

Parish Priest: Father Benedetto D’Autilia

The Theological Sense of the Liturgy

In his last Letter, “*Desiderio Desideravi*”, His Holiness Pope Francis reminded us to live the liturgy fully. In fact we can read: “We owe to the Council — and to the liturgical movement that preceded it — the rediscovery of a theological understanding of the Liturgy and of its importance in the life of the Church. As the general principles spelled out in *Sacrosanctum Concilium* have been fundamental for the reform of the liturgy, they continue to be fundamental for the promotion of that full, conscious, active, and fruitful celebration (cf. *Sacrosanctum Concilium*, nn. 11; 14), in the liturgy “the primary and indispensable source from which the faithful are to derive the true Christian spirit” (*Sacrosanctum Concilium*, n. 14).

With this letter I simply want to invite the whole Church to **rediscover**, to **safeguard**, and to **live** the truth and power of the Christian celebration. I want the beauty of the Christian celebration and its necessary consequences for the life of the Church not to be spoiled by a superficial and foreshortened understanding of its value or, worse yet, by its being exploited in service of some ideological vision, no matter what the hue. The priestly prayer of Jesus at the Last Supper that all may be one (Jn 17:21) judges every one of our divisions around the Bread broken, around the sacrament of mercy, the sign of unity, the bond of charity.”

The pope continues in his letter by showing two attitudes to the liturgy which are “distorted forms of Christianity”.

“The action of the celebration does not belong to the individual but to the Christ-Church, to the totality of the faithful united in Christ. The liturgy does not say “I” but “we,” and any limitation on the breadth of this “we” is always demonic. The Liturgy does not leave us alone to search out an individual supposed knowledge of the mystery of God. Rather, it takes us by the hand, together, as an assembly, to lead us deep within the mystery that the Word and the sacramental signs reveal to us.”

“The liturgical celebration purifies us, proclaiming the gratuity of the gift of salvation received in faith. Participating in the Eucharistic sacrifice is not our own achievement, as if because of it we could boast before God or before our brothers and sisters.” Cf. *Pope Francis, Desiderio Desideravi, 16,19,20*

MEETING TIMES THIS WEEK

SATURDAY VIGIL MASS

St Thomas Raunds | 5:00pm

SUNDAY MASSES

Most Holy Name Oundle | 9:15am

St Paul Thrapston | 11:00am

CONFESSIONS

During Adoration on Thursdays & Fridays

Also by appointment.

PLUS FOR CHRISTMAS – at St Paul’s

Friday 16th December 6.30pm-8pm

Saturday 17th December 10am-11.30am

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.

YOUNG PEOPLE’S MEETING

Ages 10-18 - with Father Benedetto

St Paul the Apostle | Thrapston

Saturday 3rd December 12-noon



SECOND COLLECTION THIS SUNDAY

SVP – Society of St Vincent de Paul

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT SUNDAY

Flowers for Christmas

| | St. Paul the Apostle Thrapston | Most Holy Name of Jesus Oundle | St. Thomas More Raunds |
|-----------------|---|--|--|
| Sunday | SUNDAY 11th DECEMBER 3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT 'GAUDETE' 11:00am : Mass Agnes & David Timlin, Margaret Feely & Winifred Barrowman RIP 2nd Collection: SVP | SUNDAY 11th DECEMBER 3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT 'GAUDETE' 09:15am : Mass Pro Populo 2nd Collection: SVP | SATURDAY 10th DECEMBER VIGIL OF THE 3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT 5:00pm : Mass Aaron Francis RIP 2nd Collection: SVP |
| weekdays | TUESDAY 13th DECEMBER 10:00am : Mass Peter Murphy well-being | TUESDAY 13th DECEMBER 7:00pm Parishioners Prayer Meeting on Zoom | MONDAY 12th DECEMBER 10.00am : Mass Dennis Moran well-being |
| | THURSDAY 15th DECEMBER 10:00am : Mass Adoration & Confessions after Mass Philip Humphrey well-being | FRIDAY 16th DECEMBER 10:00am : Mass Adoration & Confessions after Mass | FRIDAY 16th DECEMBER 2pm : Rosary & Divine Mercy 3pm : Stations of the Cross |
| Sunday | SUNDAY 18th DECEMBER 4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT 11:00am : Mass 2nd Collection: Church Flowers | SUNDAY 18th DECEMBER 4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT 09:15am : Mass 2nd Collection: Church Flowers | SATURDAY 17th DECEMBER VIGIL OF THE 4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT 5:00pm : Mass Pat Bailey well-being 2nd Collection: Church Flowers |

FROM THE CATECHISM – THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART,
AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND

THE FIRST COMMANDMENT

"I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself a graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; you shall not bow down to them or serve them." (Ex 20:2-5)

It is written: *"You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve."* (Mt 4:10)

II. "Him Only Shall You Serve"

2095 The theological virtues of faith, hope, and charity inform and give life to the moral virtues. Thus charity leads us to render to God what we as creatures owe him in all justice. the virtue of religion disposes us to have this attitude.

Adoration

2096 Adoration is the first act of the virtue of religion. To adore God is to acknowledge him as God, as the Creator and Saviour, the Lord and Master of everything that exists, as infinite and merciful Love. "You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve," says Jesus, citing Deuteronomy.

2097 To adore God is to acknowledge, in respect and absolute submission, the "nothingness of the creature" who would not exist but for God. To adore God is to praise and exalt him and to humble oneself, as Mary did in the Magnificat, confessing with gratitude that he has done great things and holy is his name. The worship of the one God sets man free from turning in on himself, from the slavery of sin and the idolatry of the world.

Prayer

2098 The acts of faith, hope, and charity enjoined by the first commandment are accomplished in prayer. Lifting up the mind toward God is an expression of our adoration of God: prayer of praise and thanksgiving, intercession and petition. Prayer is an indispensable condition for being able to obey God's commandments. " (We) ought always to pray and not lose heart."

Sacrifice

2099 It is right to offer sacrifice to God as a sign of adoration and gratitude, supplication and communion: "Every action done so as to cling to God in communion of holiness, and thus achieve blessedness, is a true sacrifice."

2100 Outward sacrifice, to be genuine, must be the expression of spiritual sacrifice: "The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit...." The prophets of the Old Covenant often denounced sacrifices that were not from the heart or not coupled with love of neighbor.

Jesus recalls the words of the prophet Hosea: "I desire mercy, and not sacrifice." The only perfect sacrifice is the one that Christ offered on the cross as a total offering to the Father's love and for our salvation. By uniting ourselves with his sacrifice we can make our lives a sacrifice to God.

Your Legacy Awareness

Invest in the future of your Parish and our Diocese

YOUR LEGACY

**Help secure the future of
our Church
for the benefit
of those
following in your footsteps**

**A gift of just 1%
in your Will
leaves those closest
to you with
99% of your estate**



**The Northampton Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust
Charity number: 234091**



**If you want to learn more about
this**

initiative visit our diocesan website

**[https://northamptondiocese.org/leg
acy/](https://northamptondiocese.org/legacy/)**

The St Vincent de Paul Charity at work in our community

In recent weeks, the St Vincent de Paul (SVP) Charity in Kettering has grown in size and has joined with the SVP in Thrapston to create a combined Kettering & Thrapston SVP Conference, with a combined team of 15 volunteers, serving the communities of Kettering, Rothwell, Desborough, Thrapston, Oundle and Raunds.

Our SVP volunteers seek to help those who are in need, whether this means providing support to those who are suffering from loneliness, those who are sick or those who may need help with basic day to day issues. In some cases, we are able to provide financial support to beneficiaries to purchase basic items such as white goods or furniture through the kind donations that we receive.

Earlier this year, in response to the tragic war in Ukraine, the SVP in England and Wales set up a financial Disaster Fund, created from public donations to support families fleeing Ukraine and coming to the UK to stay with sponsor families. In our area, the SVP has been accessing this fund to help several dozens of Ukraine families with financial support to help them become established and to purchase items such as winter clothing, help with transport costs, children's uniforms, furniture and other basic requirements. This work is still ongoing as we find more families who have to come live with sponsors in our area.

More recently, in response to the dramatic cost-of-living crisis, the SVP has further launched a £500,000 Cost of Living Support Fund to support families and individuals who need help during the crisis this winter. We are now able to access this fund to support those in need in our local community.

Therefore, if you know of anyone in our community who may be struggling and could benefit from support from the SVP, please get in touch (see details below) – all calls are confidential. Also, if you would like to make a donation or wish to enquire about becoming a volunteer with the SVP, we would be delighted to hear from you. Many thanks for your kind support!

For further information, please contact: Joe Gasan – 07860 372283, or email svpthrapston@gmail.com. Also, if you would like more information about the work of the SVP charity, then please visit our website www.svp.org.uk

Cost of Living Support Fund



Cost-of-Living Crisis
Can you help?

As winter approaches, people on low incomes will be hardest hit.

We've launched a £500,000 Cost-of-living Support Fund to help our local groups support individuals and families through this difficult time.

Know someone who needs help?

- Contact your local SVP
- Request help on our website
- Join the SVP

If you'd like to donate (maybe you've received a winter fuel payment you don't need?), scan the QR code opposite.

St Vincent de Paul Society
England and Wales
Turning Concern into Action

Registered Charity No: 1032922, Company registered in England & Wales No: 3174876

Together we can make a difference.

To donate, visit our website:

fundraising.svp.org.uk/page/113481/donate/1
or scan this QR code >>



A lovely Christmas gift idea

GOD IS NOT A MAN IN THE SKY

Elizabeth Peck

Illustrated by Joanne Reid

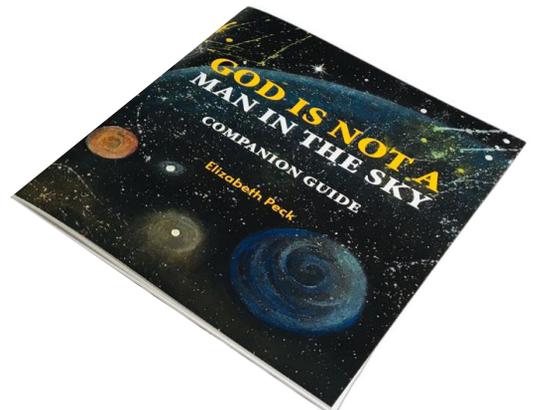
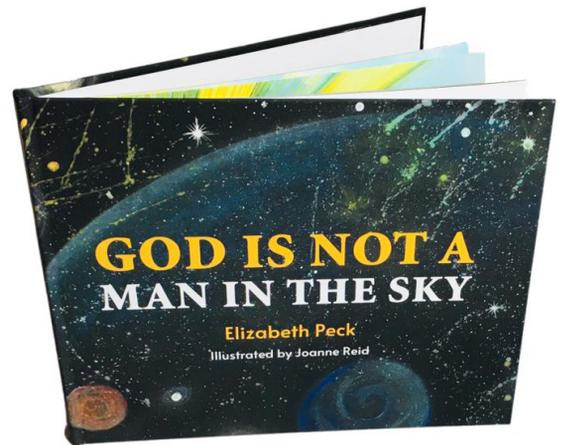
'Lizzy Peck has written the book we have all been waiting for.'

Nicholas King SJ, Campion Hall, Oxford University

God Is Not A Man In The Sky comprises two parts: a beautifully-illustrated, hardback children's book, and the Companion Guide, an accompanying booklet for adults.

The children's book, quite possibly the first of its kind, tells the story of existence from both scientific and biblical perspectives through the Franciscan lens. Beginning 'before' God's creation of the universe, the narrative unfolds through the Big Bang, evolution, the development of humanity, and the covenant, culminating in redemption through Jesus Christ.

Suitable for five to thirteen year-olds, younger children are able to learn valuable truths through both text and artwork, while older readers may appreciate the book independently. The Companion Guide provides helpful explanations of the themes encountered in the book.




FRANCISCAN
PUBLISHING

GBP £19.50

www.franciscanpublishing.com

Oundle & District Choral Society

Magnificat in D Major - Johann Sebastian Bach

Mass in G Major - Franz Schubert



Joanna Forbes-L'Estrange - Soprano
Kirsty O'Neill - Soprano
Joe Bolger - Counter Tenor
Ben Thapa - Tenor
Jonny Gibson-Smith - Baritone

Elizabeth Arkell - Accompanist

Oundle & District Choral Society

Quentin Thomas - Conductor

Saturday 10th December, 7.30pm

St Peter's Church, Oundle, PE8 4AL

Tickets: £10 / U16s £5 from Creative Oundle Box Office, Victoria Hall, West Street,
www.creativeoundle.co.uk, or on the door.

St Paul the Apostle | Thrapston The Most Holy Name of Jesus | Oundle St Thomas More | Raunds

Parish Priest: Father Benedetto D'Autilia

EXTRA CONFESSION SLOTS

In preparation for the celebration of Christmas it is customary to receive God's forgiveness through the Sacrament of Penance. There will be two opportunities for all parishioners. The extra slots for confession will take place at St Paul's church:

Friday 16th December 6.30pm-8pm

Saturday 17th December 10am-11.30am

The Divine Mercy Apostolate, London is holding a Divine Mercy Advent Retreat at The Holy Child and St Joseph's RC Church, Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe, 2 Brereton Road, Bedford MK40 1HU from 2 pm to 4:30 pm on Saturday 10th December 2022. The Retreat will include teachings on the Message of Mercy, Holy Mass, Hour of Mercy with Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. Please call Millie on 07957594646 for more information

NYMO – Youth Ministry Conference LUX Flawless

A residential weekend for young Catholics from year 7-13. A weekend packed with activities, faith exploration and fun. Join over 100 young people from around the Diocese from 3rd - 5th February 2023 at The Kings Park Conference Centre in Northampton.

Please contact Fiona email: fiona@nymo.org

Visit www.nymo.org/lux for more information and to book your place.

www.nymo.org/lux



Advent Online Retreat – Walking by Starlight

An opportunity to journey with the Magi this Advent with the Diocese of Northampton.

With plenty of time for prayer and contemplation, join Fr John Udris and Avril Baigent as we seize the opportunity to switch off from all the pressures on us and just 'be'.

Thursdays through December: 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd
7.30-8.30pm.



Please register on <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/advent-retreat-walking-by-starlight-tickets-439295864757>

The Ten Million

Right To Life UK have released a short two-minute video called **The Ten Million**, which attempts to illustrate what the UK has lost through the death of these millions of people.

They are encouraging people to share the video with friends and family who may find it of interest: www.righttolife.org.uk/thetenmillion

Please follow the link to watch the video.





COFFEE AND CHAT

After 10:45hrs Mass in Thrapston
Every Sunday

Thrapston Coffee Rota

The 2023 rota is being drawn up over the next few weeks. Is there anyone who would like to join the rota? If so please let me know. Mark.

Proposed Epiphany Bring & Share Buffet Lunch

Oundle Bowls Club - Saturday 7th January at 12 o'clock. Please let Richard and Elizabeth Poole know. (01832 274610 eandrpoole@gmail.com).

Sing Carols: (No skill required, just pleasure in singing your heart out!) The regular monthly hymn singing on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 10.30 at St Peter's Oundle has had to be moved to Tuesday 20th this month and will focus on carols. Just turn up and sing! More details from Elizabeth (01832 274610)

Christmas Masses

24th December Christmas Eve

St Paul the Apostle, Thrapston

5.00pm – Carols followed at 5.30pm by Vigil Mass

St Thomas More, Raunds

8.30pm Mass of the Night

25th December The Nativity of the Lord

The Most Holy Name of Jesus, Oundle

9.00am Mass of the Dawn

St Paul the Apostle, Thrapston

11.00am - Mass of the Day

PARISH FOOD BANKS IN OUR CHURCHES

There is a box for donations to our foodbank at the back of the Church. We need non-perishable items - tins of meat, fish, fruit, vegetables, rice pudding, packets of pasta, rice, tea & coffee, cartons of long-life milk & fruit juice, and also basic toiletries & household goods - soap, toothpaste, shampoo, washing powder, washing-up liquid etc.



St Vincent
de Paul Society
England and Wales
Turning Concern into Action

svpthrapston@gmail.com

Joe Gasan on 07860 372283

www.svp.org.uk

SAFEGUARDING CONTACTS

THRAPSTON & RAUNDS

Franklin.kathym@gmail.com

OUNDLE

Pabanerjee@googlemail.com

COFFEE AND CHAT

After 09:15hrs Mass in Oundle
Next Date 8th January
Orla & Jaspal



MASS INTENTIONS

Every Mass is offered to God for everybody (living and dead). However we can apply each Mass for special intentions. The intention could be for the **well being** or the **eternal rest** (RIP) of a person.

You can book an intention by writing the desired date, church and name(s) on an envelope and hand it to the priest. 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.

Attending Mass:

The wearing of masks whilst inside our churches is optional. Please sit where you wish, using common sense and respecting other's right to space. Communion will be administered both on the tongue or on the hand. The Sign of Peace : please bow to those around you.

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



Parish Priest: **Father Benedetto D'Autilia**

07881 467 624 | 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