

2 The Grove, Kettering NN15 7QQ. **Telephone** 01536 512497

Website: <https://www.stedwardskettering.org.uk/>

Email: parish.stedwardkettering@northamptondiocese.org

Church Hall/ Upper Room Bookings: Contact Ewa on Thurs or Fri morning via
parish.stedwardkettering@northamptondiocese.org or 01536 512497

Parish Priest: Fr. Gregory Marchwiński

Assistant Priest: Fr. Elvis Jose

1st Sunday of Advent

3rd December 2023

MASS TIMES AT ST. EDWARD'S, KETTERING

- Tuesday - 10.00 am
- Wednesday - 10.00 am
- Thursday - 7.00 pm (*This evening Mass is with music on screen*)
- Friday - 7.00 pm
- Saturday Vigil Mass - 6.30 pm ***After Mass - confession on request***
- Sunday Early Mass - 8.30 am
- Sunday Family Mass - 10.30 am

MASS TIMES AT BURTON LATIMER

The **1st** and **3rd** Sunday of every month - **9.00 am**

MASS TIMES AT DESBOROUGH

The **2nd** and **4th** Sunday of every month - **9.00 am**

MASS TIMES AT ROTHWELL

The **1st** and **3rd** Sunday of every month - **12.15 pm**

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For the 5th Sunday of the month, please check the newsletter

ADVENT 2023



Come, Jesus, Come...

THIS WEEK'S INTENTIONS



- Saturday** **06.30 pm** - Trudy De Mello RIP / - Princy Romy 2nd anniversary RIP
- Sunday** **08.30 am** - Teresa and John Antill RIP / - Anne & Paul Pacifique RIP &
all the Souls in Purgatory & thanksgiving for all graces received.
- 09.00 am** - / **Burton Latimer** / - For the Parish / - Fr Richard Moroney RIP
- 10.30 am** - Joaquina Tavares, Alberto Pereira, Marcelino, Marcelina and
Augustinha De Jesus, Inacio Pereira / - Salvatore Meli Michelina Di Micco RIP
- 12.15 pm** - / **Rothwell** / - John McGrenaghan RIP
- Monday** **Private Mass** - Joseph / - Holy Souls
- Tuesday** **09.30 am** - *Exposition and Adoration*
- 10.00 am** - Tomasz Nalepa RIP / - Holy Souls
- Wednesday** **10.00 am** - Lilley Conhachie RIP / - Holy Souls
- Thursday** **07.00 pm** - Rose Stokes birthday wishes /
- Anna Bates nee Doherty RIP 1st anniversary
- Friday** **06.00 pm** - *Adoration and Benediction*
- 07.00 pm** - Leslie Dicks RIP / - Mr K.M. Mathew RIP 5th anniversary
- Saturday** **06.30 pm** - Androulla Loizou RIP / - Holy Souls
- Sunday** **08.30 am** - Antonietta Tartaglia RIP / - Holy Souls
- 09.00 am** - / **Desborough** / - For the Parish / - Holy Souls
- 10.30 am** - Margaret Marsh RIP / - Thankamma George RIP

To request a Mass Intention please send an email to:
parish.stedwardkettering@northamptondiocese.org

To respect people's wishes, there has usually been only one Mass Intention per Mass (This Intention might encompass even several people, but it will have been requested by one individual). There are occasional instances though, when there need to be two separate Intentions at a Mass. When this arises, I would be grateful for your understanding.

CONFESSIONS AT ST EDWARD'S



Confessions at St Edward's are on Saturdays after Vigil Mass which is at 6.30 pm.

You can always request confession before or after any weekday Mass.

“The first step we must take to build the Kingdom of God on earth is to rediscover and appreciate the importance of the sacrament of confession, which will allow us to appreciate the sacrament of the Eucharist. *We cannot appreciate the Eucharist while removing the sacrament of Confession from our spiritual life*”. - Fr Gregory

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED



+ **Fr Richard Moroney** - Who ministered in our parish from **1983 - 1985**. His funeral will be in Holy Family Catholic Church, 24 Freshwater Close, Marsh Farm,
Luton LU3 3TA

Reception - Monday 18th December at 5 pm

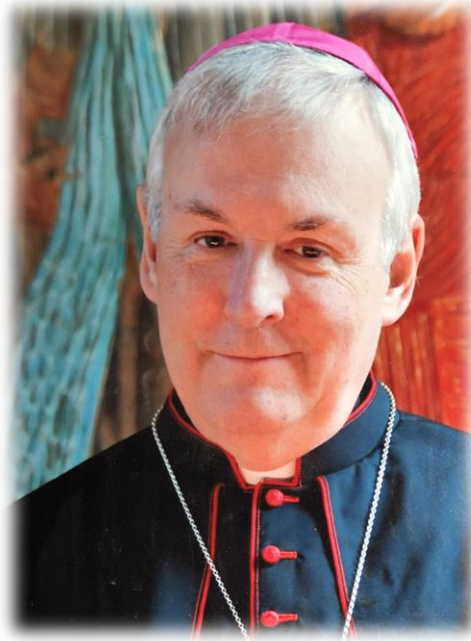
Requiem Mass - Tuesday 19th December at 11 am

Committal at Luton Crematorium at 12.30 pm

+ **Mary (Maureen) Sweeney** - Her Funeral will be on Tuesday, 5th December, in Ireland.

In our prayers, let us remember our deceased parishioners, family members and friends. Let us especially remember those who have recently passed away.

BISHOP DAVID'S ADVENT MESSAGE



To my dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

In this first week of the advent season, I wish to consider the theme of 'Hope'. Let me share with you some words from the Prophet Isaiah, "Let the wilderness and the dry-lands exult, let the wasteland rejoice and bloom, let it bring forth flowers like the jonquil, let it rejoice and sing for joy". I love the words of the prophets because they speak to us so eloquently of what hope involves. They looked forward to a time they could not imagine in their own life experience. They looked forward to a time when God would do something new, then the Lord would renew and refresh his people. I think that pinpoints the meaning of hope, we do not hope in ourselves or what the human race can achieve by its own effort. Hope is rooted in what God will do. Hope is founded upon the concept of salvation history that the Lord has made promises to his people and he will fulfil them. And so, you may imagine that God has already fulfilled his promises by sending his beloved Son, the word made flesh, Jesus. However, some of God's promises still remain to be fulfilled. Jesus has promised that he will come again at the end of time, in glory he will return in majesty and the whole of creation will recognize him. There is a tremendous amount of Hope involved in that promise. Some days when we look around our world, its darkness and its shadows, we simply cannot imagine a day of glory that the scriptures speak to us of. And yet that is the meaning of Hope. Maranatha, come Lord Jesus, come and make the wastelands blossom and you come and let the desert sing for joy.

Sincerely,

Bishop David Oakley

Bishop of Northampton

A video of the message for week one can be found here:

<https://youtu.be/hT3iebbbySDg?si=DcWo4ABCQrIBBA69>

WHY DID GOD MAKE US?



Did you ever get a satisfactory answer to this question which we may have asked of our elders as we were growing up?

Paul writes that God created us with the intent of adopting us as His children “*blameless* down before Him in love, preordaining us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Him”. In response to this gift, we are to worship Him in love. Such worship was not restricted to Sunday mornings; it began with the assembly but spilled out into the week's activities. Such worship was to be found in praise and charity.

Those who humbly try to avoid praise are sometimes lavished with honour. They respond with surprise or remarks that attempt to deflect the spotlight. They act with humility because they feel they did not earn the honour bestowed. Two millennia ago, a young woman called Mary tried to deflect an honour given her - but the giver and the gift were too great to be ignored.

Let's consider the place of girls like Mary in the social pecking order of first century Palestine. In a gender segregated male dominated society, young girls were sheltered from the outside world in order to protect their virginity and insure the honour of the family. (The murder of promiscuous or even raped young girls by family members was not uncommon to uphold family honour.) In addition, young girls were not educated. Literacy lay with the male, since females were considered too inferior and emotional for education. Girls like Mary stood at the bottom of proper society.

Imagine, then, Mary's reaction when the angel Gabriel proposed for her a conception and birth that could endanger her arranged marriage with Joseph and put her life at risk. (According to Deuteronomy 22:20-21, a girl who was not a virgin before marriage could be stoned to death). To overcome Mary's concern, the angel proclaimed her honour before God, saying she was highly favoured by the Almighty and her Son would be highly favoured by God.

Mary's response revealed her character. Having protested to Gabriel so she could protect her honour and the honour of her family, she gave up all that for a higher honour - one she did not deserve but one that she was made for. God created her to be

the mother of His Son. In this way, she showed herself to be a faithful Jew and the first follower of the One she would bear into the world.

The Lord destined us to live blameless lives. While this is a daunting task, the Church presented us with this model of Mary to help us. **We celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception on December 8th.** with this notion in mind. Mary's response showed us that she was a blameless and willing vessel for God's providence. We honour her for the favour the Father showed her and for her positive response. The Church proclaimed her to be holy and blameless in the eyes of the Lord from the moment of her conception. She was preordained to serve the Lord in love.

Reflecting on the Immaculate Conception might help us to answer the title question - What were we made for? St. Paul's eloquence in his letter to the Ephesians (1:3-6) on this subject is summed up in our Catechism thus: *God made us to know Him, to love Him, to serve Him in this world and to be happy with Him for ever in Heaven.* Mary is what we are called to be like, because her role in the birth of the Christ should remind us of our own role in the world, to serve the Lord with blameless and holy hearts whilst waiting for Heaven.

ADVENT CONFESSIONS AT ST EDWARD'S



Saturday, 9th December after 6.30 pm Mass

Tuesday, 12th December after Mass at 10 am - *We would like to offer confessions and the sacrament of anointing to those who are housebound. If you know anyone who would like a visit by a priest, please contact the parish and provide us with the relevant details, like name, address and telephone number of the person who would like the sacraments, before Sunday 10th December, and we arrange a visit.*

Wednesday, 13th December 9 am - 10 am and after Mass

Thursday, 14th December 6 pm - 7 pm and after Mass

Saturday, 16th December after 6.30 pm Mass

There will be Exposition and Adoration before Wednesday and Thursday Masses during confession.

CAROLS BY CANDELIGHT AT ST EDWARD'S



Both of our Catholic Schools would like to invite us to their Carols by Candlelight Services before Christmas. Please come and enjoy the Christmas atmosphere.

St Edward's School - Thursday, 7th December at 5.30 pm

St Thomas More School - Monday, 11th December at 6 pm

COFFEE MORNINGS



The next **Wednesday Coffee Morning** will be run by **Ernie's Group** after 10.00 am Mass on **6th December**.

COFFEE MORNINGS 2024

On 3rd January - **The Burton Latimer Community**

On 7th February - **The Desborough Community**

On 6th March - **The Rothwell Community**

Any funds raised will go to the communities for flowers and other necessities.

MASS TIMES FOR CHRISTMAS 2023



4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Saturday Vigil at 6.30 pm

8.30 am - Sunday Mass

10.30 am - Sunday Mass



SUNDAY, CHRISTMAS EVE

4.00 pm - Mass with Liturgy for Children

+ **Burton Latimer - Christmas Eve Mass at 6.00 pm**

+ **Rothwell - Christmas Eve Mass at 6.00 pm**

8.00 pm - Christmas Carols

8.30 pm - Christmas Eve Mass

MONDAY, CHRISTMAS DAY

8.30 am - Christmas Mass

+ **Desborough - Mass at 9.00 am**

10.30 am - Christmas Mass

JOB OPPORTUNITY



We are currently recruiting for a cleaner at St Edward's Kettering to provide a high quality of cleaning duties in the Presbytery and in the Church Hall, including all office spaces.

The role will be for 10 hours per week. Full information for the position and an application form can be found by visiting <https://northamptondiocese.org/jobs/>

The closing date for applications will be **Friday 8th December**. Interview dates to be confirmed.

All candidates should complete an application form and email it to: hr.admin@northamptondiocese.org

In the meantime, I would appreciate any offers of help to keep the parish outside toilet in a reasonable condition for the use of parishioners. If you have a spare 10 minutes, please let me know.

Fr Gregory

KETTERING FOOD BANK



KETTERING FOOD BANK greatly appreciate donations from **St Edward's Church** especially at this time of year as we try to cope with the increase in seasonal demand. **List of preferred items** - Various Tins of Meat - Tins Tuna Chunks, Tins Soup - Tins Spaghetti - Tins Vegetable Chili - Tins Corned Beef - Small Jars Coffee - Small boxes of Tea Bags - Sugar - Easy Cook Rice - Pasta - Cereals various - Anti-bacterial Spray for Kitchen Cleaning - Washing up liquid - J Cloths Please place any donated items in large marked box at back of St Edward's Church - Many thanks.

S V P



The Saint Vincent De Paul Society (SVP) is made up of volunteers who are dedicated to helping people in need, and supporting people in our local community who may be struggling due to loneliness, financial problems, needing practical support or just a listening ear. For further information please contact the Kettering SVP on 07565 395955 or email svp140512@gmail.com.

CONFLICT IN THE MIDDLE EAST – CAFOD



You will be aware of the terrible conflict in Israel and Gaza. It is easy to feel helpless from such a distance. CAFOD have produced three ways we can respond; prayer, donating and sending a message to our Foreign Secretary. Find out more here: <https://cafod.org.uk/news/emergencies-news/israeli-palestinian-crisis-how-you-can-help>

THINKING OF CHRISTMAS PRESENTS?



At the back of the Church are CAFOD's World Gifts Catalogues. Please take one home. World Gifts are a wonderful way for St Edward's parish to share the hope and joy of Christmas with God's family throughout the world.

AN INITIATIVE FOR THE YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE PARISH



Youth Group at St Edward's in 1990

Our Parish is very blessed with a number of groups and societies. However, most of them are for adults. We are hoping to launch a specific group for our young people on Friday, **5th January 2024 at 6.30 pm until 8.00 pm**. I want this to be a fun time with games, competitions, art work, and there will be always something delicious to eat. The main goal of these meetings would be to learn more about our Faith, to build a strong relationship with God and to make friendships with other young people, which could last a lifetime. Initially, these meetings will be held on the first Friday of the month in the parish hall. They will be open for those who are between 12 - 17 years. If these meetings are successful, we might organise days away. My long-term aim is that as these young people mature, we will be able to set up a group for young adults. I ask all parents to support this initiative and encourage their children to attend our Parish Youth Group.

AN IMPORTANT UPDATE

If you would like your son or daughter to take part in youth group activities, please collect a registration form at the sacristy before or after any Mass. We can also email you a form if you wish, so you can print it off and fill it in.

MASS FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES AND THEIR FAMILIES



The next Mass for people with disabilities and their families will be on Sunday, December 10th at 3 p.m. at Sacred Heart Church, Stopsley, Luton LU2 9 AY. (About 15 mins. from Junction 10 of the M1). Access to the Church is step-free, and there is ample parking. The Mass will be followed by refreshments. All are welcome to this joyful celebration.

PIANIST



We are looking for a piano player to rehearse with the choir and then to play on every 3rd Sunday of the month for us during Mass. For more details, please contact the parish office.

BAPTISMAL PREPARATION



If you would like your child to be baptised, please contact Fr Gregory. Parents who would like their children to be baptised are invited to attend Baptismal Preparation on the first Monday of the month at **7 pm** at St Edward's Church. The next meeting will be on Monday, **4th December**.

A PLACE OF CALM



Dear Parents of our youngest children, we realise how difficult it is for you when your children get 'lively' or 'upset'. Therefore, we invite you to take them upstairs to the organ loft, which is above the sacristy. It is a safe place with a triple sound-proof window overlooking the altar. There is a speaker up there, so you will be able to take an active part in the Mass and your children will become calm and comfortable. Please take care on the stone steps.

PLANNING YOUR WEDDING



If you are planning to get married abroad or at St Edward's Church, you must give us at least six months' notice. This is to ensure that all the preparation that couples are required to do, and the pre-marriage courses are completed along with the necessary paperwork. You are always welcome to approach me after any Mass, so that you can begin making wedding plans.

ST EDWARD'S PARISH FACEBOOK GROUP



The Parish of St. Edward, RC Church, Kettering.

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

St. Nicholas Owen Catholic Church - Burton Latimer.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/809856073037388/>

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.stedwardkettering@northamptondiocese.org with your name and phone number (and if you are recommending anybody else to receive such calls, their name and phone number) parish.stedwardkettering@northamptondiocese.org with your name and phone number (and if you are recommending anybody else to receive such calls, their name and phone number)

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/>

A list of free food outlets in Kettering (updated March, 2022):

<http://www.stedwardskettering.org.uk/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Kettering-Food-Outlets-Virus-Update-no32.pdf>

Mary's Meals <https://youtu.be/llqBIXrVJzw> / **Right to Life** <https://righttolife.org.uk>

Redundancy Coaching <http://www.vitaeopus.co.uk> provides free online information and advice about Job Hunting, Self-Employment and Active Retirement for Parishioners adversely affected workwise by the pandemic. Please pass the link on to anyone who may find it useful.

Safe Spaces We welcome contact from anyone hurt by abuse, whether that be through your experience within the Church or elsewhere. **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.
safeguarding@northamptondiocese.org

Please have a look at this page from the Northampton Diocese website: [Northampton Diocese Resources](#) which gives further information and contact details.

Safe Spaces is an independent and confidential support service for adults who have been abused by someone in the Church. Please see parish noticeboards for further details.

WEEKLY/MONTHLY DONATIONS



If there are any Parishioners who would like to join the weekly box system / gift aid scheme, then please do let us know by completing a form, available from the porch table and putting it on the collection plate or through the Presbytery letterbox. To those who already donate through the Gift Aid Scheme, please be reminded that if your tax situation has changed or you have moved house, then please let us know.

There are several other ways of donating as follows;

- **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.
- **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** - 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). You can make a one-off donation 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.

Thank you for any help you can give.

YOUR LEGACY

Your Legacy - Invest in the future of your parish and our Diocese. Gifts in your Will are a memorable and lasting way you can continue to support the Church's ministry and mission and help meet the needs of future generations. Please consider gifts to the Church and Catholic charities next time you update your Will. For more information, pick up a bookmark; contact your parish office, alternatively, go to www.northamptondiocese.org/your-legacy or contact Brian Emmanuel on 01604 600337 or brian.emmanuel@northamptondiocese.org

DIOCESAN E-NEWSLETTER

Our diocesan e-news is now published fortnightly.

Keep up to date with news and opportunities from across our diocese by signing up to receive updates straight into your inbox. Simply visit <https://northamptondiocese.org/#signup>
