

St Gregory the Great, Stratford upon Avon

This Parish is served by the Benedictine Monks of Douai Abbey.

Parish Priest:
Fr. Alex Austin (OSB)

Parish Office:
Open Tuesday,
Wednesday, Thursday
& Friday mornings



Address:
St Gregory's Church
Warwick Road,
Stratford-upon-Avon
CV37 6UJ
stgregorysua@btconnect.com
Telephone: 01789 292439

Additional numbers for use in emergencies only: Alcester: 01789 762573, Bidford-upon-Avon: 01789 773291

Prayers for the Sick and Housebound: Cath Austin, Mary Barratt, Roy Baylis, Silver Beckham Bazira, Margaret Bullen, Vincent Coleman, Sophie Connor, Louise Cooke, Gladys Cuscito, Carol Denny, Gary Denstone, Roy Donnelly, Aubrey Dreyden, Gabrielle Edwardes, Patricia Elliot, Mary Foster, Barry Geedon, Maureen Harper, Brian Harrison, Anthony Hathaway, Mary Hedderman, Maureen Hunt, Adelina Coccozza, Bill Johnson, , Anne Kingland, Mike Lowe, Mildred Madden, Tom Mahon, Isabelle Mantella, Ted Martyn, Dominic Momcilovic, Helena Myczko, Don O'Donnell, Jean O'Neill, Tom O'Hare, Anne Parkinson, Reg Pillinger, Vera Roche, John Somers, Cynthia Thompson, Cristina Valentino, David & Frances Westcott, Suzie Weston Noel Wheatle, Margaret Young, Callie Barnett, and all the sick in our hospitals, nursing homes and known to us.

Anniversaries in December: Maureen Blackie, Theresa Fowler, Oliver Condon, June Fairbrother, Owen Jones, Teresa Dietrich, Enzo Buquet, Edward Carrick, Victor Burn, Edward Dempsey, Oliver Storer, Wyndham Perring, William Vale-Humphreys, Else Burdon, Kevin Ford, Karl Oulton.

Lately Dead: Raymond Allard, Joe Harris, Brian Fenn, Phyllis Kernahan, Andy Stenson.

Church Cleaning: St Gregory's: the Catenians

Recent Collections.

Weekend 16/17th December 2017. Loose: £552 Gift Aid: £696 Boxes: £166

Flowers for the Churches: £504 Poor Parishes: £524

Thank you for your generosity.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES:

St. Gregory's: Saturday 23rd 5.30 pm Mass of 4th Sunday of Advent.
Our Lady of Peace, Shottonery. Sunday 24th 9.30 am Mass of 4th Sunday of Advent.
St. Gregory's Sunday 24th 11.15 am Mass of 4th Sunday of Advent.
Our Lady of Peace, Shottonery. Sunday 24th 6.00 pm Childrens' Christmas Mass.
St. Gregory's Sunday 24th 10.00 pm. Midnight Mass.
Preceded by Carols and Readings at 9.30pm

CHRISTMAS DAY.

Our Lady of Peace, Shottonery. Monday 25th 9.30 am Family Christmas Mass.
St. Gregory's Monday 25th 11.15 am Christmas High Mass.

**We welcome to our congregation visitors to Stratford
and those who have recently moved into our Parish.
Do please make yourselves known to the Priest.**

The Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham, and Douai Abbey Parishes Trust.
Registered Charity Number 1063237

www.stgregorys-stratford.org

23/24/25th December, Fourth Sunday of Advent (Year B)		
Saturday 23rd	5.30 pm.	Mass. Jean Laurens (RIP) (J.V.Laurens)
Sunday 24th	11.15 am.	Mass. People of the Parish
	10.00 pm.	Midnight Mass. People of the Parish
	1.00 pm.	Polish Mass
Monday 25th	11.15 am.	Mass. Terry Evans (Intentions) (Don Payne)
Tuesday 26th	9.30 am.	NO Mass.
Wednesday 27th	9.30 am.	NO Mass.
Thursday 28th	9.30 am.	NO Mass.
Friday 29th	9.30 am.	NO Mass.
30/31st December, The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph (Year B)		
Saturday 30th	5.30 pm.	Mass. St.Gregory's twinned SVP conference in Kerala.
Sunday 31st	11.15 am.	Mass. People of the Parish. Baptisms: Molly Gillam and Mia Gillam
Confessions: Saturday 10.30-11.30am at St. Gregory's.		
Our Lady of Peace, Shottonery.		
24/25th December, Fourth Sunday of Advent (Year B)		
Sunday 24th	9.30 am.	Mass. Pauline Lees (RIP) (Bailey)
	6.00 pm.	Mass. Childrens' Christmas Mass
Monday 25th	9.30 am.	Mass. Harry Nicolls (RIP) (Catenians)
30/31st December, The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph (Year B)		
Sunday 31st	9.30 am.	Mass. Giuseppe Cuscito (RIP) (Gladys Cuscito)

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FATHER ALEX

wishes everyone a very Happy and holy Christmas and a blessed New Year. He thanks all who have worked so hard for the parish over the past year. Also, many thanks for all of your cards, gifts and Christmas offerings. They are greatly appreciated.

- **Requiem Mass for Andy Stenson Friday 5th January 2.30pm St Gregory's Church.**
- **CRIB OFFERINGS** will be given to The Children of Bethlehem charity again this year.
- **CWL:** Next meeting Wednesday 3rd January 2018 at 2pm in the Parish hall. Subs due!
- **OLP.** Many thanks to all who contributed in many ways to the Mince Pies and Mulled Wine after Sunday morning mass 17th December. Special thanks to the childrens Liturgy Group and Elaine and Vicki for their wonderful carolling. **£100** was raised for Stratford Street Pastors!
- **OLP.** No Fair Trade Tea & Coffee after Mass Christmas Eve. Next available date 31st December.
- **LUNCH CLUB.** next meeting dates are 29th January & 26th February 2018. If you have booked any lunch and then are unable to attend, contact Helen on 01789 550545, or Val on 01789 293267, giving as much notice as possible as is important for catering numbers.
- **EUCHARIST & THE FAMILY** - New for November 17 and in preparation for two large events next year in the life of the Church: the World Meeting of Families (21st - 26th Aug) and the Adoremus: Eucharistic Pilgrimage & Congress (7th - 9th Sept) 2018. For more information contact Paul Northam at fieldevang@maryvale.ac.uk or Sr Gillian Murphy parishesmv@maryvale.ac.uk Worcester 20th Jan., Christ the King, Coventry 3rd Feb., Our Lady of Lourdes Hednesford 24th Feb., Maryvale Institute Birmingham 24th March.
- **MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE.** The next Marriage Preparation Course, for those getting married in our church next year, will be held over two days on Saturday 27th January & Saturday 10th February 2018. For further details please refer to the relevant page on our parish website. <http://www.stgregorys-stratford.org/marriage-preparation-course.php>
- **PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES,** 25th – 28th May 2018. Cost £530. If interested in visiting Lourdes and for enquiries, please contact Jane Chamberlain on 07790456026. There is a fund to assist those in need of financial help.

- **ADOREMUS** – National Eucharistic Pilgrimage and Congress. Liverpool, 7th – 9th September **2018.** “I am the Bread of Life”. More details to follow. Please pray for the success of this major event.
- **WALK OF WITNESS,** Good Friday March 30th 2018: is being organised by St. Gregory's this time. We will need volunteers who are able to help in a variety of capacities, now in the planning stage, and on the day. If you can help, please sign clipboard in porch with your details. Thank you.
- **STRATFORD CHURCHES TOGETHER 2018 LENT COURSE:** “Apocalypse Now?” - An Exploration of the Book of Revelation with the Rev Canon Andrew Dow. Wednesdays 21,28 February; 7,14,21 March at St Andrew's Shotton, 7.30pm. Why not put the dates in your 2018 diaries now!
- **NO NEW CATHOLIC SCHOOLS?** New government legislation means we can only allocate 50% of places on the basis of faith, thus preventing the opening of new Catholic schools. Archbishop Bernard writes: “The Government is making a critical decision on whether to overturn the admissions cap which prevents (new) Catholic schools from allowing all Catholic pupils to attend. They have acknowledged that this policy discriminates against Catholics and promised to abandon it, now we need to tell them not to u-turn on their promise to Catholics. Visit <http://catholicnews.org.uk/education-cap>. Providing your details will automatically generate an email to the Secretary of State and your MP.
- **L.P.S. CAR PARK:** No charges from Saturday 5pm until Sunday 2.45pm. when it is reserved for church use.
- **HOLY HOUR:** 7.00pm on Thursdays. All are welcome.
- **BIBLE GROUP:** Tuesdays 7.30pm. The Bible Group meets every week to review the following Sunday's readings. All welcome.
- **WARWICK DEANERY WEBSITE:** this can now be found at www.warwick-catholicdeanery.org.uk
- **BEREAVEMENT TEAM:** parishioners can contact a member of the team on 07592572978 or email stgregorysb@gmail.com. or complete a form available in the church porch.
- **GIFT AID:** If you are interested in joining the scheme please contact Clive Hamilton on 01789 488047 or by e-mail stgregorysgiftaid@aol.co.uk. If you are already in the scheme please contact him with any questions you may have or any changes of address or tax status.
- **PARISH OFFICE:** The office is open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday mornings. Telephone 01789 292439. Please note: Monday is Fr. Alex's day off.