

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

2nd Sunday of Advent

10th 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**

* * * * *

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

ADVENT 2023



*A voice cries in the wilderness:
Prepare a way for the Lord,
make his paths straight.*

THIS WEEK'S INTENTIONS



- Saturday** 06.30 pm - Androulla Loizou RIP
- Sunday** 08.30 am - Antonietta Tartaglia RIP / - Raphael Kallikadan RIP
09.00 am - / **Desborough** / - For the Parish / - Holy Souls
10.30 am - Margaret Marsh RIP / - Thankamma George RIP
- Monday** Private Mass - Holy Souls
- Tuesday** 09.30 am - *Exposition and Adoration*
10.00 am - Sr Carmen & Sr Joan / - Michele Ianniello RIP
- Wednesday** 09.00 am - **ADVENT CONFESSIONS**
10.00 am - John and Nora Connolly RIP /
- Henry Costa RIP 25th anniversary /
- Janet Fernando RIP, Miss Dhananji RIP, Miss Soma RIP
- Thursday** 06.00 pm - **ADVENT CONFESSIONS**
07.00 pm - Maria Zachariah 18th birthday
- Friday** 06.30 pm - *Adoration and Benediction*
07.00 pm - Elsa James RIP
- Saturday** 06.30 pm - Oliver Brady RIP / - Fr Bruno Murphy int.
- Sunday** 08.30 am - Margaret Marsh RIP / Maureen Sweeney RIP
09.00 am - / **Burton Latimer** / - Colin Lovett and Taylor Lovett RIP
10.30 am - Savlatore, Angela and Peter Stifanelli RIP
12.15 pm - / **Rothwell** / - For the Parish / - Holy Souls

CHILDREN'S LITURGY - SUNDAY, 17th December at 10.30 am

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** - His funeral will be in Holy Family Catholic Church,
24 Freshwater Close, Marsh Farm, **Luton LU3 3TA**

Reception - Monday 18th December at 5 pm

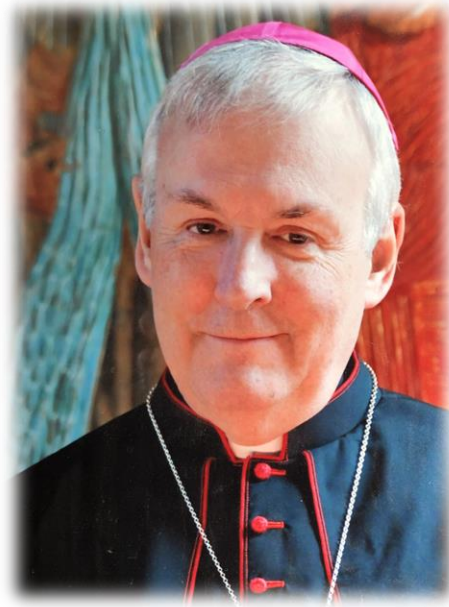
Requiem Mass - Tuesday 19th December at 11 am

Committal at Luton Crematorium at 12.30 pm

+ **Alan Preedy** (husband of the late Veronica) - His funeral will take place at St Edward's Church on **Tuesday, 12th December at 11 am.**

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 second week of advent, we will reflect for a moment on the theme of peace. Of course, when we look around our world today, during these advent weeks, we see so much need for peace. We see peace needed in the wars that are taking place in the Ukraine and in the Holy Land. We see the need for peace in our communities, we recognise the need for peace within our families and perhaps we recognise too, the need for peace within ourselves as individuals. As always, I would like to share with you a few words from the Advent scriptures. These are the words of the Prophet Isaiah used by the evangelist Luke to talk about the ministry of John, the son of Zechariah, the one who would be known as the Baptist. "A voice cries in the wilderness. 'Prepare a way for the lord, make his paths straight'. Every valley will be filled in, every mountain and hill will be made low, winding waves will be straightened and rough roads made smooth and all mankind will see the salvation of God". This is the peace that the Lord speaks of in his Word, it is a peace which begins when we are open and receptive to the Word of God, to the power of God, His Kingdom at work in our lives, and it involves some hard works. The prophet puts it in those beautiful and familiar terms, about hills being laid low and about valleys being filled in. Sometimes when I'm driving and see workmen on the motorway, it reminds me how challenging it is to keep that road straight that we use so often to get around the place. Then I look inside myself and I recognise that peace comes at a cost. Peace was won for us by our Lord's death on the cross and when we receive the grace of that cross into our lives, then we are at peace with almighty God. So let's pray for peace in our world and let us recognise that the journey towards worldwide peace, comes with that step of peace within ourselves. When we respond to the invitation of God to become peacemakers, not least, and first of all, within ourselves.

Bishop David Oakley
Bishop of Northampton

LOST CHILDREN



If a man has 100 sheep and one of them goes astray, doesn't he leave the 99, go to the mountains, and seek the one which has gone astray? In this passage from Matthew, Jesus mixed the image of the sheep and the "little ones". In context, Jesus spoke to His followers about children (Matthew 18:1-12), so to really understand the verses, we must investigate the status of children in ancient society.

The place of the child in the time of Jesus was the exact opposite of his or her place in modern Western culture. Children lay at the bottom of the social ladder, whereas elders stood at the top. Parents had children for primarily economic reasons; love was a secondary reason. Children were labourers who increased the worth of the clan as a whole and provided care for the parents in their old age. Since half of all children died before the age of 16 (from many diseases we now vaccinate against), conditions encouraged people to have as many offspring as possible. So, the notion of a lost child ("sheep"), while tragic, would not bring the economic efforts of a clan to a standstill in a world where most people lived below a subsistence level. Yet that was the ideal Jesus held up.

If we consider the symbolic meaning of the term "child", it could refer to the core audience Jesus served (the outcast, the sinner, the ill) or it could refer to a fellow Christian (as a "child" of God). No matter the reference, however, Jesus desired extra attention paid to the lost child, the outcast in society, the errant sinner. This care was a key component of ministry.

How can we care for the "lost child" in our lives this week?

Later in the week's readings, Jesus also uses an agricultural metaphor to describe discipleship (Matthew 11:28-30). He implicitly portrayed the religious life of the Jew (we assume) under the Pharisees as a heavily burdened lifestyle, like that of a yoked oxen driven by a farmer to plough a field. Life for the Jewish Christian would be easier, not necessarily because discipleship freed him from the duties of the Torah, but freed him from the responsibility of salvation. The responsibility of his soul did not lie simply in his own efforts, but in the One who died for all. Following the Christ and sharing in His very life lifted the burden of conscience; the disciple did not have to please God alone; he had a Saviour who did that for him.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION FOR CHILDREN ATTENDING NON-CATHOLIC SCHOOLS AND FIRST HOLY COMMUNION



Registration for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Holy Communion will take place on **Saturday 6th January 2024 at 9 am**, in the Parish Hall. Children must be in year 3 or older.

CAROLS BY CANDELIGHT AT ST EDWARD'S



Both of our Catholic Schools invited us to their Carols by Candlelight Services before Christmas. Thank you to St Edward's School for a beautiful time last Thursday. Please come again and enjoy the Christmas atmosphere on Monday.

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

CHRISTMAS CRIB



Thank you, Dominic for restoring the Christmas Crib, which stands outside St Edward's Church. Thank you all, who set it up a week ago. Apparently, when the crib is displayed, this is a sign for the good people of Kettering that Christmas has begun!

ADVENT CONFESSIONS AND ANOINTING OF THE SICK



Saturday, 9th December Confession after 6.30 pm Mass

Saturday, 16th December Confession after 6.30 pm Mass

+ + +

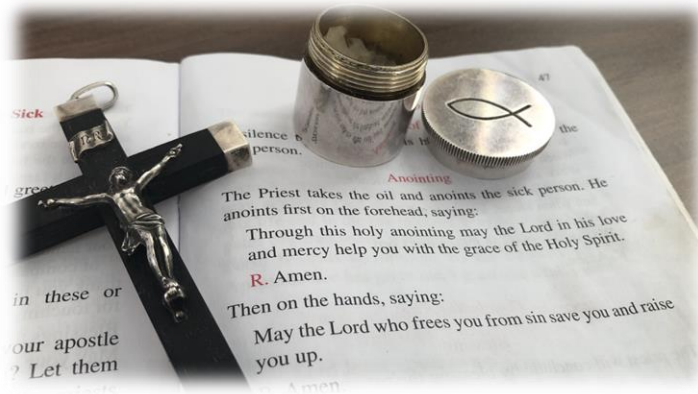
Tuesday, 12th December after Mass at 10 am - *We would like to offer confessions and the sacrament of anointing to those who are housebound. If you know anyone who would like a visit by a priest, please contact the parish and provide us with the relevant details, like name, address and telephone number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

+ + +

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

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

There will be Exposition and Adoration before Masses on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.



During **Wednesday** and **Thursday Masses** we will give the opportunity to anyone who wishes to receive the Sacrament of Anointing to come forward after the Gospel Reading. You will be invited to approach as you do for Holy Communion. Please remember that this Sacrament is not only for those who are seriously or terminally ill. It is for anybody who feels the need to be strengthened by the Lord. When you come to the steps of the sanctuary, please hold out your hands which will be anointed. Your forehead will also be anointed.

- The Priest takes the oil and anoints the sick person. He anoints first on the forehead, saying: *Through this holy anointing, may the Lord in his love and mercy help you with the grace of the Holy Spirit.*

You will answer: **Amen.**

- Then on the hands, saying: *May the Lord who frees you from sin save you and raise you up.*

You will answer: **Amen.**



CRANSLEY HOSPICE



Another bag of used stamps from the parish has been taken to Cransley Hospice which they sell for additional funding. We all get lots of used stamps at this time of year so please save them and put them in the box at the back of the church. Many thanks for your support.

COFFEE MORNINGS



The next **Wednesday Coffee Morning** will be run by **The Burton Latimer Community** after 10.00 am Mass on **3rd January**.

COFFEE MORNINGS 2024

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

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

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

On **3rd April** - **Legion of Mary**

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

KETTERING FOOD BANK



List of preferred items: various tins of meat, tuna chunks, soup, spaghetti, vegetable chili, 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 the large marked box at the 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.

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.

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.



A Lifeline for Marriage!

Do you feel lost, alone or bored in your marriage?

Has your marriage become stressed, unloving, cold?

Do you argue often?

Do you want to improve your communication?

Have you separated, divorced, or are you thinking about it?

Do you want to try again?

The **Retrouvaille** programme may be just what you need!

The next programme commences with a virtual weekend

8-11 February 2024

The following programme commences with a face to face weekend in Welwyn Garden City

14-16 June 2024

For more information phone or text: 07887 296983 or 07973 380443

Email: retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com

Website: www.retrouvaille.org.uk

Complete confidentiality assured

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.

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, **8th January 2024**.

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>

UNIVERSE CATHOLIC WEEKLY



The Universe Catholic Weekly Online Newspaper

Is true to its mission of being “a light to guide the world, and a mirror to reflect it” Keeping Catholics informed about their faith and bringing them ever closer to God. In order to keep our high standard going and maintain a strong weekly Catholic voice at a time when it is much needed in the world, please consider taking out a subscription.

We have an excellent website full of trustworthy articles and an online shop with all subscribers receiving a 10% discount.

Order **your Digital** 2 weeks **FREE introductory offer** by calling Michelle on 0743 661 7650 or email: michelle.jones@universecatholicweekly.co.uk

We invite you to submit articles/news and celebrations about your local parish activities.

Below is the link to the latest edition of the Universe Catholic Weekly:
<https://universecatholicweekly.co.uk/universe-weekly-newsletters/march-2023/UNIVERSE-24-MARCH.pdf>

You might have noticed that we have launched a hard copy of the paper on Friday 19th May. All your favourite news, views and faith articles are now available in print format alongside the digital edition.

The printed version of The Universe can be posted directly to print subscribers. It is identical to the digital version; the only difference is that it's a paper copy.

Subscription Rates for Print copy

3 month subscription (13 weekly copies) - £42 (£3.20 per copy)

6 month subscription (26 weekly copies) - £75 (£2.88 per copy)

Annual Subscription (52 weekly copies) - £140 (£2.69 per copy)

Cover price for a single copy - £3.50

Parish supplies available on request.

To subscribe to our print edition or for further information, please call Michelle Jones on 07436 617650 or email her at:

michelle.jones@universecatholicweekly.co.uk

