

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 21st December 2025 Fourth Sunday of Advent – Year A

Liturgical Colour: **Violet**

5:00pm (Sat) (STM) Vigil Holy Mass (*Mary Moat well-being*)
9:15am (MHNJ) Holy Mass (*Pro populo*)
11:00am (SPA) Holy Mass (*John Moran RIP*)

Rest of the Week

Monday (SPA) Feria

10:00am Holy Mass (*John Haggarty RIP*)

Tuesday (SPA) **NO MASS**

Solemnity of the Lord's Nativity

Wednesday 24th December

6:00pm Vigil Mass at STM
10:40pm Carol Singing (SPA)
11:00pm Midnight Mass at SPA (*Friends & Family*)

Thursday 25th December

9:15am Christmas Morning Mass at MHNJ (*Pro populo*)
11:00am Mass of Christmas Day at SPA

Friday 26th December (SPA) – Feast of St Stephen

10:00am Holy Mass
(*Barbara Dunphy well-being*)

MHNJ: Most Holy Name of Jesus church, OUNDLE

SPA: St Paul the Apostle church, THRAPSTON

STM: St Thomas More chapel, RAUNDS



St Paul's Confirmation Classes 2026

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

08, 15, 22, & 29 January

04 & 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

MEETING TIMES THIS WEEK

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

On **Wednesday night**, come and join in the Carol Singing starting at **10.40pm** before the 11pm "Midnight" Mass. Only a small choir available this year so extra voices welcome. 'O come all ye faithful . . .' Vincent - Organist!

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.



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

Oundle



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

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** (Deadline for Sunday 28th December is Monday 22nd December)

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

CLUSTER NOTICES

The End-Of-Year Missio Red Box Collection Is Now Taking Place

Please return your red box/brown envelope to the church. You can also pay electronically by clicking on the link www.missio.org.uk Thank you sincerely for your kindness and your continued support of MISSIO's mission work.

MISSIO contact: Nuala Wilker

Email: nualabyrnemayo@hotmail.com

MHNJ Big Clean

Thank you to those who came to MHNJ to clean on Monday. Much appreciated!

Mince Pies and Coffee

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

Please Help At St. Thomas More, Raunds.

Volunteers needed to prepare our chapel with some light cleaning and Christmas decorating, on **Tuesday 23rd December from 10am - midday**. Any help appreciated! Refreshments offered! Thank you!

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.

SVP

First of all, a massive **Thank You** to everybody who donated to the Caritas Christmas collection and secondly to those who gave very generously to our annual Christmas collection. It is very much appreciated. Our Vision, is inspired by Christ's message to love our neighbour as ourselves, be it individuals or families in any form of need physical, financial or emotional, whilst respecting their dignity, worth, well-being and peace of mind and sharing mutual hope.

Who do we help?

- Members of our parishes and all other denominations in need of support.
 - Families and individuals in any form of crisis.
 - Those who are lonely, sick or bereaved.
- The homeless and those living in all forms of poverty.

What do we do?

- Help members of the parish and all other denominations who are alone, sick and in need of a friendly smile.
 - Residential and Care home visits.
 - Befriend any individuals and families in need of support.
 - Actively engage with those living in food poverty.
- Work in unison with local charities and organisations such as The Daylight Centre to fill gaps in provision.

Your donation will go along way to help us to achieve what we need to .On behalf of all our future beneficiaries a Massive Thank you to you.

It is with your kind support and generosity that our conference is able to support those who are in need, both within our local parishes as well as further afield.

On behalf of myself and my team, we thank you again and wish you a peaceful a Happy Christmas and a joyful New Year.

God bless,

Joe Gasan

Conference President

RIDE AND STRIDE UPDATE:

A cheque has been received for £352.50 for the half-share of the Ride and Stride takings. **MANY THANKS** to all who contributed! Gift aid also made a big difference.

DIOCESAN NOTICES

Strategic Lead for Caritas Social Action

We're seeking a passionate individual to lead Caritas initiatives across the Diocese of Northampton. This part-time role (3 days per week) is based at the St Thomas Centre, Northampton.

If you are committed to Catholic Social Teaching and have experience in project leadership and community outreach, we'd love to hear from you!

Full information for the position and an application form can be found by visiting <https://northamptondiocese.org/jobs>

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



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

Urgent Appeal – Role Vacancy: Chair of the Safeguarding Advisory Board

The Safeguarding Advisory Board (SAB) continues its search for a new Chair to lead the work of the Board. The SAB meets quarterly (three meetings online) and oversees the work of the Safeguarding Office, including new and ongoing reports of allegations and concerns.

The Chair is appointed for an initial term of three years. A brief role description and specification are available. This is a rewarding opportunity to support the Diocese in building upon its recent audit and further improving safeguarding standards. Please contact 01604 723514 to discuss the role.

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.

www.northamptondiocese.org/advent-novena/

Alpha Training Day – Saturday, 7th February 2026

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/>

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. The Mark 10 Mission: a moving rendition of O Come, O Come, Emmanuel sung by Sr Chiara, a Franciscan Sister of the Renewal. This ancient hymn, drawn from the Church's O Antiphons, expresses the longing and hope of God's people awaiting the Messiah, both in salvation history and in our lives today. Video link: <https://youtu.be/StXIIJxoEE?si=DHKEPPhKUS5wUmtF>

Wave of Hope

The Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales has released an excellent Advent resource entitled Wave of Hope. Beginning on the First Sunday of Advent, this series offers 25 short multimedia reflections, one for each day, featuring contributors who share a personal moment from 2025 that has renewed their sense of hope. More here: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/wave-of-hope/>

The Theology of John Henry Newman & Its Relevance for Today's Church- Tuesday 20 January, 5.30pm

In celebration of St John Henry Newman's importance for Catholic education, the Margaret Beaufort Institute, Cambridge, together with the Newman Association, has developed a six-session short course designed to deepen your understanding of key themes in Newman's theology and their relevance for the Church today. The course will be team-taught by leading theologians and delivered live online, one Tuesday evening each month. Registration link: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-theology-of-john-henry-newman-its-relevance-for-todays-church-tickets-1906599794309>

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 Osyths 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/>

Ignatian Spiritual Exercises: Men's Retreat - 4 & 11 February 2026

A fantastic opportunity to experience St Ignatius' Spiritual Exercises in a five-day, shortened form, guided by the monastic community of St Joseph's Abbey, Flavigny (France). The retreat is open to ordained, religious, and lay men who wish to seek God's will through a deepened detachment from the world. Event details: <https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/mens-retreat-spiritual-exercises-of-st-ignatius>

Love & Beauty in St John's *Spiritual Canticle* - 20–22 February 2026

2026 marks the centenary of the declaration of St John of the Cross as a Doctor of the Church.

In honour of this anniversary, **Fr Matthew Blake, OCD**, will offer a weekend reflecting on the themes of love and beauty in the most celebrated poetry of the great Spanish mystic.

Event details:

<https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/love-beauty-in-st-johns-spiritual-canticle/>

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.

Patmos Pilgrimage

JC Journeys are organising a pilgrimage to Patmos, led by Fr Jerome Ituah, OCD. Known as the site where St John the Theologian received the Book of Revelation, Patmos is a place where faith and history intertwine.

Dates: Monday 1 June – Sunday 7 June 2026

Cost: £1,595 (based on two people sharing)

For more information, please contact JC Journeys at enquiries@jcyjournays.com.



**Thank you to
all those who
helped clean
MHNJ!**

