

St Edward's Parish, Kettering



2 The Grove, Kettering NN15 7QQ. Telephone 01536 512497

Website: <https://www.stedwardskettering.org.uk/>

Email: parish.stewardkettering@northamptondiocese.org

Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives:

Claudia Ringrose: safeguarding.stedwardkettering@northamptondiocese.org

Joe Burns: safeguarding.htkettering@northamptondiocese.org

Diocesan Safeguarding Officer:

Danielle Dixon: safeguarding@northamptondiocese.com

Office: 01604 723514 / Mobile: 07833 050628

National Domestic Abuse Helpline 0808 2000 247

Church Hall/ Upper Room Bookings: Contact the Parish Office

Parish Priest: Canon Gregory Marchwiński Priest in residence: Fr. Elvis Jose

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

16th August 2026

MASS TIMES AT ST. EDWARD'S, KETTERING

Tuesday and Wednesday - 10.00 am

Thursday and Friday - 7.00 pm

Saturday Vigil Mass - 6.30 pm *(After Mass - confession on request)*

>>> Sunday Early Mass - 8.30 am / 9 am from September

>>> Sunday Family Mass - 10.30 am / 11 am from September

THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



THIS WEEK'S INTENTIONS



To see the readings for today's Mass, [please follow this link.](#)

To pray with Pope Leo, [please follow this link.](#)

SATURDAY 06.30 pm - Ivan Gibbison RIP / - Cesar Ortiz Luis RIP 1st anniv / - For the Parish

SUNDAY 08.30 am - Kofi and Freda 20th wedding anniv. /
- Maria Samauroo in thanksgiving for God's help at a time of ill-health.
10.30 am - Paul Watts RIP / - William John McAreavey RIP

Monday / Private Mass / - Mary Kuttly

Tuesday **09.15 am** - Adoration

10.00 am - Ann Machal RIP, Maureen Moriarty RIP

Wednesday **10.00 am** - Kaius Durand birthday int. / - Ann Machel RIP

Thursday **07.00 pm** - Anthea Patterson RIP / - Manuel Llanera Jr. RIP

Friday **06.15 pm** - Adoration and Benediction

07.00 pm - George Kalleli RIP / - José Estepa

SATURDAY 06.30 pm - John McGrenaghan RIP / - John Connolly private int.

SUNDAY 08.30 am - Henry John Jefferies RIP / - Diana Cox RIP

10.30 am - Bridie Keenaghan RIP / - For the Parish

To request a Mass Intention please contact the parish office.

To respect people's wishes, there has usually been only one Mass Intention per Mass (This Intention might encompass even several people, but it will have been requested by one individual). There are occasional instances though, when there need to be two separate Intentions at a Mass. When this arises, I would be grateful for your understanding.

CONFESSIONS AT ST EDWARD'S



**Confessions at St Edward's are on Saturdays
after the Vigil Mass which is at 6.30 pm.**

You can always request confession before or after any weekday Mass.

“The first step we must take to build the Kingdom of God on earth is to rediscover and appreciate the importance of the sacrament of confession, which will allow us to appreciate the sacrament of the Eucharist. *We cannot appreciate the Eucharist while removing the sacrament of Confession from our spiritual life*”. - Fr Gregory



PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED



In our prayers, let us remember our deceased parishioners, family members and friends. Let us especially remember those who have recently passed away:

Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine, et lux perpetua luceat eis.

THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

The dogma of the Assumption of the Mother of God was proclaimed on **1st November 1950**, by Pope Pius XII in the Apostolic Constitution - **‘Most Generous God’**.



"For the glory of Almighty God, who bestowed special grace upon the Virgin Mary, in honour of His Son, the immortal King of the ages and the Conqueror of sin and death, to increase the glory of His Blessed Mother, to the inexpressible joy of the whole Church, by the authority of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul, and Ourselves, we proclaim, declare, and define as dogma the truth revealed by God that the Immaculate Mother of God, ever Virgin Mary, after completing her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heaven."

It is worth knowing that the dogma of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary says nothing about the death of the Mother of God. This issue is still the subject of debate among theologians. Some of them point to two possibilities: **If Mary died**, then her Assumption preceded her Resurrection, and all these events must have occurred within a short period of time. **If Mary did not die**, then the Assumption occurred at the moment when her earthly life ended. If this is the case, we cannot speak of death, but only of falling asleep.

The Church recognises that of all people, Mary was closest to the Holy Trinity. Therefore, she was granted the joy of seeing the Holy Trinity immediately after the end of her earthly life. Although the dogma of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary was not proclaimed until the mid-20th century, the feast in honour of Mary assumed into heaven was known already in the first centuries of Christianity. It was then called the **‘Dormition of Mary’**. The proclamation of the dogma was only an official recognition of a truth that had long been recognised in the Church. Pope Pius XII recalled it and, with his authority, confirmed and sanctioned it as a dogma of faith.

The Assumption of Mary is not mentioned in Holy Scripture. All the events of the life of Our Lady described in the Gospels occurred during her earthly life. According to tradition, Mary lived for approximately 20 years after Christ's Resurrection. Throughout the many centuries of commemorating the end of Our Lady's life, the Church has not determined whether Mary died and was assumed into heaven body and soul after death, or whether she passed into heaven without dying, but merely 'falling asleep'. **Pope John Paul II** took a clear stance on the possible death of Mary, on 25th June 1997, when he delivered his catechesis on 'The Dormition of the Virgin Mary'. The Holy Father noted that in the constitution 'Most Generous God', **Pius XII** 'does not consider it appropriate to solemnly affirm the death of the Mother of God as a truth that all the faithful must accept'.

'We wish to emphasize that the Mother of God certainly died because Christ also died. She passed through death because He also passed through death,' - John Paul II said at the time. However, we need to remember that papal catechesis does not have the power to definitively decide, but rather that it belongs to the ordinary teaching of the Church. Therefore, although Mary's death has not been proclaimed as a dogma of faith, it is nevertheless part of the ordinary teaching of the Catholic Church.

- Fr Gregory



CHANGE OF MASS TIMES

from 8.30 am to **9 am** and

from 10.30 am to **11 am**



This is to help rebalance the numbers between the Masses, with a slightly later time for families and elderly people to come to church. **This will begin in September** for a trial period and will be well advertised. It will be reviewed in January.

ST EDWARD'S MUSIC GROUP



Do you play an instrument and love to worship? St Edward's Music Group is looking for new members of any age to join us! We play at the **11 am** Mass on the **2nd Sunday of every month**, accompanying the hymns to lead the congregation in song and providing reflective music during Communion. Because we do not hold rehearsals, group members practice at home and need to be at a confident standard to play together on the day. Music is provided three weeks in advance so you have plenty of time to prepare. If you are interested in sharing your musical gifts with our parish family, please contact the church office or come and speak to Gemma after Mass on the second Sunday of the month.



TIDYING THE CHURCH GROUNDS



A big thank you to those who came to tidy our church and presbytery grounds, especially to *Rachel, Buck and Theresa with her husband*. I think everyone can see the difference!

MASS TO CELEBRATE MARRIAGE & FAMILY LIFE



All are warmly invited to the Diocesan Mass for Marriage and Families at Northampton Cathedral on Saturday **5th September** at **12 noon**. The Mass will be a special celebration of the gift of marriage and family life, with couples marking milestone

anniversaries especially welcome.

Please register online at:

[Celebration of Marriage and Family Life](#)

to let us know about your anniversary and to book refreshments.



CATHOLIC PATIENTS AT THE HOSPITAL

St Edward's parish has a good working relationship with Kettering General Hospital. Both Fr Elvis and I receive regular phone calls from the staff, informing us that a Catholic patient has been admitted and requests a pastoral visit. Sometimes such phone calls are a matter of routine. At other times the situation can be more urgent. We get calls about members of our parish but also from the surrounding parishes. Occasionally I receive a call from one of our priests in the Deanery asking us to visit their parishioner. I would be grateful if members of St Edward's Parish would inform me if they know of someone who has been admitted to the hospital. I would not want anyone to fall through the cracks and not be visited by ourselves or the Eucharistic Ministers because we did not know they were there. We want to make sure that we are able to offer Holy Communion to the relevant people.

- Fr Gregory



SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION FOR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION



Preparation for **First Holy Communion** and the **Sacrament of Confirmation** begins in our parish in **September**. The most important part of the preparation is attendance at Holy Mass every Sunday.

Fr Gregory would like to get to know all the children and their families who would like to receive the Sacraments in 2027. This includes children who attend Catholic schools and non-Catholic schools. Please come and say hello after Mass - even in August!

More information about catechism classes for children who do not attend our catholic schools will be announced in due course after Mass. If you have any questions regarding catechism classes for these two sacraments in the parish, please call the parish office on a Monday between 11 am and 12.30 pm and speak to Mrs Everington.

THE CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF ENGLAND AND WALES

I would like to draw your attention to the excellent website provided by the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales. The website highlights important issues of the day such as the need for



better palliative care and arguments pertaining assisted suicide. There are articles about upcoming events such as Adoremus 2026. There is information how to make the most of Adoration. There is even an art competition for children of all ages on themes such as the Blessed Sacrament, the presence of Jesus, and the beauty of our cathedrals. This closes on the 15th September. A couple of walking pilgrimages are being organised – one to London, another in northern England. If you are interested in finding out more, please go to the website below.

[Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales](#)

OUR LADY OF FATIMA - HOME PILGRIM



Last Sunday at 8.30 am Mass we welcomed a Parish statue of Our Lady of Fatima. Fr Elvis consecrated the statue and it is now available to visit the homes of our parishioners to enable each family to pray, one week at a time, for the family's and the parish's intentions. This consecration of the Pilgrim Statue is part of the World Apostolate of Fatima. The statue will be taken from home to home each weekend and will be accompanied by a prayer book to help families who are unfamiliar with the prayers. If you would like to invite the parish pilgrim statue of Our Lady of Fatima into your home for a week, please sign the list at the back of the church.

Augustina is a member of the World Apostolate of Fatima and will be the custodian and key contact for this initiative.

She may be contacted on **07487616560**.

TWO BIBLE GROUPS

- >> Our next **daytime** meeting will be held on Wednesday, **9th September** after the **10 am** Mass.
- >> Our next **evening** meeting will be at **6 pm** on Thursday, **10th September**.



Both meetings will last 45 minutes and will be held in the Parish Hall.

NEW EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS AND NEW READERS



At the end of **September**, we would like to recruit new **Eucharistic Ministers** and new **Readers**. We are planning to organise a training session for each group. We would like to invite all parishioners to come forward and become involved in the Eucharistic Ministry and in reading during Mass.

TRAINING FOR NEW READERS

Saturday, 19th September 2026



This training is mandatory for those who would like to join the team of readers, but we also invite our existing readers to refresh what they know about being a good reader.

Programme

10am - Private prayers and preparation for Adoration

10.15 am - 15 minutes **Adoration** in silence and **Benediction**

followed by *The Angelus*.

10.30am - **1st Talk** - by **Sr Aidan** (*Our understanding of the Scriptures, the importance of being prepared before we proclaim the Word of God publicly, how we should approach the lectern before we read and how we should use the microphone, how does our rota work. What works well and what can be improved in our rota?*)

10.45am - **2nd Talk** - by **Nina (TBC)** (*What parishioners expect from us when we read? The importance of correct diction*)

11am - **Lectio Divina** in small groups

11.15am - **3rd Talk** - by **Kate (TBC)** (*Explanation of the cycle - Year A, B, C on Sundays, and year I and II on weekdays. New liturgical year always begins on 1st Sunday of Advent. Now in 2026 we have Year A on Sundays, and Year II on weekdays, understanding and presenting the bidding prayers*)

<>>> Time for Q&A

11.30am - Tea and Coffee in the Parish Hall



TRAINING FOR NEW EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Saturday, 26th September 2026



This training is mandatory for those who would like to join the team of Eucharistic Ministers, but we also invite our existing Ministers to benefit from and maybe contribute to the session.

Programme

10am - Private prayers and preparation for Adoration

10.15am - 15 minutes **Adoration** in silence and **Benediction**

followed by *The Angelus*.

10.30am - **Film** about Eucharistic miracles - **Nigel**

10.45am - **Testimony** by **Collette and John** (*What does it mean to you to be a Eucharistic Minister? How does this ministry enrich you spiritually? How does it impact your daily life and family? Why it is a privilege to be a Eucharistic minister? Why is this ministry increasingly needed and appreciated by our priests?*)

11am - **1st Talk** - by **Rose** 'Theology'

11.15am - **Lectio Divina** in small groups - **Ron and Veronica**

11.30am - **2nd Talk** - by **TBC** 'Practicalities'

11.45am - **Safeguarding Matters** - by **Claudia** (TBC)

<>>> Time for Q&A

12pm - Tea and Coffee in the Parish Hall



ST EDWARD'S PARISH FACEBOOK GROUP

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2762598427183322/>



PLANNING YOUR WEDDING



If you are planning to get married abroad, in another parish or here at St Edward's Church, you must give us at least six months' notice. This is to ensure that all the preparation that couples are required to do, and the pre-marriage courses are completed along with the necessary paperwork. Please contact the parish office to get the relevant link to the course. You are always welcome to approach me after any Mass, so that you can begin making wedding plans. Please remember that to be legally married in this country, both parties have to be over 18 years old.

Depending on circumstances if you have been married before, you may still have the opportunity to be married in the Catholic Church, but this will depend on your personal situation. At least one party must be Catholic. Although you can be married wherever you wish, all the paperwork has to be done by your parish priest in the place where you live.

ST EDWARD'S CHURCH IS OPEN EVERY WEDNESDAY



The church remains open on each **Wednesday** after Mass until **12 noon**. Please take this opportunity to spend some time with the Lord.



THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE
OF NORTHAMPTON



SAVE THE DATE

DIOCESAN *Music Day*

A DAY OF MUSIC, FORMATION,
RESOURCES AND FELLOWSHIP
FOR ALL INVOLVED IN
PARISH MUSIC MINISTRY



SATURDAY
19TH SEPTEMBER 2026



LOCATION TBD

All are welcome!

MUSICIANS, SINGERS, CHOIR MEMBERS,
CANTORS, ORGANISTS, DIRECTORS,
AND CLERGY.

*“Sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.”*

— PSALM 96:1





DIOCESAN
SAFEGUARDING OFFICE



YOU ARE INVITED

SAFEGUARDING CONFERENCE 2026

- Parish Safeguarding Representatives
- Parish Volunteers
- Clergy
- Parish Secretaries
- Parishioners

KEY TOPICS & FOCUS AREAS

- ✚ Understanding Adult Safeguarding
- ✚ Survivors at the heart of the church
- ✚ Practices of healing and reconciliation

3RD OCTOBER 2026
ST THOMAS CENTRE AT
NORTHAMPTON CATHEDRAL

To Book Your Place Email

Laura.lester@northamptondiocese.org



Scan the QR code
to find out more



SCHOOL MASSES AT ST EDWARD'S



These are the upcoming dates of the school Masses, which some of you would like to attend, while others would rather avoid because they are very busy.

27th September at 11 am - St Edward's

22nd November at 11 am - St Thomas More

2021

24th January at 11 am - St Edward's

28th February at 11 am - St Thomas More

25th April at 11 am - St Edward's

27th June at 11 am - St Thomas More



YOUTH GROUP 2026

If your son or daughter is between 'Year 6' - 17 years old, and if you would like him or her to take part in our youth group activities, please email the parish office and request a registration form.

Our meetings will be held in the parish hall on the following **Fridays**:

4th September, 2nd October,

6th November, 4th December.



COFFEE MORNINGS



The next **Wednesday Coffee Morning** in the parish hall, will be run by our parish volunteers from **Rothwell** and **Desborough** after 10 am Mass on **2nd September**

BAPTISMS AT ST EDWARD'S



If anyone wants their child to be baptised, they will need to attend Mass every weekend for at least two months before attending a meeting. Please contact the office for further details. Our next baptismal preparation will be on: **Monday, 7th September at 7 pm** in **St Edward's Parish Hall**.

You do not need to book in advance to attend the meeting. You can just turn up.

REGISTRATION AT ST EDWARD'S PARISH

Please complete the registration form by clicking on this QR code, or by typing the link into your browser:

www.caspar.church/me?ID=56026



COFFEE MORNINGS 2026



These will be hosted in the Parish Hall after 10 am Mass on the following Wednesdays by our parish groups and communities. Everyone is welcome!

2nd September - **Rothwell** & **Desborough**

7th October - **Soup Kitchen**

4th November - **Flower Arrangers and Readers**

2nd December - **Church Cleaners and Children's Liturgy**



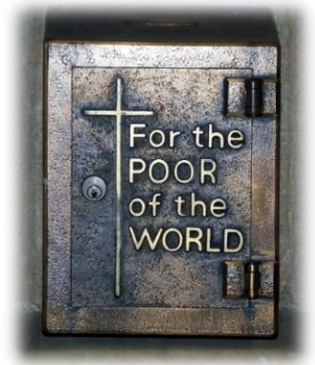
SECOND COLLECTIONS 2026

19th/20th September - **Home Mission Sunday**

3rd/4th October - **Harvest Fast Day**

17th/18th October - **World Mission Sunday**

31st Oct/1st Nov - **Sick and Retired Priests**



VOCATIONS UPDATE

Eighteen men from across the Diocese gathered at St Augustine's, Milton Keynes, for a Vocations Discernment Day organised by Diocesan Vocations Director, Fr Pius Amoako. The day offered an opportunity to pray, reflect and explore where God may be calling them, alongside five priests, two seminarians and a deacon who shared their experience and encouragement. The day concluded with Eucharistic Adoration, allowing the men to place their hopes and questions before the Lord. "It was a really wonderful day," said Fr Pius. "Discernment is about being open to God, taking time to pray, ask questions and listen. For some, this may lead to priesthood; for others, God may be calling them to something else. What matters is giving ourselves the opportunity to listen to the Lord and take that next step."

HARVEST FESTIVAL 2026



Let us thank God for providing us with His gifts - or as we say before the Eucharistic Prayer - 'the fruits of the earth and work of human hands'. Once again, we will be having Harvest Sunday during the Masses of **3rd/4th October**. I encourage you to bring a small offering of fresh fruit and vegetables, which will be blessed. After Mass we will transfer everything to the parish hall for the members of the Soup Kitchen. I thank you for your generosity in advance.



WEEKLY/MONTHLY DONATIONS AND LOOSE COLLECTIONS

MONTHLY / WEEKLY DONATIONS. If there are any New or Existing Parishioners who would like to give to the Parish on a regular basis, then we would be delighted to hear from you. There is a Giving Enquiry Form available for you to complete which is situated on the Notice Board at the Entrance of St Edward's Church. The completed Enquiry Form can be folded and put in the Offertory Collection Bag when attending Mass or placed in an envelope, addressed "Giving Enquiry" and posted through the Presbytery Letter Box at 2 The Grove, Kettering. Alternatively, we can email a copy of this enquiry form on request. Upon receipt of the form, we will contact you to arrange completion of any further necessary paperwork.



Suggested Methods of Regular Giving:

Regular Standing Order via your Bank - this is the preferred way which saves paper and therefore is kinder to the environment. We receive advices of Parishioners payments from the Diocese and we are then able to make sure your donation reaches our Parish.

Giving through Weekly Dated Envelopes which are issued in boxes for use throughout the year.

Donations by Card is a new way of giving, and you will find the Donation Station next to the statue of the Sacred Heart.

Gift Aid, please may we encourage you to consider Gift Aiding your regular donations, providing that you are a UK Tax payer, this means that your giving is increased for the benefit of the Parish. You may indicate your interest on the giving enquiry form.

You can also support the Parish by **making a donation through the letterbox** of the Presbytery.

Please be assured that all information provided is treated in a strict and confidential matter at all times.

We are appealing to our Parishioners who so generously give to our Parish through loose cash Collections taken at Mass. We are asking these Parishioners who may pay Income Tax to consider Gift Aiding their loose cash donations. This would greatly increase church funds which would benefit our Parish. If you can give this some thought and would like more details, then please let the church office know either by email or by letter providing your contact details. All enquiries will be dealt with in a strict and confidential manner. This is a suggestion made by the Diocesan appointed Auditors on their recent visit to the Parish.

Thank you for any help you can give.



BEREAVEMENT MASSES

We all know that bereavement might be a painful and emotional time for those who lost their loved ones. Perhaps you yourself are experiencing this or somebody you know is. Please consider joining us. Pain and sadness caused by death is not as difficult if you can share it with others who are in a similar situation.

From our Christian point of view, faith in God gives us a great comfort. However, no matter how strong your faith is, whether you are Christian or not, whether you believe in God or not, you are very welcome to come and join our group, listen to others or share your own experience. Each Mass will be followed by refreshments and friendly conversation in the Parish Hall. If you would like to, you can bring with you a funeral booklet or a photo of your loved one and display it in front of the altar.



These are the dates for our Masses:

3rd September at 7 pm,

2nd November at 7 pm,

3rd December at 7 pm.

YOU HAVE BEEN HEARD - RESPONSES SO FAR TO THE LISTENING ACROSS THE PARISH

The discernment process about the future of the parish focused on the following **priorities**;

- Enabling mission
- Ensuring a sustainable workload for one priest
- Providing a viable plan for finances and property
- Providing opportunities for faith formation for all, especially families and young people
- Encouraging better integration of our communities with a strong parish identity
- Developing resilient decision-making structures for the parish

This is a summary of the findings of the St Edward's New Wineskins Discernment Process

Strengths of the Parish Community

- **Diverse community**: Consistently praised across all groups as a major asset, with vibrant multicultural participation from Filipino, Keralan, African, Asian, and European communities
- **Strong pastoral leadership**: Fr. Gregory receives widespread appreciation for his vision, energy, and pastoral care
- **Lay participation**: Good attendance at masses, thriving youth group, altar servers, various music groups, and successful initiatives like the soup kitchen
- **Welcoming atmosphere**: Generally recognised as an inclusive and warm community
- **Variety of ministries**: Multiple active groups including SVP, UCM, choir, welcomers, hospital ministers, and various cultural communities
- **The impact of the two Catholic primary schools**: appreciation for all they bring to the wider community
- **Music**: the various music groups were regularly mentioned as a strength
- **Spiritual growth**: multiple new and regenerated initiatives and groups were mentioned including the youth group, St Cecelia, Bereavement and St Valentine's Masses and other activities

Challenges identified

- **Female altar servers**: This was mentioned repeatedly across multiple groups as an urgent need and matter of justice (already actioned)
- **Parking**: Significant concern about parishioners parking inappropriately outside the church, damaging community reputation (signs in place but more to do)
- **Burden on the priests**: there was significant concern as to how sustainable the priests' workload was now and into the future
- **Integration between communities**: While diversity is celebrated, there's need for better mixing and collaboration, including across different Mass times and centres
- **Social needs in the town and within the community**: while there are a number of groups tackling social needs there were many more ideas
- **Need for wider and more representative group of volunteers**: While new initiatives thrive, long-standing groups struggle to attract new members. Urgent need to encourage a broader ethnic mix of those in leadership which doesn't currently represent the wider congregation.
- **Family and Youth retention**: Concern about engaging families, keeping teenagers involved at Mass, and supporting university-age Catholics
- **Outlying churches**: Questions about sustainability and the need for more frequent masses

Infrastructure and Practical Needs

- **Church heating**: Mentioned multiple times as a priority
- **Seating arrangements at St Edward's**: Need for stewards to help with crowding and wheelchair accessibility
- **Communication**: Better use of technology, social media including WhatsApp, and parish coordination, sharing celebrations and good news to build community
- **Catholic secondary school**: Identified as a significant gap in the area.

How do we work together to seize new opportunities?

Your suggestions	Action so far
• Communication and shared decision-making: Create a coordinating body with representatives from each parish group/community to share ideas and collaborate, ensure outlying churches and diverse communities have voice in decision-making.	A Parish pastoral team to be established in September 2026. Representatives of the following groups are being approached mission (including sacramental preparation and faith formation), liturgy (including music), youth and families (including schools), social action and communication/community. The aim is that this group is representative of all communities within the parish.
• Opportunities for community building: Community barbecues, celebrations, movie nights, shared meals	looking to set up a social committee with representatives from each community linked through WhatsApp so no need for formal meetings just a group of people with ideas who can organise a monthly event and hopefully raise some money for the parish/ social action/ chosen charity. If you are interested in getting involved email the parish
• Create opportunities for spiritual sharing: Events where different communities share their traditions, food, and customs including an international Mass	We have a rosary group, Legion of Mary, masses for the bereaved, mass for families with children with special needs, 40 hours adoration and we have had a unity mass and celebration of St Cecilia. A bible study group is starting. There were many other ideas put forward these will be considered
• Enhanced Participation and Leadership: encourage new volunteers with active recruitment campaigns with clear, manageable commitments including rotas.	Recruitment for Eucharistic ministers, readers, organists, choir members and welcomers is open. There are rotas in place for Eucharistic ministers and welcomers.
• Youth and Family Focus: Expand youth programming: Increase youth group frequency, offer more liturgical roles to young people to keep them engaged, organize youth conferences like "Flame", more family-oriented initiatives: Family Masses, parent support groups, children's liturgy expansion, stronger collaboration with local primary schools and outreach to secondary schools.	The transition group have met with the youth coordinator from the Diocese, plans for monthly family days are in progress. More details will follow. 10 of our young parishioners attended the LUX conference organised by the Diocese.
• Practical Infrastructure Improvements: Address heating, accessibility, seating arrangements proactively, technology upgrades: such as online donation systems, live streaming for those unable to attend	Plans for a larger screen and IT connection are in place for the hall with a loop system. More seats have been added by moving the organ
• Outreach and Evangelisation: increase Catholic presence in local events (Kettering Festival), council meetings, and ecumenical initiatives, be bolder in proclaiming our faith in the town, use parish buildings for community services (skills classes, support groups)	
• Ministry presentations: Brief talks after Mass about different parish groups to encourage participation	There is much to do but an exciting opportunity to move forward on the great ideas shared in the listening across the parish. If you want to get involved in any of the areas above please contact the parish email.

OUR 3rd CELEBRATION OF THE FEAST OF ST CECILIA



'He who sings, prays twice' St Augustine

Once again, I would like to invite all our communities, our catholic schools, choirs, music groups, duets, soloists to take part in our celebration on

Friday, 20th November at 6.30 pm.

I would like to remind all who came last year what a celebration it was, what an uplifting experience! It was not a competition. That's what we want for this year too - for everybody to enjoy an evening of Christian music. It does not matter how big or small a choir or music group is, or how long it has been running. The important thing is that everybody comes out of church feeling uplifted.

This is to be a worship of God through beautiful singing, not a concert. Any music group or duet or soloist interested in taking part in our project, please inform Fr. Gregory by the **1st of October**, and send him a list of hymns they want to sing. Hymns cannot be repeated. If any group has already selected a particular hymn before you, you will be asked to change your selection. So, the sooner I know, the better. Like last year, the children from our schools will sing first, then order performances will be by random draw and the music groups will be informed in what order they will be singing a week beforehand.

Programme: Each group will be given approximately 10 minutes to introduce itself and sing several hymns. The number of hymns will depend of how many choirs want to take part in this celebration of church music. Refreshments and hot chocolate in the Parish Hall will be hosted by the members of our parish groups.