



# 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](http://www.eastnorthantscatholic.uk) -  
[parish.eastnorthants@northamptondiocese.org](mailto:parish.eastnorthants@northamptondiocese.org)

## Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2026 Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Liturgical Colour: **Green**

5:00pm (STM) Vigil Holy Mass (*Pro populo*)  
9:15am (MHNJ) Holy Mass (*Nora Bottomley RIP*)  
11:00am (SPA) Holy Mass (*Slawek – In Thanksgiving*)

### Rest of the Week

**Monday (STM) Feria**  
10:00am Holy Mass (*John Daly well-being*) followed by  
Confessions

**Tuesday (SPA) No Mass**

**Ash Wednesday**  
10am at MHNJ  
7pm at SPA

**Thursday (SPA) Feria**

5:00pm Holy Hour with Confessions  
5.45pm Vespers  
6:00pm Holy Mass (*Lottie Baker well-being*)

**Friday (MHNJ) Feria**

10:00am Holy Mass followed by Confessions  
(*Sheila Wilcox RIP*)

**MHNJ:** Most Holy Name of Jesus church, OUNDLE  
**SPA:** St Paul the Apostle church, THRAPSTON  
**STM:** St Thomas More chapel, RAUNDS

### REQUIESCAT IN PACE

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Micheline Hyams**.  
Her funeral will take place at MHNJ, Oundle, on **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February at 2pm**. Keep her family and friends in your prayers as they go through this difficult time.

### Rite of Election 2026

On Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> February, at the 11am Mass, our candidate (Christian Pinder) for the reception into full communion with the Church will be presented to the whole community. Later in the day (3.00pm), they will attend the Rite of Election at the Cathedral in Northampton.

## 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](mailto:svp140512@gmail.com)

Visit: [www.svp.org.uk](http://www.svp.org.uk)

Call: Joe Gasan on 07565 395 955

If you would like to help make a real difference to the local community, please consider giving a **donation to the SVP** either by:

**BACS:**  
National Westminster  
SVP Kettering and Thrapston  
Sort Code: 60 60 04  
Account No: 46084053

Or by:

Placing cash into an envelope marked SVP and putting it into the first collection at Mass.

### MEETING TIMES THIS WEEK

#### PARISHIONERS PRAYER GROUP

Every Wednesday 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



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](http://www.caspar.church/m)  
[e?ID=56088](http://www.caspar.church/m?e?ID=56088)

#### Oundle



[www.caspar.church/m](http://www.caspar.church/m)  
[e?ID=56072](http://www.caspar.church/m?e?ID=56072)

### Trouble 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](mailto:support@caspar.church)

Phone Us on 01440 730399

Parish Priest: **Fr Jonathan Creer** email: [frjonathan.creer@northamptondiocese.org](mailto:frjonathan.creer@northamptondiocese.org)

Parish Secretary: **Meg Shepherd (Thurs 11.00am-1pm)** email: [parish.eastnorthants@northamptondiocese.org](mailto: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

### What Was Discussed At The Last PPC Meeting – 9<sup>th</sup> February 2026

#### Finances

Our three Sunday Masses are the worst attended Masses across the diocese.

Other places are closing churches because of low attendance – are we justified in keeping all three of our buildings? The building reports suggest that we need to spend £400,000 on all buildings combined over the next 5 years. Both of our parishes are currently running at a loss. Oundle can currently do work as they have enough money in reserve. Thrapston and Raunds cannot. What should we do?

- Just undertake priority repairs and do nothing else. Rely on the diocese to pay for us. However, the diocese may not have the money that we need, nor have they said that they will do this.
- Every single person in our parishes should give an **extra £5.00 per week** (for families of 4 that would be £20.00 extra per week). However, we understand that not everyone can do this nor are they happy to do this as some feel money is not being used effectively as St Paul's Parish is running two buildings when one would be sufficient for the numbers attending mass (Most Holy Name of Jesus has 1 building, 100 parishioners whilst St Paul's with St Thomas More has 2 buildings, 110 parishioners).
- Close a building down (St Thomas More) to help reduce expenditure. This is not a solution that will fix all of our problems - fundraising/people increasing the amount they give would still need to take place as well.
- Fundraise (e.g., jumble sales). However, it was questioned about how much this would actually raise.
- Look at ways in which we can cut costs such as whether battery operated sanctuary candles are more feasible than real candles.

#### Contingency Planning

We need to be better prepared for a time when we may not have a priest. This includes people taking on more roles in the parish such as there being two church wardens per building so that the priest does not have to do anything. Halls could be hired instead of having churches and a visiting priest could say Mass once in a while.

#### Ways to Engage People in the Faith

Mission needs to start with the people in the pews.

Fr Jonahan suggested that he is happy to run sessions during lent after the Thursday Mass at Thrapston such as on the Apostles' Creed.

Parishioners could do a Lenten challenge such as: look at the readings of the day, do morning and evening prayers, invite a friend to church, do a decade of the rosary or download Universalis.

#### Children's Liturgy

Reintroduce children's liturgy at St Paul's. A meeting is to be arranged with potential children's liturgists after the February half-term holidays. Children's liturgy could also take place at St Thomas More - we need liturgists to come forward to run it.

#### Lent Reflections

**Monday 23rd February and Tuesday 17th March 10am - 12pm** with a break for refreshments and socialising. The sessions are stand-alone so it's possible to attend either or both. The title is **The Joy of Lent** and we will work through some imaginative contemplation, with some silence and some opportunity for sharing and discussion (apologies to those who are working - there were no free Saturdays in Lent). All welcome. *Elizabeth Poole*

#### New MISSIO Representative Needed

We thank Nuala Wilker for being our MISSIO representative. We are now looking for someone else to take over this role. Please contact the parish office if you are interested.

#### Ecumenical Event

**Oundle Churches** would like to invite you to participate in the next Oundle Churches Joint Prayer Event at St Peter's, at 7.30pm on Thursday 5 March. The next planning meeting is next **Thursday 12 February 9am** at St Peter's Church. They are hoping that people would like to attend and help plan the event. Please email the parish office if you are interested.

## 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](mailto:safeguarding@northamptondiocese.org)

#### **PARISH SAFEGUARDING CONTACT**

Safeguarding officer – Sharon Knox [sharon\\_knox@hotmail.com](mailto:sharon_knox@hotmail.com)

#### **Lenten Practices**

The Zoom prayer group has come up with some suggestions for practices for Lent which are a bit different. These include:

- Giving up moaning and grumbling.
- Think, every day in Lent, of something for which you are really grateful (not that you think you *ought* to be grateful) and write it down. At the end of Lent you will have a treasury of gratitude to use when you feel dull and grey.
- A good deed a day/week. Helping someone, phone call, even as simple as a heartfelt compliment to someone.
- Rosary a day, focusing on the Sorrowful Mysteries.

Does anyone else have any unusual ideas? Please pass them on! Please note that the Zoom meeting is now on a Wednesday, 7pm as usual.

## DIOCESAN NOTICES

### **Catechist Formation - Bishop's Certificate in Catechesis (Level 1)**

Are you called to be a catechist? Do you want to grow in confidence and understanding as you accompany others on their faith journey?

This online training course draws from Scripture, Church documents, and lived experience. It is ideal for both new and experienced catechists.

Course Dates:

- 7 virtual sessions from **7.30–9.00pm**
- **Starts Friday 27 February 2026**
- **Subsequent sessions: 6, 13, 20, 27 March; 10, 17 April 2026**

Includes Zoom links, course materials, and refreshments. No fixed fee—donations welcomed.

[Visit our diocesan website for further information](#)

### **Walking in the Holy Spirit (Fanning into Flames)**

The **Northampton Charismatic Diocesan Services of Communion (CDSC)** invite parishioners to take part in *Walking in the Holy Spirit (Fanning into Flames)* - a four-part monthly online series exploring how the Holy Spirit shapes, strengthens, and sends us out as disciples of Christ. Sessions run from **7.00–8.30pm on Tuesdays:**

- 17 February** – Growth – Fr Emmanuel Okami
- 17 March** – Bonding – Speaker to be confirmed
- 16 June** – Empowerment – Charles Whitehead
- 14 July** – Mission – Maria Heath

All are welcome.

More information: <https://northamptondiocese.org/courses/walking-in-the-holy-spirit/>

### **The Synod and Women: Which Way to the Future?**

**Thursday 26 February, online at 6.30pm** - Dr Zagano joins the NBCW (a consultative body to the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales) at the beginning of an exciting year of innovative engagement with Catholic women.

To register and find out more, please visit: <https://www.nbcw.co.uk>

### **Vacancies – Property Area Co-ordinators**

We are currently recruiting three Property Area Coordinators. The role ensures that buildings are safe, legally compliant, well maintained, and fit for mission and ministry, while providing support to parishes, clergy, and diocesan stakeholders. This is a full-time, 12-month fixed-term contract, with the possibility of extension or becoming permanent. As each role covers a different part of the Diocese, three area-specific Job Descriptions are available, and candidates should review the one relevant to their preferred location. The closing date for applications is **Friday 7**

**March 2026** - <https://northamptondiocese.org/jobs>

## Come and See – Discernment Day for Men

Date: Saturday 28th March, 2026

**Programme:** A day including prayer, reflection, input on priestly vocation, and an open Q&A

**Who is it for?** Men who are exploring, questioning, or discerning a call to the priesthood

**Where?** Our Lady of Christian and St Lawrence, Olney

This day offers a relaxed and supportive opportunity to reflect on God's call, to learn more about priestly life, and to ask honest questions in a prayerful setting.

To register your interest or for more information, please contact: Fr Pius

✉ [vocationsdirector@northamptondiocese.org](mailto:vocationsdirector@northamptondiocese.org)

☎ 01753 523147

## Mission Conference 2026

Mission Northampton warmly invites everyone across the diocese with a heart for sharing the Gospel to the Annual Mission Conference on **Saturday 14 March 2026, from 10.30 am to 4 pm in Leighton Buzzard.**

This is a wonderful opportunity to come together, be inspired, and learn more about mission work within our diocese. The conference is free to attend, though small donations towards the work of Mission Northampton are very welcome.

Refreshments will be provided, but please bring a packed lunch. More information: [Mission Conference 2026](#)

## OTHER NOTICES

### Oundle Lent Lunches

Oundle Lent Lunches are here again! **Every Thursday in Lent (19th February - 2nd April incl.), 12 noon to 1.30 pm** in Oundle Methodist Church: homemade soup, bread and cheese (gluten-free bread available). No fixed charge - donations to Christian Aid. All welcome.

The day our church is hosting is **26th March** but don't forget that it is happening every Thursday in Lent and it is a great social occasion when members of all the churches get together, and there is always a great choice of homemade soup.

### It's Opera time again!

St Paul's organist Vincent Davy will be conducting Offenbach's comic operetta 'Orpheus in the Underworld' with **Thrapston Plaza Opera, 19th, 20th & 21st** February in the Thrapston Plaza. Choir member Kathy Franklin is also singing in the chorus. This amusing take on Greek mythology, which includes the famous Can-Can dance, is fully staged with orchestral accompaniment - our 15th annual production is not to be missed.

Tickets: £20 adult, £5 child/student available online at: [ticketsource.co.uk](http://ticketsource.co.uk)

(search event - Thrapston Orpheus)

Looking forward to seeing you there!

V P Davy - Music Director

### Love & Beauty in St John's Spiritual Canticle

20–22 February 2026

2026 marks 100 years since St John of the Cross was declared a Doctor of the Church. To celebrate this anniversary, Fr Matthew Blake, OCD will lead a reflective weekend exploring the themes of love and beauty in the saint's most celebrated poetry.

From 20–22 February, participants will be invited to delve into the spiritual richness of *The Spiritual Canticle* and deepen their appreciation of St John's timeless insights into God's love.

[Further information and booking details can be found via the Christian Heritage Centre.](#)

### 'God in Number 10'

Fr. Mark Vickers is a Westminster priest who spends part of his time in Oundle. He is speaking at Oundle School on his book on the faith of the twentieth-century Prime Ministers: seances in Downing Street, mystical revelations, and genuine Christian devotion. **7.45 pm on Thursday, 26 February** in the Great Hall complex in New Street. All welcome.

### 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](mailto:info@catholicunion.org.uk) to receive your Zoom link.

### 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






# *I am here*

REFLECTIONS AND RECORDINGS FROM WITHIN A MONASTERY

A CONTEMPLATIVE FILM BY DANIEL ROTHSCHILD

Screening at the Monastery of Christ Our Saviour, Turvey  
Saturday 28th February 2026



Start at 10am, lunch after Midday Office,  
followed by the final part.  
Ends approximately 3pm

£25 donation with lunch provided  
(please inform Brother John of any special  
dietary requirements)

Book at [turveymonks@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:turveymonks@yahoo.co.uk)

Thrapston Plaza Opera 2026 presents

# *Orpheus in the Underworld*

*Jacques Offenbach*

Comic operetta in three Acts from the original by HENRI REGNIER and LUDOVIC HALEVY

New book and lyrics by PHIL FARR. Music adapted and arranged by RONALD HANMER

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International on behalf of Josef Weinberger Ltd.



Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> and Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2026 @ 7.00pm  
Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2026 @ 5.00pm

Tickets £20 available from [TicketSource.co.uk](http://TicketSource.co.uk)

Thrapston Plaza, Cosy Nook, Thrapston NN14 4PS

[www.thrapstonplazaopera.com](http://www.thrapstonplazaopera.com)

# Creative Art Retreat Days 2026

Each day consists of a group of 10-12 like-minded people.

(No previous experience is necessary.)

There is unlimited tea and coffee on tap and a home cooked vegetarian lunch.

The day begins at 9-45 am, with a welcoming cuppa and ends around 4 pm.

Around 11.30 those who wish can join for a short Mass .

Continue with work until 1.pm for lunch, followed by a short optional meditation, or a wander.

Then finish around 3.30 for tea and cake and a general "Happy chat ", about our work and the day .

**Cost of the day is £50 and includes all the materials and refreshments.**

Payment can be made by cheque to :

The Monastery of Christ our Saviour

Or by Direct Debit

Monastery of Christ Saviour. Sort: 60-16-45  
Account No: 68198140

Reference "creativity retreat" Or Cash

**To request a booking ....please e mail Jane : on  
cjanemonk@yahoo.co.uk**

Saturday. *March.14th.* The Heart's Impress.

Exploring basic printing.

Marie Ryan & Pauline Wood

Saturday. *May 2nd.* Going for a song.

Bird song and a certain type of Music.

Brother John

Saturday. *July 11th.* Mosaic Magic.

Be creative with glass.

Cathy Ebbels

Saturday. *September 12th.* Words Pictures.

Calligrams—Using words to create pictures.

Tina Rogers

Saturday. *October 10th.* Mindful Quilting.

Produce a table mat or cushion.

Glynis Harper

Saturday. *November 21st.* Book Folding.

Relax before Christmas and create a unique Christmas Angel.

Marie Heath