Roman Catholic Diocese of Northampton

Parish Priest: Fr. Prasad Kasireddy MSFS

Parish Office Mobile: 07495 422777

Deacons: Rev. Peter Hyde Tel: 07713580757
Rev. John Lang Tel: 07465607247
Rev. Philip Pugh Tel: 07780687452

Registered Charity number 234091

25 High Street, Shefford, SG17 5DD
Email: parish.stfrancisofassisi@northamptondiocese.org
Website: saintfrancis.uk
Safeguarding Rep: Liz Maden Tel: 07904880326

7A Station Road, Biggleswade, SG18 8AL
Email: parish.stpeterbiggleswade@northamptondiocese.org
Website: st-peters.uk
Safeguarding Rep: Catherine Spencer Tel: 07709238571

Diocesan Safeguarding Officer: Danielle Dixon-01604 723514 safeguarding.stpeterbiggleswade@northamptondiocese.org

Saturday 17th January / Sunday 18th January 2026
Second Sunday of Ordinary Time

Date	Time	Intentions	
Sat 17th Jan	9.30 am SFA 6.30 pm SP	Word & Communion Philomena Fernandes RIP	St Anthony of Egypt
Sun 18th Jan	9.00 am SFA 11.00 am SP 5.15 pm SFA	Maureen Nolan RIP Philip Sharpe Lis-Carey Sheills intentions	**Second Sunday of Ordinary Time**
Mon 19th Jan	9.30 am SP 9.30 am SFA	Word & Communion Word & Communion	St Wulstan
Tues 20th Jan	9.30 am SFA	Word & Communion	St Fabian
Wed 21st Jan	9.30 am SP 7.30 pm SFA	Mass: Prayer for Christian Unity Word & Communion	St Agnes
Thu 22nd Jan	9.30 am SFA	Word & Communion	St Vincent
Fri 23rd Jan	9.30 am SP 9.30 am SFA	Word & Communion Word & Communion	
Sat 24th Jan	9.30 am SFA 6.30 pm SP	Word & Communion Mick Finlay RIP	St Francis de Sales
Sun 25th Jan	9.00 am SFA 11.00 am SP 5.15 pm SFA	Margaret Rees RIP Intentions of the Gurney family Noreen and Ian Cousins intentions	**Third Sunday of Ordinary Time**
Confessions	**Saturdays**: 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 January

Edith Flynn (2000), Patricia Dilley (2000), Igmacy Sabilik (2001), Valerie Claudia Duggan (2001), Ronald Arthur Shepherd (2002), Angelina Iosue (2003), Arthur George Victor Wright (2003), Anne Young (2004), Brenda Murphy (2004), Nicholas Robert Collins (2005), Thomas Wynne (2005), Arthur Harvey (2007), Peter Eugene Wilson (2007), Eric Vernon Scott (2007), James Carroll (2007), Maurice Gomes (2007), Sean Maloney (2007), Catherina Whiteway Wilkinson (2008), Ann Messenger (2008), Josephine McCormick (2008), Gerald Hill (2009), Christopher George Hill (2011), Patrick Purcell (2011), John James Doherty (2012), Iris Elizabeth Murray (2012), Charles Eric Sells (2012), Mary Patricia Sutton (2013), Irene Francis (2014), Alojzy Oprzadek (2014), Josephine Rumming (2015), Joseph Michael Rainbow (2019), Pasquale Maio (2025)

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

PARISH NOTICES

Second collection this weekend at both St Peter's and St Francis
White Flower – SPUC - the Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child.

The Feast of St Agnes – Wednesday 21st January
It is customary for two lambs to be blessed by the Pope. On Holy Thursday, the lambs' wool is removed and woven into the *pallium* that the Pope gives to a newly consecrated archbishop as a sign of his power and union with the Pope.

St Peter's Hymn Books
As many of you may have noticed, the hymn books are becoming a little frayed, despite every effort to keep them together, so to keep them in a usable condition it is proposed that we cover them with a vinyl over-cover. It would be a great help if you could make a small donation to cover the cost for this. £1-£2 would be great, and we will be at the rear of the Church with collection baskets for the next few weeks.
We also need more new hymn books so any money remaining will be used to purchase some new ones.
Thanks in advance and Happy New Year.
Ann Hampshire

Calling All Youth!!!
All youth (aged 13+) are warmly invited to our next Youth Gathering!
Join us for a time of prayer, fellowship, and fun as we grow together in faith. We look forward to seeing you there.
Date: Tuesday, 27th Jan 2026
Time: 7.45pm to 9.00pm
Venue: Church of St. Peter's, Biggleswade
For further information, contact us on faith@st-peters.uk

Safeguarding Survey for the Youth
The diocesan Safeguarding team is looking at how young people perceive safeguarding and how they receive information from a diocesan level. They want to know how we can communicate better so if you are aged 11 to 18, please take 5 minutes to complete a few questions using this link.
Northampton Diocese Safeguarding Feedback 2025 - Youth – Fill in form

Week of prayer for Christian unity
This ends on Sunday 25th January and at Shefford we have a Prayer Walk on the Vigil, Saturday 24th January at 10:30 am , starting at Shefford Methodist Church, then on to St. Francis, St Michael and
finishing at Shefford Baptists Church. Please come and join the prayer walk with our Sisters and Brothers in Christ.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity takes place each year from 18 to 25 January and is observed by Christian churches worldwide. The theme for 2026 is taken from Ephesians 4:1–13, with particular emphasis on the words, *"There is one body and one Spirit"* (Ephesians 4:4).
The prayers and reflections have been prepared by the Armenian Apostolic Church, in collaboration with Armenian Catholic and Evangelical communities, drawing on ancient traditions of prayer and hymnody dating back to the early centuries of Christianity.
More information can be found on here

	St. Francis	St. Peter's
Collections of 20/21 Dec	£320.60	£335
Standing Orders	£130	£420

Sunday of The Word of God – 25th January
Theme: *"The word of Christ dwells among you"* (Col 3:16)
Preparing: Zoom Wed 21st January 7.30pm to 9pm. Please contact deaconpeter.collins@northamptondiocese.org for the link.
Celebrating: Liturgy at the Cathedral 3pm including reflections by Fr Jerome Ituah OCD and the commissioning of readers This will be livestreamed with the service booklet available on the diocesan website.
Day of Reflection for Readers: Saturday 31st January 11am to 3pm at the Holy Ghost Centre, Luton. A time to reflect and share together (refreshments provided)

Come and See – Discernment Day for Men
Are you a man who is wondering whether God may be calling you to the priesthood? The Diocese warmly invites you to "Come and See" – a day of prayer, reflection and questions for men who are thinking about or discerning a vocation to the priesthood.
Date: Saturday 28th March 2026
Programme: A day including prayer, reflection, input on priestly vocation and an open Q&A.
Who is it for?: Men who are exploring, questioning or discerning a call to the priesthood.
Where: Our Lady of Christian and St Lawrence, Olney
This day offers a relaxed and supportive opportunity to reflect on God's call, to learn more about priestly life, and to ask honest questions in a prayerful setting.
To register your interest or for more information, please contact Fr Pius vocationsdirector@northamptondiocese.org or 01753 523147

Meet and Chat at St. Peter's
St Peter's Parish Hall is open to everyone from 10-12pm each Monday until the end of March. We invite everyone to join us, we are not calling this venture "Warm Spaces," but a chance to come in for a chat and a hot drink. Looking forward to meeting you.

Benefactors of St Francis Boys Home
This photograph is from the reredos (ornamental screen) in the sacristy of St Francis – and is a list of some of the benefactors of St Francis Boys Home – please include them in your prayers.