St Edward's Parish, Kettering





2 The Grove, Kettering NN15 7QQ. Telephone 01536 512497
Website: https://www.stedwardskettering.org.uk/
Email: parish.stedwardkettering@northamptondiocese.org

Our Parish Safeguarding Representative:
Claudia **R**ingrose: safeguarding.stedwardkettering@northamptondiocese.org

Diocesan Safeguarding Officer:
Danielle **D**ixon: safeguarding@northamptondiocese.com
Office: 01604 723514 / Mobile: 07833 050628
National **D**omestic **A**buse **H**elpline 0808 2000 247

Church Hall/ Upper Room Bookings: Contact the Parish Office

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

First Sunday of Advent, year B *29th November 2026*

MASS TIMES AT ST. EDWARD'S, KETTERING

Tuesday and Wednesday - 10 am

Thursday and Friday - 7 pm

Saturday Vigil Mass - 6.30 pm *(After Mass - confessions)*

>>> Sunday Early Mass - 9 am

>>> Sunday Family Mass - 11 am



Maranatha,

come Lord Jesus, come!

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.

>>> ADVENT <<< >>> ADVENT <<< >>> ADVENT <<< >>> ADVENT <<<

SATURDAY **06.30 pm** - Jean Brookes RIP 4th anniv. /
- Mary Murphy RIP and Anne Gallagher RIP

SUNDAY **09 am** - Teresa & John Antill RIP / - Rosemary Wootton and Veronica Steele int.
11 am - For the Parish / - Pauline Widdop RIP / - Paula Egagamao Baring int.

Monday **/ Private Mass /** - Holy Souls

Tuesday >>> ***09.15 am - Adoration and Private Prayers***

10 am - Ottavio Geranio RIP, Vince Geranio & Family special int.

Wednesday **10 am** - Vivien Villanueva thanksgiving for healing and birthday int. /
- Princy Romy RIP 5th anniv.

Thursday **07 pm** - John McGrenaghan RIP 4th anniv. / - Ron and Mary Stokes RIP

Friday >>> **06.00 pm - *First Friday Adoration and Benediction***

07 pm - Tomasz Nalepa RIP / - Varghese RIP / - Elsamma RIP

SATURDAY **06.30 pm** - Trudy DeMello / - Kirsty Woods int.

SUNDAY **09 am** - Gordon Allen RIP 1st anniv.
11 am - For the Parish

>>> ADVENT <<< >>> ADVENT <<< >>> ADVENT <<< >>> ADVENT <<<

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. Traditionally when Mass intentions are booked a donation is offered.

>>> ADVENT <<< >>> ADVENT <<< >>> ADVENT <<< >>> ADVENT <<<

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".***

- Canon 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:



+ Karen Rutter - Her **Requiem Mass** will be held at **St Edward's Church** on **Wednesday, 16th December** at **10am.**

+ Rosina Lo Presti - Her **Funeral** will be held at **the Crematorium** on **Monday, 21st December** at **2pm.**

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

OUR 3rd CELEBRATION OF THE FEAST OF ST CECILIA



We really enjoyed listening to the variety of hymns sung by our different groups on the feast of St. Cecilia. I feel it was a great success because once again we managed to bring together all the communities of our parish.

Thank you to everyone for their contribution, singing, playing, listening, and those who prepared refreshments.

- Fr Gregory

We are on the Diocesan Website!

A joyful celebration of music, faith and community for the Feast of St Cecilia | Northampton Diocese















CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT AT ST EDWARD'S IN 2026



Both of our Catholic Schools would like to invite us to their Carols by Candlelight Services before Christmas. Please come and enjoy the Christmas atmosphere.

St Edward's - Thursday, 3rd December at 5.30 pm

St Thomas More - Monday, 7th December at 6 pm

AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FOR CHILDREN FROM NON-CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WHO WILL BE MAKING THEIR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION IN OUR PARISH IN 2027



As I mentioned in August, sacramental preparation is something much wider than just catechism classes. It is mostly about building a strong relationship with Jesus by attending Sunday Masses, and daily prayers with family at home. I thank those families who have taken my words to heart, as I am seeing lots of little faces in church.

Children who have already started their sacramental preparation for First Holy Communion in September will be able to register for catechism classes. This will be in the Parish Hall behind the church on **Saturday, 9th January** at **9am.**

WALKING WITH ST FRANCIS THROUGH ADVENT: ONLINE RETREAT THURSDAY EVENINGS FROM 7.30pm



Join us for the second week of our diocesan online Advent retreat with speaker ***Canon John Udris***

to understand the Gospel through St Francis' teaching on creation. Available live via YouTube, or at any time after that suits you.

For more information, or to register, visit:
https://northamptondiocese.org/advent-retreat-2026/

BAPTISMS AND RECEPTION INTO THE CATHOLIC CHURCH - CONGRATULATIONS!



I am sure you have heard that there is an uplift in the number of people approaching priests in the whole country enquiring about the possibility of joining the Catholic Church, asking about the process and sharing the reasons why they are drawn to the Catholic Faith. Some of them have never been baptised, some of them were baptised into another Christian denomination e.g. Anglican, Methodist, Baptist. Some have married a Catholic and have become curious and encouraged. Indeed, this happens quite often in our parish. I receive emails, telephone calls and people even approach me after Mass. I always respond and never

turn anybody away because I see this to be a gift from God for them and the Church, and a great opportunity to evangelise.

Last Thursday four adult parishioners received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Communion. One of them had been baptised in the past and last Thursday was officially received into the Catholic Church. During their time of preparation, which is called **RCIA** *(Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)* and which took over a year, they attended Masses, prayed, learned and explored our Catholic faith.

In our parish we offer an online course *(via zoom)* with Rose, but we would like to offer it also face to face in small groups. If there are any parishioners who feel a call to become catechists for this purpose, to accompany those who express an interest to join the Catholic Church, please come and speak to me. Training is by participating in the year's course and through the diocese.

This is a great joy for the parish and for our Catholic family. We welcome and congratulate **Isabella, Lucy, Chantelle** and **Kevin** and wish them many blessings. We thank Rose for having been their guide and mentor on their journey over the last year. - *Fr Gregory*

OUR RCIA JOURNAY INTO CATHOLICISM



Isabella: Completing the RCIA course has been a truly special and meaningful part of my faith journey. It has deepened my relationship with God and taught me to trust in His plan, even when I cannot always see the path ahead. It has also brought me closer to our parish, where I have met some wonderful people, joined committees and formed friendships that I will always hold close to my heart. The kindness, support and encouragement I have received along the way have meant more than I can put into words.

Lucy: I began my faith journey during university where I met people from all walks of life who generously shared the gospel with me. Nevertheless, it was only when I attended a Catholic Church that I truly felt at home, and started attending St. Edward's when I moved back to the area. Thanks to Rose, I have been able to deepen my relationship with God and get more involved with the local community.

Chantelle: I first came to St Edward's Church two years ago after reading more into the Catholic faith. Although I had always believed in God, I had never really been part of a religious faith and felt quite distant from Him. This led me to start RCIA, which has been a wonderful journey, helping me learn so much about the Catholic faith and develop a much closer relationship with God. Everyone in the parish has been so welcoming, supportive and encouraging, making me feel part of the community and opening the door to other groups and opportunities within the parish, where I have been able to learn even more and deepen my faith. Also, a special thank you to Rose, who has been a wonderful teacher, shared so much knowledge and patiently put up with us for the last 18 months!

Kevin: I have always felt God in my life but I never really found how to reach God. A friend invited me to Sunday Mass at St Edward's and the moment I walked in, I felt lifted, lightened, and floating towards God. Fr Gregory guided me to the loveliest teacher one could have ever been gifted. And thus began my RCIA journey. I met beautiful people on my journey who shared their experiences with God - strangers from different walks of life, all merging to

become friends. The RCIA was not only about the beautiful teachings from Rose, but an opportunity to feel the depth and the power of love from God and for God. It wasn't just an educational and spiritual journey, but one that cannot be planned or orchestrated. The love and friendship forged during this RCIA is a blessing from God and His angels at work. The end of RCIA is met with sadness, as I will miss our weekly sessions: Rose's stories of her garden shenanigans, Lucy's and Isabella's playful and attention-seeking cats, and Chantelle joining the sessions from work while watching over her shoulder. I'll even miss the quick race back after our mid-session breaks between myself and Isabella, both of us just so enthralled by Rose's teaching and eager to get right back to it. But it will also end in great joy and blessing to be baptised into His church with them. And so, I have finally found my place with God, and amongst all of you, my brothers and sisters. Rose, thank you for your endless patience, your warmth, and your inspiring teachings throughout this journey. You haven't just been a teacher; you have been a true blessing and a guiding light on my path to God. Thank you for sharing so much rich material that I will revisit and re-read for years to come. Most of all, thank you for your heartfelt, considerate, and personal prayers each week. No words can truly describe what those quiet moments meant to me.

Rose: Walking alongside others and sharing their journey to God is the joy of my life. Hearing of the unique way He calls each one to Him deepens my own love of Him. I marvel at the ways the Holy Spirit consistently guides each session, inspiring questions to draw out greater understanding of the material for all of us. Being an RCIA Catechist is a true delight for those with sound knowledge of the Catholic faith and its moral teaching and enough time each week over 18 months. To train a vibrant team for the parish would be a privilege.

Thank you, **Chantelle, Isabella, Kevin** and **Lucy**, for the hours of joy and fun spent with you in discovering the goodness of God. May He continue to bless and support you all the days of your life!





AN INVITATION TO A BETHESDA GROUP MASS ON 20th DECEMBER 2026



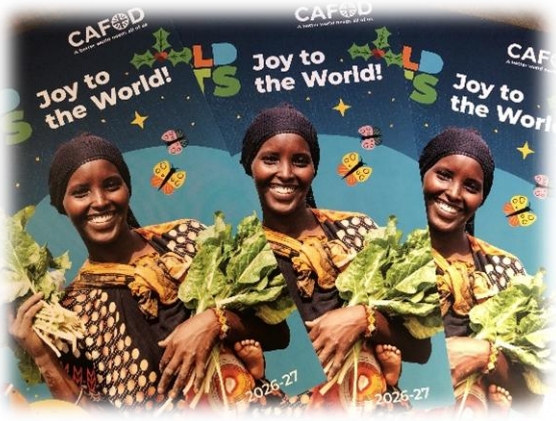
We would like to invite all families and friends of parishioners with special and additional needs to the Parish Hall on the **4th Sunday of Advent** ***(20th December)*** where the 11am Mass will be streamed. After the Mass there will be refreshments. We hope you can come, support or even become a part of our **Bethesda Group.**

WALK WITH ME BOOKLETS

You will find the new *Advent + Walk with Me + booklets* by the statue of the Sacred Heart. They are **£1.50** each.



THINKING OF CHRISTMAS PRESENTS?



At the back of the Church are CAFOD's World Gifts Catalogues. Please take one home. World Gifts are a wonderful way for St Edward's parish to share the hope and joy of Christmas with God's family throughout the

ADVENT CONFESSIONS AT ST EDWARD'S



>> Saturday, 5th December after **6.30 pm** Mass
>> Saturday, 12th December after **6.30 pm** Mass
>> Saturday, 19th December after **6.30 pm** Mass

Confessions on weekdays:

>> Tuesday, 15th December **9 am - 10 am**
>> Wednesday, 16th December **9 am - 10 am**
>> Thursday, 17th December **6 pm - 7 pm**

There will be Exposition and Adoration before Tuesday and Thursday Masses during confession.

On **Tuesday and Wednesday,** 8th and 9th December - We would like to offer confessions and the sacrament of anointing to those who are housebound. If you know anyone who would like a visit by a priest, please contact the parish and provide us with the relevant details, like name, address and telephone number of the person who would like the sacraments, before Sunday 29th November, and we will arrange a visit.

During **Tuesday,** 15th December and **Thursday,** 17th December **Masses** we will give the opportunity to anyone who wishes to receive the **Sacrament of Anointing** to come forward after the Gospel Reading. You will be invited to approach as you do for Holy Communion. Please remember that this Sacrament is not only for those who are seriously or terminally ill. It is for anybody who feels the need to be strengthened by the Lord. When you come to the steps of the sanctuary, please hold out your hands which will be anointed. Your forehead will also be anointed.

The Priest takes the oil and anoints the sick person. He anoints first on the forehead, saying: *Through this holy anointing, may the Lord in his love and mercy help you with the grace of the Holy Spirit.* You will answer: ***Amen.***

Then on the hands, saying: *May the Lord who frees you from sin save you and raise you up.* You will answer: ***Amen.***

MASS TIMES FOR CHRISTMAS 2026



Thursday, 24th December - CHRISTMAS EVE

3 pm - 5 pm - Syro-Malabar Mass for the Indian community.

6 pm - 1st Midnight Mass *for* ***children.*** *We invite all children who attend this Mass to come dressed in Nativity costumes - angels, kings, shepherds, innkeepers.*

7.30 pm - *Christmas Carols singing followed by…*

8 pm - 2nd Midnight Mass *with Kirsty and the Parish Choir*

10.30 pm - 3rd Midnight Mass *with Gemma and the Filipino Choir*

Friday, 25th December - CHRISTMAS DAY

9 am - Christmas Mass

11 am - Christmas Mass

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 2027



The 2027 **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** is scheduled from Monday, 18th January. The theme for 2027 is *"Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom"* *(Luke 12:32)*, emphasising trust, reconciliation, and shared witness among Christian communities. This annual observance encourages Christians worldwide to pray for unity, participate in ecumenical services, and reflect on shared faith.

In our parish we will invite all the members of the Churches Together to our **7pm** Mass on **Thursday, 21st January**.

There will be refreshments afterwards in the church hall.

FORWARD PLANNING FOR 2027

important

Fr Elvis will be going for a well-earned rest to India straight after Christmas 2026. We wish him well. I will be on my own in the parish but with the help and prayers of everyone, hopefully everything will go smoothly during the month of January.

- Fr Gregory

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.



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

OUR LADY OF FATIMA - HOME PILGRIM



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.**

OUR BIBLE GROUP

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday, **9th December** after the **10 am** Mass. It will last 45 minutes and will be held in the Organ Loft in the church.



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

ST EDWARD'S PARISH FACEBOOK GROUP



https://www.facebook.com/groups/276259842718322/

PRESENTS AT THE REPOSITORY



We have a selection of Christmas items, which would make good stocking fillers, plus Christmas cards and Advent calendars for children.

Shop early!!!

When it's gone, it's gone!!!

A ROSARY GROUP AT ROTHWELL



The Rosary Group will not be able to meet on Thursday, **3rd December** at **St Bernadette's Church** for Health and Safety reasons. There will be ongoing work in the church grounds during that week.

THE CHILDREN'S LITURGY CHRISTMAS EVE MASS



This will take place on Thursday, **24th December** at **6 pm.** We invite the children to come in Nativity costumes - angels, kings, shepherds, innkeepers. May we remind you that there were no dinosaurs or Batmen or Spidermen at the Nativity!

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.

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



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 December *at* ***7 pm***

in ***St Edward's Church.***

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

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 December.

SVP CHRISTMAS APPEAL

How you can help this Christmas: We are partnering with Caritas Northampton for the *Love Christmas* campaign again this year to deliver gifts to local families in need.

We gratefully welcome donations of **new, unwrapped items**:



- **Gifts:** Toys for children, and general gifts for adults.
- **Warm items:** Scarves and gloves.
- **Festive treats:** boxes of sweets, biscuits, selection boxes

📌 **Donation Box Location:** Back of the church

📅 **Collection Dates:** Sunday 22nd November to Sunday 6th December

Thank you for helping us share the joy of Christmas with our community!



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.

BEREAVEMENT MASSES

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.



Our next Mass will be on **3rd December.**

NYMO@ FLAME 2027

CYMFED flame 2027

Find out more:

TAKE COURAGE

Theme: Take Courage

WHEN	6th March 2027
WHERE	OVO Arena, Wembley
WHO	Ages 14-25
HOW MUCH	£33 For entrance only / £55 For entrance + transport

We have a limited number of tickets available at this early bird rate. Once these have all sold, the prices will increase.

NYMO.ADMIN@NORTHAMPTONDIOCESE.COM NYMO.ORG

JOIN OUR PARISH CHOIR

♫ SING • PRAY • LOVE ♫

How Joining the Parish Choir Could Change Your Life!

ST. EDWARDS PARISH CHOIR • ALL ARE WELCOME

Love singing? Want to praise God and help lead the congregation in sung prayer? This could be your calling. Come and serve through music!

Singing together is joyful, uplifting and deeply rewarding

WHO CAN JOIN?

- Everyone is welcome. English does not need to be your primary language
- We sometimes sing in Latin too, which is no one's primary language!

WHAT WE ASK

- A passion for music
- A positive attitude and willingness to learn
- Be a supportive 'team player'

WHEN DO WE SING?

- 3rd Sunday of the month: 11am Mass
- Other occasions during the year, including Christmas and Easter

REHEARSALS

- 2 x Tuesday evenings *(week of, and week before the 3rd Sunday Mass)*
- Time: 1900 - 2015
- Practice your part at home using recordings and resources provided

WHY JOIN?

- Deepen your faith: sacred singing can become a form of prayer
- Serve your parish community in a practical and joyful way
- Enjoy the wellbeing benefits of singing, including relaxation, breath control and concentration
- Meet people, build friendships, laugh together and have fun!

Faith • Music • Friendship • Service • Joy

COME ALONG & SING WITH US!

Speak with Kirsty (who can often be found behind the organ) or with Cannon Gregory, to find out more

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 Dona 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.

YOUTH GROUP 2027

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:**

8th January, 5th February, 5th March,

2nd April, 7th May, 4th June, 2nd July,

6th August, 3rd September,

1st October, 5th November, 3rd December.

This year we will be trying something a little new. Under the supervision of our leaders, we would like some of our oldest members of the Youth Group to lead a number of the sessions. We know how our younger members look up to the older members. The sessions would be an opportunity for our older youth members to hone their skills and talents.

COFFEE MORNINGS 2027



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!

6th January - The Legion of Mary
3th February - The SVP
3th March - The UCM
7st April - The Soup Kitchen
5th May - The Flower Arrangers
2nd June - The Readers *and* Eucharistic Ministers
7th July - The Cleaners
4th August - The Children's Liturgy
1st September - The Indian Community
6th October - The Nigerian Community
3rd November - The Filipino Community
1st December - The Welcomers

BEREAVEMENT MASSES IN 2027

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.

These are the dates for our Masses:

Thursday, **4th March** at 7 pm,
Thursday, **3rd June** at 7 pm,
Thursday, **2nd September** at 7 pm,
Tuesday, **2nd of November** *(All Souls Day)* at 7 pm,
Thursday, **2nd December** at 7 pm