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Website: [www.stedwardskettering.org.uk](http://www.stedwardskettering.org.uk)

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

Parish Priest: Fr. Gregory Marchwiński

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First Sunday of Lent

21st February, 2021

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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/>

Or in other church services via <https://www.churchservices.tv/timetable/>

Sunday or Daily Readings:

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

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 please book a seat 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 note that the obligation to attend Sunday Masses continues to be suspended.  
Permission is still granted for Spiritual Communion via live streaming if you prefer not  
to attend Mass in church. <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 4 regulations, we cannot meet parishioners inside  
the presbytery unfortunately. Please telephone or email instead.

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**THIS WEEK'S INTENTIONS**

**Mass intentions for the next week:**

**Saturday - 6.30pm** - Nuala Hammond RIP

**Sunday - 8.30am** - Martin O'Hara RIP / **10.30am** - Noone and Allison family and  
friends

Monday - Susan Callaghan RIP

Tuesday - **10.00am** - Paul Donovan RIP

Wednesday - Special intention / **10.00am** - *Funeral service of **Alessandra Cortese***  
**RIP**

Thursday - Martin O'Hara RIP / **11.00am** - *Funeral service of **Paul Bialek*** **RIP**

Friday - **6.30pm** - **Stations of the Cross** / **7.00pm** - Tony Basquil RIP

**Saturday - 6.30pm** - Eamon Mangan RIP

**Sunday - 8.30am** - Vera Gunner RIP / **10.30am** - Kurt Gerndt RIP

To request a Mass Intention please send an email to:

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

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## MESSAGE FROM FR. GREGORY

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS



*Station V from St. Bernadette's Church, Rothwell*

**Stations of the Cross** will take place at **6.30pm** on Fridays during Lent followed immediately by Mass at 7.00pm. Remain seated during the meditations; prayers for each Station will be led from the lectern. The prayers for each station will be shorter than normal.

During the Stations of the Cross, Father Gregory will be available to hear confessions in the Lady Chapel.

If you would like to pray the Stations of the Cross privately online, visit our website <http://www.stedwardskettering.org.uk/stations-introduction/> where you will find the 14 station prayers with images from St. Edward's Station plaques.

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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.

**Alessandra Cortese** - Her funeral service will be held at St Edward's Church on Wednesday, 24th February at 10.00am.

**Paul Bialek** - His funeral service will be held at Kettering Crematorium on Thursday, 25th February at 11.00am.

**Elizabeth "Betty" Coogan** - Her Requiem Mass will be held at St Edward's Church on Tuesday, 9th March at 10.00am.

**Giuseppe Labruzzo** - His funeral service will be held at St Edward's Church on Wednesday, 17th March at 1.00pm.

**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.**

*Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine, et lux perpetua luceat eis. Requiescant in pace. Amen.*

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Lent calls us to 'come back to God with all our heart' and the practices of prayer, fasting and giving to charity are a way of making real our return to God. Ashes (this year sprinkled on our heads) remind us of our human frailty and our dependence on God.

For our parishioners who, during this period of dispensation from attending Mass in church, would like to partake in Lent's calling at home, you can connect with:

[Catholic Daily Reflections](#)

Or if you would like to receive daily reflections from Bishop Robert Barron straight to your Inbox, try:

[Lenten Reflections](#)

We can also look upon fasting, prayer and almsgiving in less traditional ways. For example, here are three ways to give our relationships a Lenten make-over based on these three practices –

1: Fast... from criticism

We might not get fat from criticism, but a steady diet of criticism is just as bad for our health and it is toxic for our relationships. Fasting from criticism isn't just good for our relationships, it's also good for us as individuals. Believe it or not, it's actually liberating! When we surrender our need to criticise, we stop looking for someone to blame.

If we take criticism out of our life, when things go wrong we're more likely to approach it coolly and less likely to get uptight about who is at fault. We can calmly look for solutions, resiliently shrug off mishaps, and find the blessing in the mess.

## 2: Pray... for our relationship daily

Prayer has always been a fundamental part of Lenten practice. Most people opt for traditional expressions like the Rosary, Daily Mass, Stations of the Cross or, more recently, The Divine Mercy chaplet. But if we're looking for something that will more directly impact on our relationship, the simple practice of praying daily for our loved ones is a winner. We can use these traditional ways of praying but we can also for instance pray for the other's intentions, or pray blessing and protection over our close friends as they go about their day.

If married, we can renew our wedding vows as a prayer, or pray to **be** a better spouse, that God might transform **us** into a more effective messenger of his love. Here's a link to such a prayer you can download as a prayer card: [Prayer card](#)

## 3: Give... without expecting a return

Almsgiving is the third Lenten obligation. When we donate to a charity, we don't expect to benefit – it's a gift not a trade. Similarly, our wedding vows call us to approach our marriage in the spirit of self-giving service. Yet for many of us, there is an unspoken expectation of repayment when we give of ourselves in service to our spouse – at the very least, we may expect gratitude! As a spiritual discipline this Lent, daily or at least once a week give some service to your spouse without expectation of pay back or acknowledgement. Do it graciously, in secret if possible.

As a spiritual exercise for Lent the point is not so much about those we care for feeling loved by our act, but about the spiritual discipline of giving without expectation. It's about detaching from our need for appreciation.

(Adapted from the parish Marriage Preparation providers at [www.smartloving.org](http://www.smartloving.org))

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## CAFOD

Visit [www.cafod.org.uk](http://www.cafod.org.uk) for further information on Lent initiatives, especially 'Walk for Water'. Do something different to raise money to fight poverty!

This week our parish is marking CAFOD'S Family Fast Day on **Friday February 26<sup>th</sup>**, a day on which we are invited to pray, fast and give to help people like Abdella. Abdella lives in a remote and mountainous part of Ethiopia. It takes him ten hours a day to collect water. He says, "*I am wasting my life. I am a young man; I should be doing something else.*" Your gifts will help vulnerable communities around the world to have access to clean water. You can donate online through the CAFOD website, or by giving in the specified collection basket, or by using one of the provided envelopes.

Some members of the parish are also walking alongside Abdella this Lent by challenging themselves to walk 10,000 steps every day. If you wish to join in for all or part of the challenge, more details of this and the sponsorship details may be found through the links on the Parish Facebook Page. Information may also be found through [cafod.org.uk/walk](http://cafod.org.uk/walk) on the CAFOD website.

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## SAFE SPACES

Safe Spaces is a free and independent support service, providing a confidential, personal and safe space for anyone who has been abused through their relationship with either the Church of England or the Catholic Church in England and Wales. Although the churches have funded the service, it is run independently by the charity Victim Support, who are one of the leading charities providing specialist support to survivors of abuse in England and Wales. It comprises a team of trained support advocates who have undergone specialist training in supporting survivors of sexual violence and who have received additional specific training in how the churches respond to abuse cases, the way in which faith and church-related settings have been used to carry out abuse, and the particular issues affecting people who have had or still have, a relationship with the church.

### Telephone, Live Chat, Email and Website

A telephone helpline and live chat facility is available from Monday – Saturday from 10am – 6pm, apart from Thursdays when the service is open 12 – 8pm. Telephone: 0300 303 1056 (answerphone available outside of opening times)

Email: [safespaces@victimsupport.org.uk](mailto:safespaces@victimsupport.org.uk)

LiveChat/Website: <https://www.safespacesenglandandwales.org.uk/>

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## COULD YOU VOLUNTEER TO BE A STEWARD?

As the number of Masses provided over the Easter period may need to be increased due to seating restrictions, we can only do this and ease the burden on existing stewards if more parishioners volunteer. If this is a way in which you would like to help us, please read the information below before applying with your contact details to the parish office by email at [parish@stedwardskettering.org.uk](mailto:parish@stedwardskettering.org.uk). You will then be sent further information. Details of Mass times will be published here next week.

The Steward's role will be:

- **To responsibly control access** within the church's measured safe capacity limit,
- **To maintain 2m. social distancing between seated parishioners** at all times and remind if needed,
- **To wipe down seats and all touched areas** with antiseptic after each use,

- **To keep a record of those attending**, to assist contact tracers should a visitor later develop symptoms.

These stewards will need to be healthy individuals and, regardless of age, **not** part of the group of people who are 'shielded' or vulnerable or people with underlying medical conditions. They should also definitely be under 70 years old. Please therefore consider very carefully your own circumstances before volunteering. We would rather you keep safe and well than be a volunteer!

**PLEASE CONTINUE TO BOOK YOUR PLACES AT MASS AS ATTENDANCES ARE INCREASING DURING LENT!**

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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.

## **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-February, 2021) can be found on our website here: <http://www.stedwardskettering.org.uk/corona-kitchen/>

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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.