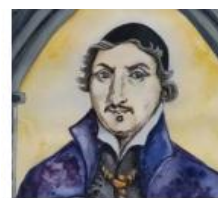


Catholic Cluster of Blessed Peter Wright



Comprising the two parishes of:
Most Holy Name of Jesus, Oundle & **St Paul the Apostle**, Thrapston
 with the Mass centre at the chapel of **St Thomas More, Raunds**
Office: 2 St Paul's Gardens, Thrapston, NN14 4FE - 01832 617 050 www.eastnorthantscatholic.uk -
parish.eastnorthants@northamptondiocese.org



Sunday 30th November 2025

First Sunday of Advent

Liturgical Colour: **Violet**

5:00pm(Sat) **(STM)** Vigil Holy Mass (*Joanne Lear well-being*)

9:15am **(MHNJ)** Holy Mass (*Holy Souls*)

11:00am **(SPA)** Holy Mass (*Pro populo*)

Rest of the Week

Monday (SPA) Memorial of St Edmund Campion

10:00am Holy Mass (*Residents of Hermitage House Care Home well-being*)

Tuesday (SPA) Feria

09:00am Holy Mass (*Terry Franklin well-being*)

Thursday (SPA) Feria

5:00pm Holy Hour

5.45pm Vespers

6:00pm Holy Mass (*Our Altar Servers well-being*)

Friday (MHNJ) Feria

10:00am Holy Mass followed by **CONFESSIONS**
(Our Church Musicians well-being)

MHNJ: Most Holy Name of Jesus church, OUNDLE

SPA: St Paul the Apostle church, THRAPSTON

STM: St Thomas More chapel, RAUNDS

Upcoming Second Collection

7th December – Christmas Flowers

St Paul's Confirmation Classes 2025-2026

St. Paul's, Thursday evenings (18:30 – 19:45)

04 & 11 December

08, 15, 22, & 29 January

05 & 12 February

If you have any questions or concerns please contact:

Craig Wilker: 07799761665, craig.wilker@gmail.com

Diana Charles: cherry.vincent@hotmail.co.uk

Christmas Mass Times

6:00pm Vigil Mass at STM

11:00pm Midnight Mass at SPA

9:15am Christmas Morning Mass at MHNJ

11:00am Mass of Christmas Day at SPA

MEETING TIMES THIS WEEK

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION COURSE

Monday 24th November at 5pm

PARISHIONERS PRAYER GROUP

Every Tuesday via Zoom at 7pm

RAUNDS PRAYER GROUP

Every Friday at St Thomas More chapel

2.00pm Rosary and Divine Mercy chaplet 2.00pm

3.00pm Stations of the Cross



Jubilee Year 2025

Pilgrims of Hope

First Holy Communion

Please pray for our three candidates (Eliza, Johan and Jeffrin) as they continue preparing for their First Holy Communion which will take place on **Sunday 7th December at 11am at St Paul's church.**

Love Christmas Campaign 2025

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. Please **do not include non-gift items** such as pasta, tinned food, toothpaste, hand sanitizer etc these will be gratefully accepted by your local foodbank.

Suggested Gift Ideas:

Chocolates, shortbread, luxury biscuits, selection boxes, games and toys, puzzles, dolls, craft sets, action toys, fidget toys, balls, playing cards, family games, activities, board games, winter clothing (scarves, gloves, socks, and blankets). Nail varnish, hand cream, toiletries, colouring books, crayons, pens, notebooks, stationary set, books, playing cards, make-up, hair accessories, hairbrush, crayons, pens, notebooks, stationary set, Christmas crackers, Christmas lights, Christmas activities games, toiletry gift packs, Play doh. Suggested Additional Gifts for babies and toddlers: Cuddly toy, bath toy, building blocks, animal figures, musical toys, socks, gloves, and blankets. Suggested Additional Gifts for Elderly People Individual Christmas pudding, Christmas cake, lap blanket, insulated mug, gloves, scarf.

Please bring donations to church - we will be collecting in our cluster from **23rd November – 7th December**. More information can be found on the link. <https://youtu.be/pfJiM5K-qaI>



To sign-up to CASPAR, our Cluster Database, please use the QR Codes below or simply type in the address into your web browser.

Thrapston & Raunds



www.caspar.church/m e?ID=56088

Oundle



www.caspar.church/m e?ID=56072

Troubles with CASPAR?

If you have troubles viewing or receiving our Newsletter via CASPAR, please contact the support team via: Email Us at support@caspar.church
 Phone Us on 01440 730399

Parish Priest: **Fr Jonathan Creer** email: frjonathan.creer@northamptondiocese.org

Parish Secretary: **Meg Shepherd (Thurs 11.30am-1pm)** email: parish.eastnorthants@northamptondiocese.org

Presbytery TEL. 01832 617 050

Newsletter items to be emailed to Meg by **Wednesday**

DIOCESAN NEWS: <https://northamptondiocese.org/news/>

CLUSTER NOTICES

First Friday Coffee

After Mass will be at the Greedy Piglet on **Friday 5th December**.

What Was Discussed at the PPC Meeting

Our Parish Pastoral Council held a meeting on 17th November 2025 at 7pm. Here is what was discussed.

Cutting costs

Possibility of closing St Thomas More or seeing if Rushden would take it on.
Possibility of holding services at the Anglican church – however, this may be expensive and the Anglican church is not easily accessible and has no car park.
Concerns that the money Oundle made from selling the presbytery is slowly dwindling away due to the deficit we are in.

We are currently waiting for documents to inform us of maintenance/what needs doing to each of the three buildings and there are concerns that Raunds might need quite a lot of money investing into it (such as whether it needs a new boiler) which may not be feasible.

Raising Money

People need to increase how much they give to the church – we are not running sustainably.

Fundraising ideas:

100-club

Social events like coffee and cake, art exhibition, race night

Concerts

Other ideas welcome

It was, however, questioned how much money we would actually raise and that we should not be spending more on holding events than we think we can raise.

Making our churches more visible

Better signage

Painting of a cross, St Paul or Our Lady at the front of Thrapston church
Becoming involved in ecumenical activities – showing people Catholics are here

Tell the Vicar at Raunds about the SVP

St Thomas More Weekday Mass

There used to be Monday Mass in Raunds followed by a social event. Fr Jonathan is happy to trial this in January.

Children's Liturgy

If there is a demand to restart children's liturgy, then let's do it.

Advent Reflections MHNJ Saturday 6th December

10 - 12 (with half an hour break for refreshments.) The whole cluster is invited. Based loosely on the Stations of the Cross this will be 'Stations of the Manger' - a reflection on the Christmas story before we all get too busy and don't have time to reflect. We will be using an ancient Ignatian practice of Imaginative Contemplation which is simply imagining oneself in the story, and there will be opportunity (but no pressure) to briefly share experiences. It will be very informal and there will be tea, coffee and nibbles half way through.

PLEASE NOTE: OUNDLE CHRISTMAS MARKET is on that day so some roads (including West St) will be closed and parking near the church may be difficult.

Mince Pies and Coffee

Join us for mince pies and coffee on **Sunday, 21st December after 9.15 am Mass**. All are welcome.

Bring and Share Epiphany Lunch

for the whole cluster is planned for the **10th January at 12.30**. Details from Richard or Elizabeth Poole. Just turn up with a food contribution (not too much as there is always masses of food!) There will be a bar.

As it is the Epiphany and the Wise Men brought gifts there will also be a collection for Oundle Foodbank.

Please sign on the sheet on the noticeboard in your church.

DIOCESAN NOTICES

Online Advent Retreat

Monday 1st December, 7.30pm

Disrupted by Grace, week 2, Dr Avril Baigent will be joined by Michelle Moran who will continue exploring Jesus' more disreputable ancestors. Michelle will be unpacking the story of Rahab for us whilst exploring the presence of grace in our lives. Watch week 1's Advent Retreat and register here: <https://northamptondiocese.org/grace/>

Survey: Neurodiversity and the Catholic Faith

If you are a Catholic neurodivergent adult or a caregiver of a neurodivergent Catholic (aged 2+), you are invited to take part in one of...

Prayer For the Canonisation of Blessed

Peter Wright

Eternal Father, your priest and martyr, Blessed Peter Wright of the Society of Jesus, worked with zeal and dedication in your vineyard and gave his life freely because of his faith in you and in your Church. Through his intercession grant that this humble flock may reach where Jesus, our brave Shepherd, has gone. In blessed Peter's name, I come to you with my needs: *(pause and silently mention your request)*.

Lord, help me always to imitate the great faith, generous love, and burning zeal of Blessed Peter. Grant that Your Church may proclaim him as a saint serving at your Throne in Heaven and interceding for us. Through Christ our Lord. Amen



Safeguarding Key Message

Our key message this year is :

'The Diocese of Northampton have adopted the National policies of CBCEW'

Key webpages:

<https://catholicsafeguarding.org.uk/resources/nationalsafeguarding-policy/>

<https://northamptondiocese.org/policies/>

To make any enquiries please contact safeguarding office on **01604723514** or safeguarding@northamptondiocese.org

PARISH SAFEGUARDING CONTACT

Safeguarding officer – Sharon Knox sharon_knox@hotmail.com

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.



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

Email: svp140512@gmail.com

Visit: www.svp.org.uk

Call: Joe Gasan on 07565395955

...two short (10–20 minute) anonymous online surveys, **available until 12 January 2026:**

- If you are a neurodivergent Catholic adult, [click here](#)
- For the survey for caregivers of a neurodivergent Catholic (aged 2+), [click here](#)

Alpha Training Day – Saturday, 7 February 2026

Thinking about running Alpha in your parish? Join us at St Joseph the Worker, Gardenia Avenue, Luton, LU3 2NS, from **11:30 AM to 4:00 PM**, for a day that will equip you and your team to run Alpha effectively.

Topics include running sessions, creating the right environment, organising day/weekend events, promoting Alpha, and fostering a culture of welcome and leadership. Lunch, tea, and coffee are included, and the cost is £15. While individuals are welcome, bringing a small parish team is highly recommended. <https://northamptondiocese.org/courses/alpha-training-day/>

Supporting the Jubilee for Prisoners – A Call to Action

In the lead-up to the Jubilee for Prisoners on **14th December**, Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN) is delighted to share a new Call to Action Guide, developed in response to last year's Bishops' Conference publication *Remember Me*, which explores the realities of the criminal justice system in the UK. Documents can be found here <https://www.csan.org.uk/news/responding-to-remember-me-a-call-to-prayer-reflection-and-action/>

Advent Novena

We are pleased to share the *Crown of Advent Novena*, a beautiful reflection based on the O Antiphons, created by parishioners of Our Lady of Walsingham Parish in Corby. Individuals are warmly invited to sign up to **receive the novena by email each day from 17 December through Christmas Day**. This offers a simple yet profound way to prepare spiritually for the Nativity of the Lord. Please consider promoting this initiative within your parish communities as we journey together through the final days of Advent. www.northamptondiocese.org/advent-novena/

LUX Youth Residential Weekend

Our diocesan residential weekend for young people in school years 7–13 will take place from **13–15 February** at Kings Park Centre, Northampton. Packed with workshops, drama, music, worship, Mass, games, and time with friends, this year's theme is *Belong*. The cost is £110. For more information or to book, visit nimo.org/lux-belong-2026 or email NYMO@northamptondiocese.com.

Save the Date – Diocesan Mission Conference 2026

Mission Northampton warmly invites everyone across the diocese with a heart for sharing the Good News to our Annual Mission Conference on **Saturday 14th March 2026, 10:30am–4:00pm**, at Sacred Heart Church, 5 Beaudesert, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 1HZ.

Parking is available onsite. Come and be inspired, equipped, and encouraged in the work of mission. Refreshments will be provided, but please bring a packed lunch. We look forward to welcoming you for a day of faith, fellowship, and renewal in our shared mission. More here www.northamptondiocese.org/courses/mission-conference-2026/

OTHER NOTICES

Advent Resources

As we enter this season of hopeful preparation, we invite you to explore our [Digital Resource Page](#) on the diocesan website. We have also created a separate [Advent Opportunities page](#) featuring links to retreats, prayers, and other seasonal events to support you and your communities during this sacred time.

St Peter's Carol Singing

The December session of the regular hymn singing will be on the **16th December** at 10.30 and will consist of carols.

Webinar: The Role of Beauty in Moral Formation

The Catholic Union invites you to a webinar on **Monday 20th April at 6.00pm** exploring the place of beauty in the moral formation of individuals and society. Chaired by journalist Catherine Pepinster, speakers include Fr Patrick van der Vorst, priest and founder of Christian Art, and Stefan Kaminski, Director of The Christian Heritage Centre at Stonyhurst. Booking is essential: Email info@catholicunion.org.uk to receive your Zoom link.

The Bereavement Journey

Run by the Baptist Church in Oundle, starting on Wednesday evenings from **21st January 2026**; it will run for 7 weeks, at No.1 St Osyth's Lane, Oundle, PE8 4BG. It is an award-winning series of films and discussion that gently guides adults bereaved at any time, through the varied ways grief and bereavement can impact, enabling them to process the implications for themselves and discern next steps. Guests do their own grief work, facilitated by volunteers. Contact Judith Brshaw at Oundle Baptist Church. Office@oundlebaptist.org.uk

More information at <https://www.thebereavementjourney.org/>

Advent Bible Studies

Join Mauro Iannicelli for four engaging Bible studies on the Advent Sunday Gospels, exploring the readings in depth with thought-provoking insights and questions to enrich the celebration of Holy Mass.

Sessions will take place on **3, 10, and 17 December, 7–8pm** UK time, free of charge via LIVE YouTube. To register, visit <https://comeandsee.org/advent-bible-studies>

SYNOD Study Groups Updates

The General Secretariat of the Synod has released interim reports of the ten Study Groups, summarising progress between summer and autumn.

These documents reflect the substantive work undertaken and the synodal method guiding the process: mutual listening, careful analysis of contributions, dialogue with local Episcopal Conferences, collaboration across diverse areas of expertise, and openness to the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Their publication aims to foster wider understanding of this stage of the Synod's implementation and the steps being taken to carry it forward. [Read the reports here](#)

Explore Catholic Theology by Distance Learning

Durham University's Centre for Catholic Studies (CCS) offers flexible Distance Learning programmes in Catholic Theology, designed to fit around work, ministry, family, or other commitments. Options include a Postgraduate Certificate, Postgraduate Diploma, and MA, as well as single modules such as Catholic Theology: A Preliminary Tour, and new **for 2026/27**, Catholic Social Thought and Practice and High Medieval Franciscan Theology. Bursary funding is available for 2026–27. For more information, including videos from current students and details of bursaries, visit Durham University's Distance Learning pages, or contact the CCS Manager, Theresa Phillips at theresa.phillips@durham.ac.uk or 0191 334 3952.

<https://www.durham.ac.uk>



Carols On The Square 2025 - Running Order

Welcome & opening prayer – St Peter's
 Once In Royal David's City
 Reading: Luke 1: 26-35, 38 – St Thomas Moore
 O Little Town Of Bethlehem
 Reading: Luke 2: 1, 3-7 – Methodists
 Silent Night, Holy Night
 Reading: Luke 2: 8-20 – Vineyard
 Away In A Manger
 All Age Talk from Andrew - Methodists
 O Come All Ye Faithful (with a modern twist)
 Reading: Matthew 2: 1-12 – St Thomas Moore
 We Three Kings Of Orient Are
 Reading: John 1: 1-14 – St Peter's
 Hark The Herald Angels Sing
 Final Blessing - Vineyard