a global pandemic and led to a huge loss of life but has also placed a great burden on healthcare workers and systems.

Each of us has a duty to protect others from infection with its danger of serious illness, and for some, death. A vaccine is the most effective way to achieve this unless one decides to self-isolate.

At present, debate concerns the use of the vaccines developed by Pfizer/BioNTech, Moderna, and AstraZeneca. Some have questioned the use of the Astra Zeneca (Oxford) vaccine since it has been developed from cell-lines originating from the cells of an aborted foetus in 1983.

The [Congregation of the Doctrine of the Faith](#) and the [Pontifical Academy of Life](#) have expressed the view that one may in good conscience and for a grave reason receive a vaccine sourced in this way, provided that there is a sufficient moral distance between the present administration of the vaccine and the original wrongful action. In the COVID-19 pandemic, we judge that this grave reason exists and that one does not sin by receiving the vaccine.

Both the Pfizer & BioNTech and Moderna vaccines have a different source since they are mRNA-based vaccines. On 2 December 2020, the Pfizer & BioNTech vaccine was approved for use in the UK. Each Catholic must educate his or her conscience on this matter and decide what to do, also bearing in mind that a vaccine must be safe, effective, and universally available, especially to the poor of the world.

Catholics may in good conscience receive any of these vaccines for the good of others and themselves. In good conscience, one may refuse a particular vaccine but then continues to have a duty to protect others from infection.

The full text of this guidance is available at: [Bishop's Conference - vaccine](#)

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## CAFOD



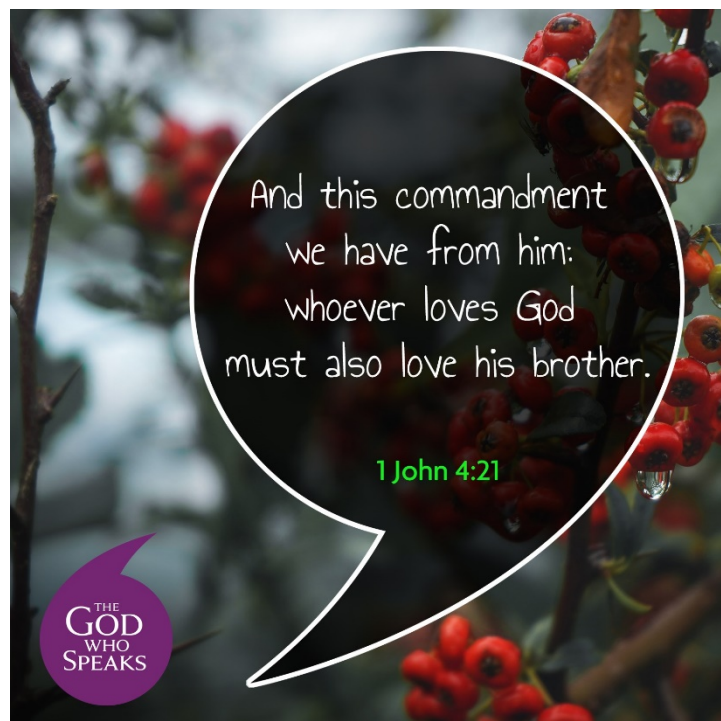
This Advent you can help share comfort and joy with families around the world, like Saba's. Saba and her three children fled their home in Myanmar to escape horrific violence and persecution. They were targeted because of their ethnicity. Thanks to your support last year, Saba was given essential materials to build a shelter – so finally her children have a safe place to call home.

We can stretch out our hands to people living in poverty and refugees by donating to CAFOD's Advent Appeal at <https://cafod.org.uk/Give/Donate-to-CAFOD/Advent-appeal>

### **Send a Christmas Message to the Brave**

Every day, human rights defenders and environmental activists across the world are risking everything to defend our brothers and sisters and protect our common home. Let's not forget them this Christmas by sending a message of solidarity to them either online (by 19 Dec) or by post (by 7 Dec). Visit <https://cafod.org.uk/Campaign/Latest-campaigns/Messages-to-the-brave>

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## ST EDWARD'S PARISH - THE PARISH COMMUNITY FACEBOOK GROUP

The Parish of St. Edward, RC Church, Kettering. Find the facebook group at:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2762598427183322/>

Come join our Parish Facebook group. Stay in touch with what is happening in St. Edward's Parish and with what is going on in the wider Catholic community around the world. This Advent please share your thoughts, favourite carols and the reflections that you find on our facebook page.

### PARISH CALL AND CARE

The Parish is continuing with its "Parish Call and Care scheme" to support isolated and elderly parishioners. If you are someone who would like to receive calls, from a fellow parishioner, or know of someone who you feel would appreciate such a call, please contact Fr Gregory in the first instance on 01536 512497 or email [parish@stedwardskettering.org.uk](mailto:parish@stedwardskettering.org.uk) with your name and phone number (and if you are recommending anybody else to receive such calls, their name and phone number).

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### USEFUL LINKS

**National Domestic Abuse Helpline** 0808 2000 247

**Refuge website** <https://www.refuge.org.uk/>

**Kettering Foodbank** 1 Horse Market, Unit 1B, Kettering, NN16 0DG (side entrance at the top of Market Street) Tel. 07709 741353 <https://www.ketteringfoodbank.org/>

**"The Corona Kitchen"**, an open air hot food takeaway outside the **Eden Centre in Montagu Street** serves from 4pm to 5.00pm on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. <http://www.stedwardskettering.org.uk/corona-kitchen/>

A list of free food outlets in Kettering (updated mid-December 2020) can be found on our website here: <http://www.stedwardskettering.org.uk/corona-kitchen/>

## FREE CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH

A free Christmas Day lunch take away service will be available from Corona Kitchen at the Eden Centre on Christmas Day, serving 12.00 noon until 1.30pm.



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## WEEKLY DONATIONS

Some parishioners have asked how they can maintain their donations which would normally be given via the collection plate. It is true that church income will significantly reduce as a result of the current arrangements for socially distanced public liturgies. While I will endeavour to keep parish outgoings as low as possible, please could I ask those parishioners who can afford it at this time, and do not currently give by Standing Order, to consider donating online.

There are several ways of donating during Covid-19 so that you do not need to leave home:

- **Online** This can be done via the Diocesan website which can be found at <https://northamptondiocese.org/>. Scroll down to find the 'Donate' button and follow the instructions on the Catholic Diocese of Northampton Virgin money giving page. By indicating in the notes section of the donate page that the

donation is for "**St. Edward's Kettering**" your donation will go into our parish account with the diocese, and will at the same time help our diocese as a whole. Please note that there is the facility to Gift Aid any donation to your parish if you are a taxpayer. Thank you for any help you can give.

- **Standing Order** via your own bank. Alternatively, you can set up a standing order for donations to your parish using your online bank account. The information required to make the donation is as follows. Bank; NatWest Sort Code; 60-06-11 Account Name; 46898093 Account Name; Northampton Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust Payment Ref; St. Edward's, Kettering
- **Make a donation to your own parish over the phone** - The Diocesan Finance office has now introduced 'Giving Tuesday'. Each 'Tuesday' between 10.00am and 4.00pm, a member of the finance team will be available at Bishop's House to take your calls to donate to your parish community over the telephone. To donate simply call 01604 712065 with your debit or credit card details. (If you get the answering machine just leave your name and number NOT bank details and you will be called back). When you get through you will be asked for your name & address, your parish, envelope number (if you have one) and gift aid status. You can make one-off catch-up donations or regular weekly or monthly payments, on any Tuesday until further notice.
- You can also support the Parish by **making a donation through the letterbox** of the presbytery at any time.