



The Sacred Heart

www.sacredheartnorthampton.org.uk



Diocesan Shrine,
Our Lady of
Perpetual Succour
& St Anselm

www.ourladyandstanselm.org



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SacredHeartNorthampton

Part of the Roman Catholic Diocese of
Northampton, Registered Charity Number
234091

Sacred Heart Mass Times:

Saturday: 5.30pm
Sunday: 10.30am
Weekdays: 9.30am followed
by Rosary
Holy Days: 9.30am

Our Lady Mass Times:

Sunday: 9.15am

St Anselm Mass Times:

Sunday: 8.00am

Weekdays

and Holy Days: as advertised

Sacred Heart Diary:

Adoration: Mon 10am-5pm
Sat 10am-2pm
Confession: Sat 4.30pm – 5.15pm
Children's Liturgy: Sunday during
10.30am Mass

Our Lady & St Anselm Diary:

Our Lady:

Prayer at The Shrine

Rosary & Exposition: Weds 2pm

Novena: Thurs 1-2pm

Exposition: Sat 10.30am-12pm

St Anselm:

Prayer Group

& Exposition: Tues 7pm

Masses & Services 21st/22nd December 2019
4th Sunday of Advent

Saturday	5.30pm (Sacred Heart)	Mark Cooke R.I.P.
Sunday 22 nd Dec	8.00am (St Anselm)	For deceased members of our parish
	9.15am (Our Lady)	For the parish
	10.30am (Sacred Heart)	Deceased members of the O'Neill and Gleeson families
Monday	9.30am (Sacred Heart)	John Shoreland R.I.P.; Rachela Fioravanti Cioffi R.I.P.
	6.00pm (Our Lady)	Priest's Intentions
Tuesday	9.30am (Sacred Heart)	For deceased members of our parish
	5.30pm (Sacred Heart)	Family Vigil Mass; For the children of our parish
	9.30pm (St Anselm)	Vigil Mass; Debra O'Hanlon R.I.P.
	10pm (Sacred Heart)	Vigil Mass; For the parish
	11.30pm (Our Lady)	Vigil Mass; For the parish
Wednesday	9.30am (Our Lady)	Christmas Mass; Bishop Francis Thomas (Foundation)
	11am (Sacred Heart)	Christmas Mass; Ermine Flores-Alleyne R.I.P. (10 th Anniv); Maria R.I.P.; Peter Edwards R.I.P.
Thursday	9.30am (Sacred Heart)	For the parish
Friday	9.30am (Sacred Heart)	John Dickens R.I.P.
Saturday	10.00am (Our Lady)	Marie Dobson & Exposition
	5.30pm (Sacred Heart)	In Thanksgiving
Sunday 29 th Dec	8.00am (St Anselm)	For the parish
	9.15am (Our Lady)	Fr Dennis Roberts (Foundation Mass)
	10.30am (Sacred Heart)	Stephen Gallagher R.I.P.

Feastdays: Tuesday – Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Thursday – St Stephen, Friday – St John, Saturday – The Holy Innocents.

Anniversaries: Katherine Willcocks, Marie O'Connor, William Sayer, John Shoreland, Peter Coleman, Ivy Collier, Nellie Shand, Peter Holmes, Thomas King, Bishop Francis Thomas, Maureen Marks, Arthur Dakin. R.I.P.

Please pray for all our sick.

Pope Francis' Special Intention. December: That every country take the measures necessary to prioritise the future of the very young, especially those who are suffering.

Next Week's Liturgy of the Word: Ecclesiasticus 3:2-6,12-14. Ps 127:1-5.R.Cf.v1, Colossians 3:12-21, Matthew 2:13-14.19-23.

Last week's collection: Sacred Heart: £757.87 (and £475 from standing orders)

Collections on Christmas Day. Please note that the collections at the Christmas Mass will be for the priest of the parish.

Sacred Heart Readers and Eucharistic Ministers for next week:

	Saturday 28th Dec 5.30pm	Sunday 29th Dec 10.30am
Readers:	E Ward	Sleet/Merriman
Eucharistic Ministers:	Alice	S Watts

Sacred Heart Tea & Coffee after Mass: There will be tea and coffee after 10.30am Mass today.

The Institute, Great Billing. Please note that there has been significant damage to the roof of the Institute and the building is currently not safe to be used.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT: Theme: *"She was found with child through the Holy Spirit."*

As the period of Advent gradually draws to a close, we are reminded today the name, "Emmanuel". The God who is with us to share in our lives and save us. We need only to trust in him. The gospel of Matthew relates the manner of Jesus' birth. He stresses the divine conception of Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit. The response of Joseph was he had wanted to divorce Mary informally for he knows that he is not responsible for the pregnancy.

Joseph, however, tempers justice with compassion. He decides to divorce her quietly. The angel of the Lord then explains to Joseph in a dream why Mary is not an adulteress. Joseph demonstrated "obedience of faith". (CCC#143) The name 'Jesus' means "saviour" or "God saves". He is the one to save his people from their sins. This is to fulfil the promise of the Lord through his prophet Isaiah: "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel, meaning, God is with us". The meaning of the name means the ever-presence of God with his people.

It is because how God wants to share intimately in our human history and in our human condition, he chooses to be the Emmanuel, God with us. With faith in him let us allow the Lord to enter into our human condition, for he is always with us.

May our faith in the working of the Holy Spirit bring us to all the answers of our life.

Family Christmas Mass at Sacred Heart. As usual we are inviting the children who are coming to this Mass on Christmas Eve to come dressed as characters from the Nativity narrative - angels, shepherds, Mary, donkeys etc. - all very welcome. Please bring these children to the hall for 5.10pm.

SVP help needed. A dining table and chairs is needed for a family. If you can help, please contact Sacred Heart SVP on 07504 465707.

Sacred Heart Ponsettias. Ponsettias are available in the church porch. £2.50 each. Name tabs will be available. They can then be placed around the crib.

End of year meeting for African community. On Sunday 22nd December, after 10.30am Mass, there will be an end of year meeting in the Sacred Heart Church parish hall.

Film at Sacred Heart. On Friday 3rd January 2020 at 6pm at Sacred Heart Church parish hall, there will be a showing of a film about Sr Clare Crockett who passed away in the Ecuador earthquake in 2016. She was a budding actress who left her career and the open doors to fame behind to give her life to God.

Bible Timeline courses. There will be **two new Timeline courses** in January at St. Gregory's Church. On Mondays in the sacristy at 1pm: ROMANS and on Tuesday mornings in the sacristy at 10am: JAMES. There will also be a course starting on 25th February 2020 for 5 weeks on Tuesdays at 10am in the sacristy at St Gregory's: A BIBLICAL WALK WITH MARY in connection with the rededication of England as Mary's Dowry. Don't forget that the Bible Timeline course at Sacred Heart continues on Tuesdays at 10.15am during term time until Easter 2020.

St Gregory's Catholic Primary School. We are a school where pupils experience and learn more every day. With a 'Good' EYFS setting, a nursery, and a thriving PE and Sports department, our pupils can experience a well-rounded start walking together in the light of the Lord. Discover more at our open day events, which are every Monday and Tuesday morning until the application deadline on 15th January 2020, with Assistant Headteacher & EYFS Lead Mrs Lucy. You can book a place online <https://www.stgregoryscatholicprimaryschool.org.uk/> or contact us on 01604 403511.

Catholic Basics Part I "God". Saturday 25th January 2020 at the Diocesan Centre, Luton, LU4 8JD. Come and join us from 10am to 3pm (9.30 for refreshments) for an engaging and informative day. Course pack and sandwich lunch provided in £15 cost. This is the second year of this successful course. For details and booking: Tel 01582 723312 or admin@nores.org.uk

Prayer for a new Bishop. This will be said together with the bidding prayers during Mass:

Lord God you are our eternal shepherd and guide. In your mercy grant your Church of Northampton a shepherd who will walk in your ways and whose watchful care will bring us your blessing.

Lord, bless us with the fullness of your love. Give us the joy of having a shepherd to lead your Church of Northampton who will be pleasing and acceptable to you.

Lord, in your love for us, give us the joy of receiving a shepherd who will be an example of goodness to your people and will fill our hearts and minds with the truth of the gospel.

Mary Immaculate – Pray for us. St Thomas of Canterbury – Pray for us.

Fr Jerry wishes you all a very happy and blessed Christmas!

Christmas Mass Times:

Sacred Heart:

Tues 24th December: 5.30pm - Family Vigil Mass for Christmas
10pm - Vigil Mass

Weds 25th December: 11am - Christmas morning Mass

St Anselm:

Tues 24th December: 9.30pm Vigil Mass

Our Lady of Perpetual Succour:

Tues 24th December: 11.30pm Vigil Mass

Weds 25th December: 9.30am Christmas morning Mass