

THE PARISH OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ETERNAL HIGH PRIEST BY RUTLAND WATER

Parish Priest: Rev Canon Peter Vellacott: peter.vellacott@dioceseofnottingham.uk
Deacon: Rev Raymond Keogh: raymond.keogh@dioceseofnottingham.uk Tel: 07845 773619
Retired Priest in Residence: Rev Canon Stephen Dye
Retired Deacon: Rev Charles West-Sadler

Parish Office: Stamford. Carrie Ann Gates: office.catholicstamford@dioceseofnottingham.uk
Parish Office: Oakham. Maria Marriott: rcchurchoakham@dioceseofnottingham.uk
St Mary and St Augustine Church, 13 Broad Street, Stamford, Lincolnshire PE9 1PG Tel: 01780 762010
St Joseph's Catholic Church, Station Road, Oakham, LE15 6QU Tel: 01572 722308
Nottingham Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Company Number: 7151646 Charity Number: 1134449

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Saturday 14 th March	Vigil Mass	Oakham Stamford	Exposition & Benediction 3.30 pm - 4.00 pm Vigil Mass - 4.30 pm Vigil Mass - 6.00 pm	Holy Souls in Purgatory Pro Populo
Sunday 15 th March	Fourth Sunday of Lent	Stamford Oakham Stamford	Holy Mass - 9.00 am Holy Mass - 10.30 am Holy Mass - 11.00 am	Rosie Warner (Int) Holy Souls in Purgatory Leslie Arthur Starsmore (RIP)
Monday 16 th March	Lenten Feria	Oakham	Holy Mass - 10.00 am	Marie Terèsè Goldberg (Well being)
Tuesday 17 th March	Lenten Feria	Stamford	Holy Mass - 10.00 am	George Ebenezer Hyland (RIP)
Wednesday 18 th March	Lenten Feria	Oakham	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.00 am – 10.00 am Holy Mass - 10.00 am	Margaret Moore (RIP)
Thursday 19 th March	St Joseph Solemnity	Exton	A Sung Mass - 7.00 pm	Benefactors of the choir and their intentions
Friday 20 th March	Lenten Feria	Stamford Exton	Exposition & Benediction 9.00 am - 10.00 am Holy Mass - 10.00 am Traditional Latin Mass - 7.00 pm	Nan & Patrick Goonan (RIP) Angela Munton (RIP)
Saturday 21 st March	Vigil Mass	Oakham Stamford	Exposition & Benediction 3.30 pm - 4.00 pm Vigil Mass - 4.30 pm Vigil Mass - 6.00 pm	Maggie & Family (Int) Pro Populo
Sunday 22 nd March	Fifth Sunday of Lent	Stamford Oakham Stamford	Holy Mass - 9.00 am Holy Mass - 10.30 am Holy Mass - 11.00 am	Wendy Mitchell (Int) Paul Coomber (RIP) Sheila Flattery (RIP)
Sacrament of Confession.		St Joseph's Oakham Wednesday: 9.30 am - 10.00 am Saturday: 3.30 pm - 4.00 pm St Mary & St Augustine's Stamford Saturday: 5.00 pm - 5.40 pm		
		Oakham Contacts	Stamford Contacts	
Parish Office		01572 722308		01780 762010
Parish Websites		www.stjosephs-oakham.org/		www.catholicstamford.com/
Safeguarding Representatives		Maria Marriott: 07513 725552 maria.marriottpsr@dioceseofnottingham.uk		Carrie Ann Gates: 07786 516782 carrieann.gatespsr@dioceseofnottingham.uk
Parish Support Groups		HELP: Rosemarie Duncan: 01572 723873		SVP: Nicholas Armitage: ncarmitage@gmail.com
House Faith Sharing Groups		Barbara Black: 01572 724918		Trish Moor: 01780 765105
CAFOD		Nick Taylor: nick@pipelinebuyer.co.uk		Jacquie Kent: nandjkent@gmail.com
Stamford Director of Music:		Ruth Proctor 07826 017487 / ruthproctor73@gmail.com		
Parish Newsletter		Maria Marriott: JCHPnewsletter@dioceseofnottingham.uk		
PPC		Chair – Andreas Menzies: 01572 722308 / ppchair@stjosephs-oakham.org		
Primary Schools		Head Teacher: Mrs Jo Rutledge English Martyrs Willow Crescent, Oakham: 01572 722400 office@englishmartyrs.rutland.sch.uk Website: www.englishmartyrs.rutland.sch.uk		Head Teacher: Mrs Joanne Oliver Saint Augustine's Catholic Voluntary Academy, Stamford: 01780 762094 enquiries@st-augustine.lincs.sch.uk Website: www.st-augustine.lincs.sch.uk
Oakham Tea & Coffee: Please do join us for tea & coffee after Holy Mass on Wednesday and Sunday. All welcome.		Stamford Children's Liturgy is celebrated at the 9.00 am Holy Mass. We welcome all children to share in this opportunity to participate in their own Liturgy of the Word at Holy Mass at an appropriate level for them.		Stamford Tea & Coffee: join us for tea & coffee after Holy Mass on Sunday 9.00 am. Tea & coffee after the 11.00 am Holy Mass is cancelled 14/15 & 21/22 (due to the road closures).

It is the Lord's House, which Jesus taught was a house of prayer" (Mt 21:13) and thus should be used according to its purpose. The House of God, where dwells the Real Presence of God, must be treated with ongoing reverence.

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The Catholic Church has dedicated each month of the year to a particular devotion. **March** is dedicated to **Saint Joseph**, the earthly father of Jesus Christ. This dedication offers a time for reflection, gratitude, and celebration of this great saint. By dedicating the month of March to Saint Joseph, the Church encourages believers to reflect on his virtues, seek his intercession, and deepen their understanding of his significance in salvation history. **St Joseph, foster father of Jesus, please pray for us. Amen**

Please pray for the following who are ill in our Parish: Meryl Vincent, Angela Kirkup, Claire Smith, Ita Jones, Janet and Barry Chalmers-Stevens, Monique Pryke, Elisabeth Simpson, Judy Nash, John Rhodes, Amanda Messer, Marie Thérèse Goldberg, Anne Emerson and Felix Bradshaw. **If you would like to add anyone to the sick list (permission required),** Please contact Maria JCHPnewsletter@dioceseofnottingham.uk

Prayers for those who have recently died: In your charity, please pray for the repose of the soul of Dorothy Emerson whose Requiem Funeral will take place on 25th March at 11.30 am in St Mary and St Augustine Church, Stamford.

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace. Amen

Stamford 7-day Votive Lights: If you would like either of these lit for the week in memory of a loved one or an intention, please let the Stamford Office know with dates and intention. A donation of £10 is suggested as an offering.

The 7-day candle at the Statue of Our Lady burns in prayer for the health and well-being of Lydia Parker

The 7-day candle at the Statue of St Joseph burns in prayer for the people of our parish

If you yourself are not well, or you know of any parishioners who are not well, in hospital, or require a visit from the Priest or an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, please let either Carrie Ann or Maria know using either email address: office.catholicstamford@dioceseofnottingham.uk rchurchoakham@dioceseofnottingham.uk It is not possible for the Priest to know who is or who is not at Mass on any given weekends given the numbers attending and across two communities: he himself is praying the Mass and not taking a register or checking who is there or not. Please do not assume the Priest will simply 'miss me' at Mass and be in touch. If you yourself are not well or know of someone who is not well, please make contact or ask a family member to contact us as above. If we do not know, we cannot help.

Calling all our Parishioners! Our 2 pm Parish Prayer intention for this week: Is for: all the families in our Parish. That we may love, care and support each other in our trials and our journey of faith. Amen.

A Sung Mass for the Feast of St Joseph. Thursday 19th March at 7.00 pm St Thomas of Canterbury, Exton Hall, LE15 8AN: Celebrant Canon Peter Vellacott. Sung by St Michael's Chant Choir. Director: Susie Hill. Organist: Toby Ward. There will be a retiring collection in aid of St Michael's Chant Choir. All Welcome.

Reconciliation Liturgy Monday 23rd March Part of our journey through Lent is to make a good Confession in preparation to receive Our Risen Lord at Easter. There will be a Reconciliation Liturgy at St Mary & St Augustine's with local priests available to hear Confessions on Monday 23rd March at 7.00 pm.

Parish 200 Club: The draw for March took place last Sunday and the first prize of £200 went to Amanda Remedios; the second prize of £100 to Judith Marie Cooper and the final prize of £50 went to Cathy Pegrum. Congratulations to our winners.

Stations of the Cross during Lent at St Joseph's
on Friday at 10:30 am Sunday at 4:30 pm,

Stations of the Cross during Lent in St Augustine's.
Friday after the 10.00 am Holy Mass.

Pilgrim Cross is a pilgrimage which takes place each Passion week arriving at the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham for the Easter Vigil. Starting in Leicester the pilgrims walk with a wooden Cross, staying at various Churches along the way. On 28th March they will be staying in the Meeting room at St Joseph's, overnight. Parishioners are being asked to kindly contribute to a 'Shared Table' by providing some food. **A list of what will be needed will be placed in the porch for you to sign.** Thank you, your help is very appreciated. Please contact Hanna after Holy Mass on Sunday or Maria for more information: JCHPnewsletter@dioceseofnottingham.uk

Road Closures: Due to the Stamford Mid-Lent Fair, road closures are in place and all vehicles are to be removed from the following areas: From 5.00 pm on Saturday 14th March until 6.00 am Sunday 22nd March: Bath Row, Gooches Court, Castle Dyke, Red Lion Square, Cattlemarket Car Park and Castle Street. From Noon Sunday 15th March until 11.00 am Sunday 22nd March: Broad Street, Red Lion Street, Crown Street, Star Lane, and Newgates. Please be conscious of the restrictions, particularly as regards Broad Street, in parking your car over the weekends of 14th / 15th March and 21st / 22nd March.

Last week's Parish collection:

Loose Plate & Envelopes £824.94
Standing Orders £1,298.00
Total £2,122.94
As always, many thanks for all your contributions to our Parish, however you may contribute.

Please see Posters and Notices in the Church and the Porch for more information and contacts:

Churches Together in Oakham: In March the meetings will take place at 1.00 pm to 1.30 pm at All Saints Church on Church Street in Oakham.

Easter Flower Collection There will be a collection in both Churches this coming weekend.

Stamford Food Bank:

Items needed: Tinned potatoes
Spaghetti hoops: Tinned hot meat
Tinned cold meat: Tinned rice
pudding: Tinned custard: Rice (non microwave)
Thank you so much for your continued support and generosity.

Churches Together in Stamford Lent Lunches: Will take place on the Fridays in Lent (20th February - 27th March) from 12.00 pm - 1.00 pm in St Mary & St Augustine Church Hall, Broad Street, Stamford. Please join us for fellowship and a simple lunch of fantastic home-made soup, bread & cheese. Suggested donation of £5 in support of Christian Aid.

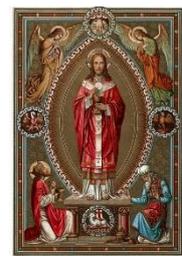
Holy Mass Streaming Service: St Joseph's Oakham is monitored by CCTV cameras and/or live streaming cameras during Holy Mass. If you use St Joseph's Holy Mass streaming service and find that it is not online, please contact Maria in the Oakham Parish Office via Email: rchurchoakham@dioceseofnottingham.uk or call 01572 722308

Please note: Any cheques made out to the Parish should read **St Joseph's Oakham RCP OR St Mary & Aug Stamford RCP**

The Postcode for St Thomas of Canterbury, Exton Hall is LE15 8AN



THE PARISH OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ETERNAL HIGH PRIEST BY RUTLAND WATER



Newsletter Addition

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Recent Wajir Donations

Big thank you to St Augustine school who have raised £300 towards playground equipment for the mission school at Wajir. Thanks to all those who make regular and annual donations to Wajir and support our events. Thanks to your generosity, we recently sent £4200 to Sister Beatrice at the Daughters of St Anne who gives us regular updates on how the funding is used at the Wajir Mission, based in an extremely poor and remote part of Kenya.

Parish Quiz Night in Aid of Wajir Mission

We will be holding our now annual Quiz Night in the Saint Mary and St Augustine Parish Hall at 7.00 pm on Saturday 9th May 2026. Tickets are £12 including a meal and entry to the quiz. It's a really fun night with drinks and snacks on sale and the inevitable raffle! It would be great to see as many parishioners as possible participating. Last year the team including Canon Peter and Canon Stephen were victorious, who might steal their quiz crown?

Tickets will be on sale from 15th March. Please see Catherine Callow or Wendy Mitchell to buy your ticket. Teams of 4 to 6 people or we can add you to a team.

Big Lent Walk A huge 'thank you' to Carrie Ann, Wendy, Liz and the Youth Club from St Augustine's in Stamford for organising and doing the Big Walk for Cafod, last Saturday at Rutland Water to St Joseph's in Oakham. It was a great success with 25 participants. Thank you too to Maria for arranging refreshments at the end of the day and to Canon Peter for the beautiful Holy Mass to conclude the day.

Credo Study Group: We meet on a Wednesday in the meeting room at St Joseph's, at 5.45 pm for 6.00 pm start and 7.00 pm finish. As we journey through *Credo: Compendium of the Catholic Faith* - it will help us to absorb the riches of the Church's teaching to fruitfully contemplate, pray, and live as Christ taught. All welcome.

New Adult Gregorian Chant Choir starting soon, directed by Toby Ward, Praefectus Cantorum of the Knights of Malta. Provisional rehearsal time 7.30-8.30pm, at St Joseph's, term time only. All welcome, from complete beginners to experienced singers of chant. For more details, email: stmichaelschantchoir@gmail.com or telephone 01572 770 580.

Lenten Bible Study: Figures of Faith

Join us for **Week 5** of our Lenten Bible Study as we continue our Lenten journey with Mary: Trusting God's Promise. We will reflect on Mary's response of faith and surrender when the angel announced God's plan for her life (Luke 1:26-38). Her example invites us to trust God, even when His plan is unexpected or challenging. All are welcome! Each session is standalone, so it's never too late to join. Refreshments are served at 6.15 pm, with the study beginning promptly at 6.30 pm. Please note, we will be meeting in Stamford Church Meeting Room (not the hall) for next week's session due to the Mid-Lent Fair. For more information, contact Carrie Ann at the Stamford Office. Looking forward to seeing you there!

Called to Love is a retreat for singles, dating, and engaged young adults who want to think more deeply about relationships and the call to marriage. A relaxed weekend with input, prayer, discussion and social, as well as the opportunity to meet like-minded others, the retreat will be held at the Christian Heritage Centre, Lancashire, on Saturday 2nd and Sunday 3rd May. This year's retreat will have as its theme masculinity and femininity. To book, visit: <https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/called-to-love/>

The Abortion Recovery Care and Helpline (ARCH) is starting a Post Abortion Women's Support Group from April in central Nottingham, for women affected by abortion. Run by a qualified therapist, the group offers a safe space to meet with other women in a supportive and helpful way, with confidentiality, no judgement, and free of charge. If it has been at least six months since your experience and you would like more information email clare@archtrust.org.uk including a mobile number (ARCH and abortion will not be mentioned in any texts).

Forming Catholic Student Leaders consists of two summer courses exploring faith, ethics and leadership for sixth form students, offered by the Christian Heritage Centre at Stonyhurst. Join for six days in the beautiful Ribble Valley to explore themes linked to The Common Good (Year 12, Monday 10th – Saturday 15th August) and to The Human Ecology (Year 13, Sunday 5th – Friday 10th July). Meet new friends, discuss and share with peers, tutors and academics, learn new skills, develop your relationship with Christ, build your character. For more details, and to book, visit: www.christianleadershipformation.com

The Catholic Union wants to make the Weekly Briefing available to every Catholic in England, Scotland and Wales. Sign up for free at: https://catholicunion.org.uk/weekly-briefings/?mc_cid=f1b1eb6fd3&mc_eid=735bea09a7

A Dominican Young Adults Study Day focusing on the Sacrament of Confession is being held on Saturday 14th March, between 10.00 am and 4.30 pm, at Holy Cross, Leicester. Why do we need to go to confession? Can I not say sorry to God on my own and trust in his mercy? During the day we will begin by looking at sin and human flourishing, before unpacking the Sacrament of Confession itself: what is it? How does it work? And why do we need it? The Day will finish with some more practical considerations around making a good confession, and will include Holy Mass, talks, prayer, fellowship, and discussion, as well as the opportunity to go to confession. Lunch will be provided. To register email dya@english.op.org