

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

6th Sunday of Ordinary Time

11th February 2024

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



*Our Lady of Lourdes,
Pray for us!*

THIS WEEK'S INTENTIONS



Saturday 06.30 pm - Michelle Villanueva RIP / - John Descales, Ena, Paul, Anne, Claudine, Olgo RIP and thanksgiving for the Descales family for all blessings received.

Sunday 08.30 am - Roberto RIP
09.00 am - / **Desborough** / - For the Parish
10.30 am - Nigel Stokes, birthday thanksgiving int. /
- Boyle / Collacot family RIP

Monday Private Mass - Alice Wathen

Tuesday 09.30 am - **Exposition and Adoration**
10.00 am - **Requiem Mass** for Sabina Marsden RIP

Wednesday 10.00 am - For all the Souls in Purgatory / - Dr. Roderick S. Mujer RIP
05.30 pm - / **Rothwell** / - For the Holy Souls
07.00 pm - For the Parish

Thursday 07.00 pm - Mr Varnhese RIP / - Jessie Spreckley RIP

Friday + 06.15 pm - **Stations of the Cross** +
07.00 pm - For the Holy Souls

Saturday 06.30 pm - Ruby Dellet RIP

Sunday 08.30 am - Stephen Doug Bridgeman RIP
09.00 am - / **Burton Latimer** / - For the Parish
10.30 am - Jules De Mello RIP / - Justin Ike for God's guidance
12.15 pm - / **Rothwell** / - For the Parish

There will be a 2nd Collection for the White Flower Appeal this weekend (only after 10.30 Mass).
There will be a 2nd Collection for CAFOD Family Fast Day on the 24th/25th Feb.

To request a Mass Intention please contact the parish office.

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

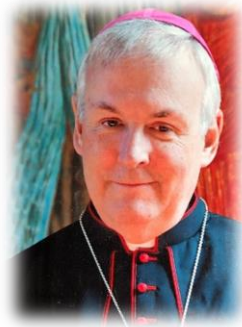
PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED



+ **Sabina Marsden** - Her Requiem Mass will be held at St Edward's on Tuesday,
13th February at 10 am.

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

Pastoral Letter Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time, 11 February 2024
Journeying Towards a Jubilee Year



My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

This coming Wednesday is Ash Wednesday and the beginning of the Season of Lent. Lent is an invitation for us all to reflect upon the great mysteries of faith we commemorate, particularly during Holy Week.

Next year is a Jubilee year, with the theme, *Pilgrims of Hope*. But what is this Jubilee about? This is how Pope Francis explains things: 'We must fan the flame of hope that has been given us and help everyone to gain new strength and certainty by looking to the future with an open spirit, a trusting heart and far-sighted vision. The forthcoming Jubilee can contribute greatly to restoring a climate of hope and trust as a prelude to the renewal and rebirth that we so urgently desire; that is why I have chosen as the motto of the Jubilee, *Pilgrims of Hope*.'

As I make my pilgrim way around the parishes of the Diocese, the life and witness of our parish communities are very encouraging. When we consider the decisions which must be made, we may recognise the trust and vision which these demand of us. This encourages us all to pray together for the gift of hope.

There is a particular context for our journey through Lent this year. As we look forward to the Jubilee Year, Pope Francis asks us to make 2024 a time of prayerful preparation, with a focus on the prayer that Jesus taught us, the *Our Father*. Prayer is a central element of a Jubilee year. Prayer, personal and communal, is essential if we are to discern the Lord's will for us as a Diocese moving forwards. There is an opportunity for us to reflect on the Lord's Prayer during the coming months, either individually or in groups, as we use a national resource that has been published by the Bishops' Conference. It is called *We Dare To Say*. Your priest will have copies of this and will no doubt encourage you to use this resource as a wonderful means of grace during this year.

From ancient times, Christians have made pilgrimages to holy places. They have sought to encounter the face of Christ, to deepen their faith and to touch the merciful reconciliation which Jesus offers each of us as pilgrims. Many of us may

remember the opportunity to pass through a *Holy Door*. This may have been in Rome. In recent times, dioceses have been able to make a holy door accessible more locally. And so pilgrimage is an important part of a Jubilee Year. Holy doors remind us of Jesus' words in the Gospel, '*I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture.*' Pilgrimage then, is a powerful expression of our decision to follow Jesus, the Good Shepherd and to be guided by Him.

Over the next two years, we have a number of diocesan pilgrimages available to us. These include our customary pilgrimages to Walsingham and Lourdes. In these places, we seek the maternal intercession of Our Lady. In October 2024, there will be a pilgrimage to Northern France, visiting Lisieux, Chartres and Paris. During the Jubilee Year in 2025, our Diocese, along with many others from around the world, will make a pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi. Whilst in Rome there is an opportunity to walk through the Holy Door at St Peter's Basilica. I look forward to being with you in these pilgrimages. Closer to home, there is a walking pilgrimage from the Cathedral in Northampton to the shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Bedford. In September this year, there is a National Eucharistic Congress at Oscott College. You may wish to organise parish pilgrimages to other holy places. I am very aware that many are unable to afford an overseas pilgrimage these days. But hopefully there will be an opportunity for each of us to participate in a pilgrimage journey.

We experience a Jubilee Year every twenty-five years in our Church. The last one was the millennium year of 2000. Occasionally, popes declare an extraordinary year of Jubilee, just as Pope Francis did when he proclaimed the *Year of Mercy* in 2015. The Jubilee Year of 2025 is already familiar to us. We chose its theme, *Pilgrims of Hope*, as the title of our diocesan Assembly last July. We continue to pray together. We hold spiritual conversations across the Diocese. We seek to discern the way forward in regard to the decisions we need to make. In all of this, we are involved in a holy pilgrimage. It is my sincere hope and prayer, each one of us will journey towards the forthcoming Holy Year with a sense of expectation. It is also my hope and prayer that the Jubilee Year, *Pilgrims of Hope*, will enable us to strengthen our witness of prayer across the Diocese and our endeavour to become truly and intentionally, missionary communities. To this end, I am spending an evening in a number of parishes across the Diocese. These evenings, rooted in prayer and dialogue, are opportunities to unpack and discuss the theme of *Pilgrims of Hope*. It would give me much joy to meet with you there.

Yours devotedly in Christ,

+ David Oakley,

Bishop of Northampton

OUR GIFT OF SELF



National Marriage Week is an annual celebration offering the opportunity to support and promote marriage and family life. A Christian marriage is rooted in faith; that means faith in God as the giver of life and the one who promises eternal life to those who believe in him.

Marriage Week ends on Valentine's Day! However, today's secular response to St. Valentine has completely lost sight of the original person and meaning. The true story of St. Valentine, like most early saints, is mostly lost to the mists of time but our best understanding is that he was a priest in Rome under Emperor Claudius II. When the Emperor forbade young men to marry, so as to more easily recruit them into his army, St. Valentine began conducting secret weddings. For this he was arrested, imprisoned and eventually executed. His life stands as a testament to the importance of life-long romantic love, sacrificing his liberty and his life in order to support couples in their pursuit of marital holiness.

Most of us think of love as that feeling of affection and attachment we experience for another person. But is love *just* a feeling? Or is there more to it? We recall St. Paul's great reflection (1 Cor 13) about love being patient, kind, never jealous or boastful or conceited, never rude, selfish or resentful, being always ready to excuse, trust and endure whatever comes. Both this reflection and the love poetry of the Old Testament's Song of Songs are often used as readings at weddings. Written as a poetic dialogue between the bride and groom, the Song of Songs speaks of the raptures of being in love. It also represents the nature of God's love for His people. [This video](#) is worth watching to understand the context and structure of this love poetry.

Every person experiences love in a unique way. Some gestures of love will more powerfully communicate love than others. For example, some people feel close and connected when they can physically touch the other person. Others demonstrate love through words of affirmation or affection, acts of service or thoughtfulness, or by spending time in close conversation.

In our culture, 'love' is generally seen to be a feeling. We 'fall' into love and we 'fall' out of it; love is something that just happens to us – we can't help falling in and out of love. It's a feeling over which we have no control... or so the culture tells us. But there is another view and a better definition. St. Thomas Aquinas defined love as "seeking the good of the other". In his philosophy, feelings and emotions were secondary to the will when it came to love.

In fact, love is a choice. It's a conscious, deliberate choice to make a gift of one's self to another. In his "Theology of the Body", St. John Paul II saw this 'gift of self' in marriage as being made in various ways through the body. We are embodied souls, so our 'gift of self' will be expressed and lived out through bodily acts. This may for example, take the form of a generous act of service, or of listening to the other patiently, or the total 'gift of self' enacted in marital union between husband and wife. This 'gift of self' may be unilateral or mutual – e.g. a parent-child relationship is most often a one-sided 'gift of self'. It is a benevolent love in which the parent has no expectation of having his or her personal needs met by the child.

In a mutual 'gift of self', the love is reciprocated. This is the ideal of the husband and wife relationship, where both make a sincere 'gift of self' to each other, and both sincerely seek the good of the other and to meet their needs for appreciation, affection, companionship, respect and intimacy. These qualities of married love are evident in the Catholic wedding vows and form the basis of Catholic marriage. They also speak to the nature of Christ's love for his 'bride', i.e: the people of God. And that's one of the reasons why Matrimony is a Sacrament (a sign) because it demonstrates and makes visible to the world the nature of God's love. It is the means whereby husband and wife sanctify (make holy) the other, helping each other to Heaven.

Our diocesan course providers, SmartLoving, provide an online enrichment course for married couples wanting a lasting, passionate relationship as God intended. Accessed from the privacy of your home on your own timetable, this course will energise your relationship, revitalise your passion and equip you with practical tools for every day. To find out more visit: smartloving.org/marriage-kit (Use code MarriageWeek24 for half price). There is also a resource from our bishops that you can [download here](#) to help you pray through this week and reflect on the vocation of marriage.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR ASH WEDNESDAY AND LENT



14th February - Ash Wednesday

10.00 am - St Edward's, Kettering

05.30 pm - St Bernadette's, Rothwell

07.00 pm - St Edward's, Kettering

STATIONS OF THE CROSS



+ Every **Wednesday at 9.20 am** before Mass at 10 am

+ Every **Friday at 6.15 pm** before Mass at 7 pm

< **Good Friday - Stations of the Cross at 7 pm** >

+ + +

Stations of the Cross at **Desborough** and **Rothwell** led by parishioners

Friday, 16th February at 5 pm - Desborough

Friday, 23rd February at 11 am - Rothwell

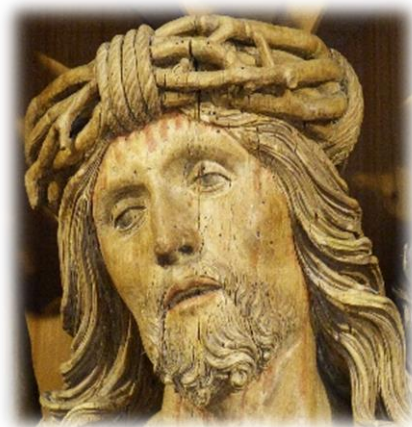
Friday, 1st March at 5 pm - Desborough

Friday, 8th March at 11 am - Rothwell

Friday, 15th March at 5 pm - Desborough

Friday, 22nd March at 11 am - Rothwell

Good Friday, 29th March

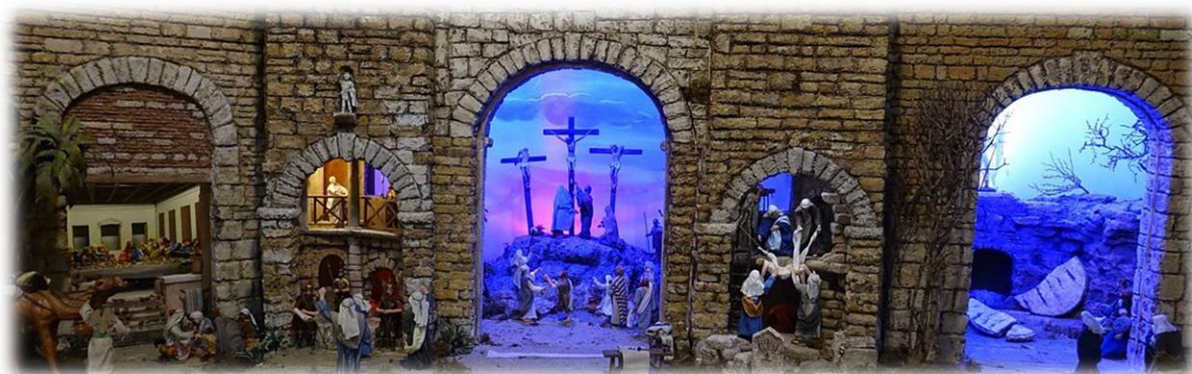


29th March at 11 am - The Stations of the Cross in **Burton Latimer**

29th March at 11 am - The Stations of the Cross in **Rothwell**

29th March at 5 pm - The Stations of the Cross in **Desborough**

THE TRIDUUM AND EASTER 2024



Maundy Thursday - 7.00 pm - Mass

Good Friday - 3.00 pm - Liturgy of the Passion of the Lord,
7.00 pm - Stations of the Cross

Holy Saturday - 8.00 pm - Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday

Masses at **8.30 am** and **10.30 am**

Burton Latimer - 9.00 am, Desborough - 9.00 am, Rothwell - 12.15 pm.

THE PILGRIMS OF HOPE TOUR



Throughout 2024 we are asked to prepare for the **Jubilee year 2025**, by hosting a 'year of prayer'. As part of this year of prayer, Bishop David Oakley will be coming to a parish near you to reflect on what it means to be a pilgrim of hope. He will answer questions from those present and pray together as a community. You are invited to attend and invite those who wish to discover more of the beauty of our Catholic faith.

WHERE AND WHEN IS THE PILGRIM OF HOPE TOUR NEAR US?

Thursday 7th March at 7 pm
Our Lady of the Sacred Heart,
Wellingborough

CAN YOU PLAY THE PIANO?



Can you play the piano? If so, you might be the answer to our prayers! The choir are looking for a piano player. We would love someone to play for us every third Sunday of the month and to rehearse with us on the Tuesday before we sing on those Sundays. We also need someone to play for us on Maundy Thursday- 28th March. If you can play on this date and/ or more regularly please let Fr Gregory know as soon as possible. If you would like to sing with us, please come to rehearsals on Tuesday evening at 7:30 in the upper room above the church hall. You don't need to be able to read music- you just need to enjoy singing!

THE PARISH YOUTH GROUP



If you would like your son or daughter to take part in youth group activities, please email the parish office and request a registration form. The next meeting will be on **Friday, 1st March at 6.30 pm.**

A MESSAGE FROM SEMINARIAN RENVER



Renver has arrived safely to the Royal English College of Valladolid in Spain. He sends, in his own words, *“my regards and thanks to all the Parishioners of St. Edward's Parish. For all the love and support I have received, the gifts, the assurance of their prayers, the affirming and encouraging words, and for the warm welcome and for allowing me the pleasure of joining their parish family.”*

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 March 2024**.

COFFEE MORNINGS



The next **Wednesday Coffee Morning** will be run by **the Rothwell Community** after 10.00 am Mass on **6th March**.

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

On **1st May** - SVP

On **5th June** - UCM

CAFOD



CAFOD Family Fast Day appeal - This Lent, your donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day appeal will help hardworking people like James the fisherman in Liberia with resources, tools and training to feed their families for good. Give today using the envelope or online at cafod.org.uk and please join us in praying with James that our sisters and brothers around the world have what they need to feed their families. Use the envelope in church or give online at cafod.org.uk

PILGRIMAGES



As we prepare for the Jubilee year in 2025 as 'Pilgrims of Hope' you are invited to join our diocese on pilgrimage. There are plenty to choose from including the Shrines of Northern France in October 2024, Lourdes in August 2024, Walsingham in June 2024 and Rome and Assisi in 2025. For more information on all of these pilgrimages and our diocesan walking pilgrimage, 'The Way of Our Lady of Guadalupe' visit <https://northamptondiocese.org/pilgrimage/>

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.

DONATIONS BY CARD

You will find the **DONA STATION** next to the statue of the Sacred Heart.

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