



Catholic Cluster of Blessed Peter Wright

Comprising the churches of:

Saint Paul the Apostle | Thrapston

The Most Holy Name of Jesus | Oundle

Saint Thomas More | Raunds



Parish Priest: Father Benedetto D'Autilia

SERVICES FOR THE WEEK

Psalter Week 1

Sunday 3rd December 2023

First Sunday of Advent – Year B

Liturgical Colour: Violet

Second Collection: SVP Society of St Vincent de Paul

- 5:00pm(Sat) (STM) Vigil Holy Mass (*Pro Populo*)
- 9:15am (MHNJ) Holy Mass (*Private Intention*)
- 11:00am (SPA) Holy Mass (*Madalena Fernandes Carlos, Palmira dos Santos, Salvador Soriano Pereira RIP*)

During the Week – Year I

Monday (STM) Feria of Advent

10:00am Holy Mass

Tuesday (SPA) Feria of Advent

9:00am NO MASS

Thursday (SPA) Memoria of St Ambrose

10:00am Holy Mass (*Private Intention*)

Friday (MHNJ) Solemnity of the IMMACULATE Conception

10:00am Holy Mass followed by **Confessions**

(*John Haggarty RIP*)

Saturday (SPA) Feria of Advent

9:00am Holy Mass followed by *Holy Hour*

9:45-10:30am **CONFESSIONS**

CONFESSIONS

As advertised above or by appointment

MHNJ: *Most Holy Name of Jesus church, OUNDLE*

SPA: *St Paul the Apostle church, THRAPSTON*

STM: *St Thomas More church, RAUNDS*

Diocesan Patronal Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Bishop David will preside at Mass to celebrate our Diocesan Patronal Feast. Our two diocesan Patrons are Our Lady Immaculate and St Thomas Becket.

All are invited to attend Mass in **Northampton Cathedral at 7 pm on Friday 8th December** and for mince pies after in the St Thomas Centre. Fr Benedetto will be attending and has three available seats in his car. He will leave at 5.15pm



caritas

diocese of northampton

Love Christmas Campaign 2023 – Caritas Northampton

Share God's love for us with so many locally who are in real need and poverty. Join the SVP, Caritas and parishes and schools across the diocese to support families with young children, the elderly, the lonely and isolated, young carers, children from broken homes, children in care, young people leaving the care system, and many others.

If you are able to please donate a present for an adult or child which will be distributed to local people and families in need.

A box will be put at the back of each church from December. More information can be found in a poster at the back of the church or on the link. <https://youtu.be/pfJiM5K-qal>

2nd COLLECTIONS

26th Nov: Catholic Youth Services

3rd Dec: SVP Society of St Vincent de Paul

10th Dec: Christmas Flowers

BAPTISM

Please pray for **Claire Buzzell**, who has been Baptised on Saturday 2nd December at St Paul's church in Thrapston. Keep her parents and family in your prayers.

SUN 26th NOVEMBER 1st COLLECTION

Holy Name's: £110.00
S.O.: £225.00

St Paul's: £94.14
St Thomas': £117.67
S.O.: £150.00

2nd COLLECTION

Holy Name's: £41.00
St Paul's: £53.66
St Thomas': £56.00

REQUIESCAT IN PACE

Please pray for the eternal rest of **Julia Bridget Sperring**, who passed away peacefully last Tuesday. Keep her family in your prayers as they go through this difficult time.

The Funeral will take place at Most Holy Name's church on **Mon 11th December at 2.00pm.**

MEETING TIMES THIS WEEK

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CATECHISM

On Mondays at St Thomas More church in Raunds at 5.00pm

CONFIRMATION CATECHISM

On Fridays at Oundle School Chaplaincy building at 5.30pm.

PARISHIONERS PRAYER GROUP

Zoom meetings every Tuesday at 7pm
All parishioners are welcome.

If you need further information, please email Marlene on mrod268@yahoo.com

RAUNDS PRAYER GROUP

Prayer meetings every Friday at St Thomas More church
2.00pm Rosary and Divine Mercy chaplet
3.00pm Stations of the Cross
All parishioners are welcome.

PARISH NOTICES



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.

December 3, 2023

Sincerely, Bishop David Oakley Bishop of Northampton

Video of the Bishop's Advent Message:

<https://youtu.be/hT3iebbvSDg?si=DcWo4ABCQrIBBA69>

Online Advent Retreat 2023 – Let the wilderness bloom!

An Advent journey with John the Baptist

4 Monday evenings, **7.30-8.30pm, from 27th November**, with Canon John Udris and Avril Baigent

We know that parishes are starting their Advent planning and this could make a lovely resource for a parish Advent group, either live on the night, or available at any time afterwards. It is available on YouTube so does not require zoom and can be played via smart TVs. Here is last year's series to give a flavour of what to expect: https://pastoralministryoffice.org/walking_by_starlight-2/

Cluster Coffee Morning in Oundle – Last Tuesday

Thank you to those who came to my house on Tuesday for our Cluster Coffee Morning. We raised a total of £70.85 for our churches. *Tricia Shingles*

Big Clean at Most Holy Name Church

Advance warning of a Christmas Big Clean at Most Holy Name Church on **Tuesday 12th December at 10.00**. If you can join in and help that would be great! There are some standard cleaning materials but if you have any favourite cloths or cleaners they would be useful. Coffee and nibbles provided! Many thanks!

Bring and Share Lunch - February 2024

3rd February 2024 at the Bowls Club in Oundle. More information to come.

Donations towards club heating and lighting for the session; any profit towards our churches maintenance.

Blessed Peter Wright Cluster Recipe Book

THANK YOU to all who have contributed to the Oundle recipe book - there were really not enough to use but too many to abandon! Now we have 'clustered' it would seem sensible to open this to St Paul's and St Thomas More. Everyone has a 'go to' recipe or two, those family favourites which are cooked from memory or from recipe books which open regularly at that particular page. Please

let me have any that you would like to share.

Email me (eandrpole@gmail.com) Many thanks!

Elizabeth Poole

DIOCESAN NOTICES

“Safeguarding is rightly at the heart of our mission”

Safeguarding in our community is the responsibility of us all. If you are concerned about the welfare of a child or adult at risk, do not delay in contacting the police, using 999 if a child or adult is believed to be in immediate danger.

It is the policy of the Catholic Church in England and Wales to report all allegations of abuse to statutory authorities, regardless of whether the abuse occurred recently or in the past, or whether the accused person is living or deceased.

If you are in any role within our Church, you must refer allegations directly to our diocesan safeguarding office, or directly to the Police.

Every human being has a value and dignity which we as Catholics acknowledge as coming directly from God’s creation of male and female in his own image and likeness. We believe therefore that all people should be valued, supported and protected from harm.

In the Catholic Church this is demonstrated by the provision of carefully planned activities for children, young people and adults; supporting families under stress; caring for those hurt by abuse in the past; ministering to and managing those who have caused harm.

It is because of these varied ministries that we need to take all reasonable steps to provide a safe environment for all which promotes and supports their wellbeing. This will include carefully selecting and appointing those who work with children, young people or adults at risk and responding robustly where concern arises.

Check for your roles and responsibilities on our diocesan weblink below:

<https://northhamptondiocese.org/sgresponsibilities/>

Synod On Synodality

This week the 16th Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops concluded following three weeks of (relatively) unreported dialogue. The delegates issued a letter to the people of God, pre-empting the release of the synthesis closing this part of the synodal journey.

The **letter to the people of God** can be found here <https://northhamptondiocese.org/listen-to-everyone-start-with-the-poorest/>

The **synthesis** can be read here <https://northhamptondiocese.org/a-synodal-church-in-mission/>

Thriving or Closing?

Thursday 7th December 7 PM

Will my parish still be here in 10 years? If it were to close, would the community even notice?

In the face of such sobering thought, the good news is that parishes can come to new life if they live their missionary identity and make new disciples. Think it’s time to take a more serious look into the problem of church decline? Join Bishop David Oakley and Fr.

James Mallon on Tuesday, **7th December** in our online event, Thriving or Closing: Where is your parish going? <https://divinerenovation.tfaforms.net/f/CPSDecember>

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.

MISSION NORTHAMPTON

The Secrets of St Paul is a 10-week online course beginning on **Wednesday 10th January** and finishing on **Wednesday 20th March**.

Participants will have an opportunity to reflect on the life of St Paul as a model missionary disciple. For more information visit www.northhamptondiocese.org/courses or call 01604 434362

LUX – Youth Ministry Office

Our diocesan youth ministry office, NYMO has announced the dates of the next residential weekend for young people.

‘Lux.dive’ will take place from **Friday 9th – Sunday 11th February 2024**.

The weekend is open to all those in school years 7-13 and costs £125 pp (which is great value in today’s inflated market!) visit <https://nymo.org/lux-dive/>

Trinity Conference:

Reawakening the Catholic Vision On Saturday 17 February 2024, 9 am to 5pm, you are invited to explore all of this and more at the Trinity Conference: Reawakening the Catholic Vision.

How can the Catholic Church respond to an increasingly disaffiliated and disengaged generation? What is the future of our Catholic parishes, schools, and homes? TC24 will explore the context of 'post-Christendom' society, and the implications this has for the Church's mission today.

For the full timetable and booking info see: <https://www.leadstrinity.ac.uk/events/events/trinity-conference-2024-reawakening-the-catholic-vision.php>

Sycamore – Advent Course

An advent course for those wishing to renew their faith in the season of Advent. This is a four-week video series

<https://www.sycamore.fm/pathways/b-formation-pathways/advent-course/>

60 Second Advent Reflections

Fr Brendan Seery has recorded more of this popular series for the season of Advent. In each video, Fr Brendan explores a theme for this time of year in less than one minute. Watch the first of the video's here

https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLigXOaGqhQzN4s4QVC3its7F71gJYet_Q&si=9EMtiJf2EqU7IQPr

The Sisters of the Morning Star Convent

A community of contemplative sisters who reside in the Diocese of Plymouth would like to pray for your intention. The Sisters of the Morning Star Convent in Lynton, Devon will pray for you, your parish and any other intention you have, simply fill out this brief online form: <https://www.marymorningstar.co.uk/prayer-requests>

Holy Land Crisis

Will you email the Foreign Secretary to urge the UK to play its part in upholding international law, ensuring humanitarian aid can reach people in need, and working with other world leaders to secure a lasting peace for the region? CAFOD are urging individuals to email the Foreign Secretary here:

https://action.cafod.org.uk/page/136932/action/1?_gl=1*8ygc13*_ga*NTQ5NDY2ODA4LjE2OTczNTg2NzZM.*_ga_S7Z01NJESC*MTY5OTQyNjA2My4yLjEuMTY5OTQyNjA4Ni4zNy4wLjA.

2024: Year of Prayer

As you will be aware, Pope Francis has designated 2023 and 2024 as preparatory years for the Jubilee in 2025. The 2024 'Year of Prayer' begins at the start of Advent.

During this year there will be a diocesan pilgrimage to Northern France (more information will follow) and resources will be developed by individual diocesan departments. Bishop David will also undertake a 'Pilgrims of Hope' tour across the diocese (more to follow).

Fr Rob Taylerson, a Priest of the Archdiocese of Birmingham and Spiritual Director at St Mary's College, Oscott, has produced a new guide to accompany the Year of Prayer journey. Pope Francis' Catechesis on Prayer, arranged for each liturgical week can be used from this Advent, which marks the start of the Year of Prayer.

As far as possible Fr Taylerson has arranged the 38 talks to match the Sunday readings for the liturgical year ahead, with some talks being used twice. I have attached the document to this email.

Further resources can be found here <https://northhamptondiocese.org/year-of-prayer/>

Catholic Bishop's Conference of England and Wales

The Bishops of England and Wales, including Bishop David met at Hinsley Hall last week for their November plenary meeting. With the conclusion of the meeting, CBCEW announced the following resolutions from the meeting:

1. Environment, St Winefride, Eucharistic Congress and the conflict in Gaza <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/short-plenary-resolutions-autumn-2023/>
2. Synod on Synodality <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/synod-plenary-resolution-autumn-2023/>

LATEST NEWS

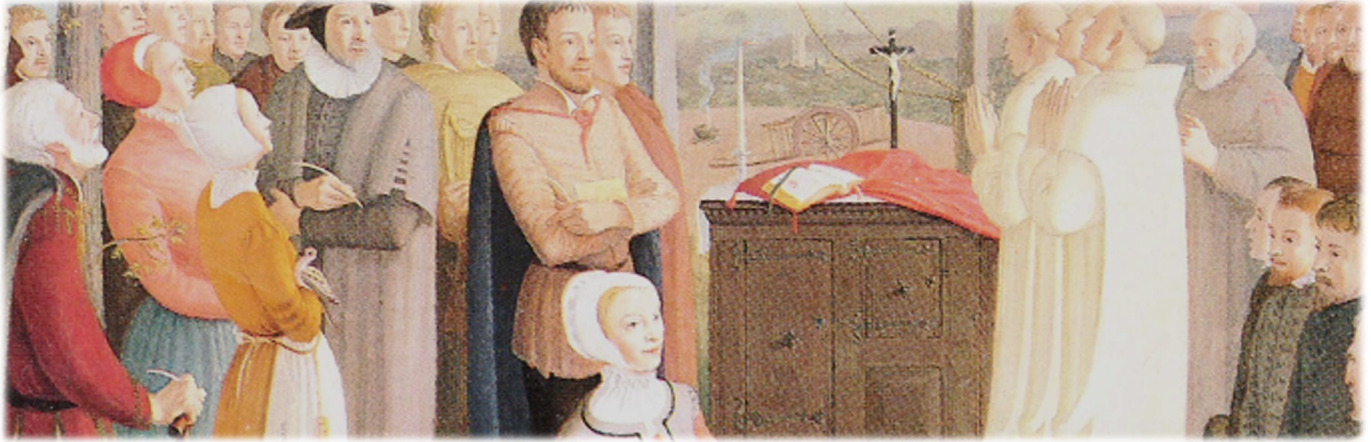
All the latest news and future events from around the diocese

[FUTURE EVENTS](#)

[CONTACT US HERE](#)



The Guild of OUR LADY OF RANSOM



The Guild of Our Lady of Ransom through a Grant has funded our Parish Mission for 2023, which will take place around Thrapston and Raunds in the Autumn.

The Guild was founded on 29th November 1887 with the following mission:

- The conversion of heart of the people of England and Wales
'Go therefore and make disciples of all nations'
Matthew 28:19
- Welcoming home those who have lapsed from the practice of their Catholic faith
'We must celebrate with a feast, for this son of mine was dead and has now returned to life. He was lost, but now he is found.' Luke 1:24
- Praying for those who have died who have no one to pray for them
'It is therefore a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead, that they may be loosed from sins.' 2 Maccabees 12:46

Please let us pray for the success of our Parish Mission of Evangelisation and for the work of the Guild of Our Lady of Ransom.

The prayer on the right is a great tool for us to ask for Conversion.

The Ransomer's Prayer

Jesus, Convert England

Jesus, Have Mercy On This Country.

(Dying Prayer of Blessed Henry Heath)

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.

Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now, and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Our Lady of Ransom, Pray for us
Our Lady of Walsingham, Pray for us
St Gregory the Great, Pray for us
St Augustine of Canterbury, Pray for us
St Thomas Becket, Pray for us
St John Fisher, Pray for us
St Thomas More, Pray for us
St Margaret Clitherow, Pray for us
St John Henry Newman, Pray for us
Blessed Henry Heath, Pray for us
Blessed English Martyrs, Pray for us



COST OF LIVING HELP BOOKLET

<https://www.caritas.org/>

You will find some copies of this Cost Of Living Help Booklet at the entrance of our churches.

Safeguarding

Within our diocesan safeguarding structures, the healing and reconciliation group is focussed entirely on representing the voice of survivors and reaching out to those who have been hurt by abuse. As a diocese we are particularly keen to encourage membership from those who have lived experience of abuse. We value your insight and would like to be able to listen, hear and act upon your advice to help improve our response to those who have been hurt by abuse. To make further enquiries please contact safeguarding office on **01604723514** or safeguarding@northamptondiocese.org

PARISH SAFEGUARDING CONTACT

Pro Tempore Safeguarding officer - Kathy Franklin
franklin.kathym@gmail.com

Is your child crying during Mass?

Very small children—infants and toddlers—are quite capable of making a great deal of noise, but they generally do so for some reason: because they are uncomfortable, hungry, or tired, for example. If they are making a noise, it may be possible to quiet them there and then, but very often a parent will have to take them outside: not just for the sake of other people, but to meet the child's needs.

In our churches there are areas where you can take your child.

Saint Paul's: back room with glass panelling.

Saint Thomas': Meeting Room.

Most Holy Name's: former sacristy.

Standing outside a church with a small child is, after all, a way of serving God, and you are "morally present" at Mass as far as meeting your own obligation to attend is concerned.

Soft toys should be preferred to be brought into the church.

You're Needed...!

Helpers are needed to help as Sacristan, readers, cleaners and to count the offertory after Mass on Sunday.

If you are willing to help, please let Fr Benedetto know.

Thank you.

Parish Priest: Father Benedetto D'Autilia

01832 617 050 | email: frbenedetto.dautilia@northamptondiocese.org

Our Churches:

St Paul the Apostle: Sackville Street, Thrapston NN14 4NZ

The Most Holy Name of Jesus: Stoke Hill, Oundle PE8 4BH

St Thomas More: 6 Marshall's Rd, Raunds, Wellingborough NN9 6HP

Contact us:

Postal address: The Presbytery, 2 St Paul's Gardens, Thrapston, NN14 4FE

Newsletter additions (deadline Tuesday 5pm) : parish.eastnorthants@northamptondiocese.org

Website:

www.eastnorthantscatholic.org

MASS INTENTIONS

A Mass intention may involve an optional personal donation to the priest, which goes into the parish funds, as your parish priest receives a monthly stipend and so does not keep any 'stole fees'. If you wish, be generous as you can, for this is a small but pious contribution to our parish.

ADVANCE NOTICE

Masses at Christmas

Sunday 24th December

5.00pm Vigil Mass at St Thomas'

8.00pm Mass during the Night at St Paul's

Monday 25th December

9.00am Mass at Dawn at Most Holy Name's

11.00am Mass during the Day at St Paul's



**St Vincent
de Paul Society**

England and Wales

Turning Concern into Action

svp140512@gmail.com

Joe Gasan on 07565 395955

www.svp.org.uk

Parish Giving

Regular standing order donations may be made directly to your Parish or by standing order:

St Paul the Apostle | Thrapston

St Thomas More | Raunds

Nat West

Account : RCDN St Pauls Parish Thrapston

Sort Code : 60-06-11

Account No: 65068874

The Most Holy Name of Jesus | Oundle

Nat West

Account Name : RCDN Most Holy Name of Jesus

Sort Code: 60-06-11

Account No : 46714626

Please complete a "Gift-Aid" declaration and your Parish receives tax refund cash on your behalf.

Please ask for a form by email.

Thank you