



Roman Catholic Diocese of Northampton

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Saturday 20th December / Sunday 21st December 2025

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Date	Time	Intentions	
Sat 20 th Dec	9.30 am SFA 6.30 pm SP	Philip and Anne Pugh Intentions Peter Arrowsmith, RIP	
Sun 21 st Dec	9.00 am SFA 11.00am SFA 11.00 am SP 5.15 pm SFA	Frederick and Kathleen Henry, RIP Youth Mass (Rose Boulton intentions sick in hospital) Private Intention Rita Burton intentions 84 years	Fourth Sunday of Advent
Mon 22 nd Dec	9.30 am SP 9.30 am SFA	Giuseppe Zonta, RIP Word & Communion	
Tues 23 rd Dec	9.30 am SFA	Harry Hayes, RIP	
Wed 24 th Dec	9.30 am SP 6.00 pm SFA 6.00 pm SP 10.00 pm SFA 10.00 pm SP	Joe and Babs Hennelly, RIP For deceased children in war-torn countries For all the little children and expectant mothers Fr Prasad Special Intentions Fr Chris Special Intentions	Christmas Eve
Thu 25 th Dec	9.00 am SFA 11.00 am SP 11.00 am SFA	For the People of the Parish Private Intention Telugu Mass	The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)
Fri 26 th Dec	10.00 am SP 10.00 am SFA	Alban & Nancy Henry, RIP Fr. Jacob Puthiyidathuchalil MSFS, RIP	
Sat 27 th Dec	9.30 am SFA 6.30 pm SP	Deceased members of the Rose Boulton family Sybil Van Rossuro RIP, Cecilia Castel Vetri RIP	
Sun 28 th Dec	9.00 am SFA 11.00 am SP 5.15 pm SFA	Jay & Liz Bridge's family intentions Daisy Fernao Intentions, Stella Cowley, RIP Peter & Jenny Hyde intentions	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph
Confessions	Saturdays: 10.00-10.30am (SFA) & 5.45 – 6.15 pm (SP)		
Adoration	Wednesdays: 7-7.30 pm (SFA) Fridays: 10-10.30am(SFA), 10-10.30am (SP), 7-8pm (SP)		
Rosary	30 minutes before weekday Masses		

*SFA (St. Francis of Assisi Church, Shefford), *SP (St. Peter's Church, Biggleswade)

SVP St Francis & St Peter's: Contact SVP on 07526 753986 or email PresidentE140104@svp.org.uk

Anniversaries in December

Wilhelm Luecke (2000), David Burton (2001), Derek Dalton (2001), Teresa Flora Blackall (2001), Charles Hill (2001), Christine Mary Watson (2001), Gordon Revels (2002), Mary Youngson (2003), Susan Fisk (2003), Leonard Joseph Brice (2003), Sharon Rosemary Hunt (2004), William John (2005), Winifred Farr (2006), Frederick William (2006), Petros Geizanauskas (2007), Barbara Buckland (2007), Gremacolta Ruggiero (2010), Joan Wiles (2010), Kwisyn Maternowski (2010), Anne Kernahan (2010), Michael Hall (2010), Margaret Durman (2011), Margaret Staff (2011), Maurice Cahill (2011), Baby Hope Robinson (2012), Lawrence S. Lewis (2012), Stuart Leonard (2012), Carmel Williams (2013), Janice Ann Gander (2013), Mary Doherty (2014), Michael Scanlan (2016), Robert Hayden (2016), Shaun Dempsey (2016), Stella Cowley (2020), Ian Murden (2020), Janet Manning Sister Margaret (2022)

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord... May they rest in peace. Amen.

PARISH NOTICES

Christmas Mass Times

Confessions

Sat 20th December 10am to 4pm at St Francis during the 24 hour Eucharistic Adoration.

Mon 22nd December 7pm to 8.30pm at St Peter's.

Masses at St Francis, Shefford

Wednesday 24th December

6pm Children's Mass

10pm Early Midnight Mass

Thursday 25th December

9am Christmas Day Mass

11am Telugu Mass

Masses at St Peter's, Biggleswade

Wednesday 24th December

6pm Children's Mass

9pm Carol singing

10pm Early Midnight Mass

Thursday 25th December

11am Christmas Day Mass

Altar Servers to renew their promises on 26th December

As we celebrate the feast of St. Stephen on 26th December, we have the renewal of the promises of all our altar servers from both the parishes on that day during the Holy Eucharist at 10am at St. Peter's Church, Biggleswade. I kindly request all the altar servers to be present for the Mass.

Christmas Day Collections

Christmas Day collections are for the priests. Priests receive a small 'wage' and thus the collections on Christmas Day form a sizeable part of their annual taxable income. I would like to offer my very sincere appreciation for your generosity.

St Peter's Carol Service

Our Christmas Eve Carol Service starts at 9pm and we would like to invite everyone attending the early Midnight Mass at 10pm to come along for 9pm to join in with the carols, readings and prayers. There was a very good attendance in 2024! Can we match it this Christmas Eve?

St Francis and St Peter's singers visit five local Care Homes

Twenty parishioners from St Francis and St Peter's have visited five care homes during Advent to sing carols, read passages from the bible and to pray with residents.

	St. Francis	St. Peter's
Collections of 13/14 Dec	£361.50	£300.47
Standing Orders	£130	£420
Second Collections	-	-

The visits went well and I would like to thank everyone involved for their hard work. (Michael Gleeson)

Thanks and congratulations to all the choir members for bringing joy to the elderly in the care homes. God bless them all.

Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales

Archbishop Bernard Longley and Bishop Richard Moth have released a statement reflecting on the meaning of the coming of Christ at Christmas. In it, they express their shared concern about societal tensions and divisions within our communities—something that does not “reflect the spirit or message of Christmas.”

Read the full message

here <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/bishops-affirm-the-true-nature-of-catholic-witness-and-worship-at-christmas/>

Prison Chaplaincy Vacancy

We have been asked to bring to your attention a vacancy for a part-time Roman Catholic Chaplain at HMP Onley, near Rugby. The postholder will provide pastoral care and sacramental ministry to Catholic prisoners and staff, while working collaboratively within a multi-faith chaplaincy team. More information here <https://jobs.justice.gov.uk/careers/JobDetail/12041>

LUX Youth Residential Weekend

Our diocesan residential weekend for young people in school years 7–13 will take place from 13th–15th February 2026 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 nymo.org/lux-belong-2026/ or email NYMO@northamptondiocese.com.

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@jcjourneys.com

I wish you all a blessed and joyful Merry Christmas & Blissful New Year 2026