



Welcome to the Catholic Parish of Stamford

Saint Mary and Saint Augustine

The Presbytery, 13 Broad Street, Stamford, Lincolnshire PE9 1PG Tel: (01780) 762010

Parish Website: www.catholicstamford.com

Parish Priest: Canon Peter Vellacott (Email: priest.catholicstamford@dioceseofnottingham.uk)

Deacon: Reverend Charles West-Sadler (retired)

Parish Secretary: Carrie Ann Gates (Email: office.catholicstamford@dioceseofnottingham.uk)

Parish Safeguarding Rep: Carrie Ann Gates (Email: carrieann.gatespsr@dioceseofnottingham.uk)

Parish Director of Music: Ruth Proctor (Mobile: 07826 017487 / Email: ruthproctor73@gmail.com)

Hall Bookings: Parish Office (Tel: 01780 762010 / Email: office.catholicstamford@dioceseofnottingham.uk)

Parish Primary School: Saint Augustine's Catholic Voluntary Academy, Stamford (Tel: 01780 762094)

Part of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Nottingham Diocesan Website: www.dioceseofnottingham.uk

Nottingham Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Company Number: 7151646 Charity Number: 1134449

Please note that the Parish Office is closed now from 21st July – 4th August

19th / 20th July 2025: Sixteenth Sunday of the Year

Psalm Response: *O Lord, who may abide in your tent?*

Reflection

God wants to dwell with each of us personally, intimately – as the mysterious guests once visited Abraham's tent, as Jesus once entered the home of Mary and Martha.

By his hospitality in this week's First Reading, Abraham shows us how we are to welcome the Lord into our lives. His selfless service of his divine guests stands in contrast to the portrait of Martha drawn in this weekend's Gospel. Where Abraham is concerned only for the well-being of his guests, Martha speaks only of herself – "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me." Jesus' gentle rebuke reminds us that we risk missing the divine in the mundane, that we can fall into the trap of believing that God somehow needs to be served by human hands.

Our Lord comes to us not to be served but to serve (cf. Matthew 20:28). He gave His life that we might know the one thing we need, the "good portion," which is life in the fellowship of God. Jesus is the true Son promised by Abraham's visitors. In Him, God has made an everlasting covenant for all time; He has made us blessed descendants of Abraham (cf. Genesis 17:19, 21; Romans 4:16–17, 19–21).

The Church now offers us this covenant, bringing to completion the word of God, the promise of His plan of salvation, what Paul calls "the mystery hidden for ages." As once He came to Abraham, Martha, and Mary, Christ now comes to each of us in Word and Sacrament. As we proclaim in this weekend's Psalm: He will make His dwelling with those who keep His Word and practice justice. If we do these things, we will not be anxious or disturbed. We will not have our Lord taken from us. We will wait on the Lord, Who told Abraham and Who tells each of us: "I will surely return to you."

Tea & Coffee: Please note that there will not be tea / coffee after the 9:00a.m Mass this Sunday as the meeting in respect of the Enabling our Mission Campaign is being held in the Hall from 10:15a.m - 10:45.a.m. All those who have not heard already of the campaign being rolled out in our parishes and would like more information are most welcome to attend.

Children's Liturgy: Is celebrated at the 9:00a.m Mass. We welcome all children to share in this opportunity to participate in their own Liturgy of the Word at Mass at an appropriate level for them.

Dona - Electronic Giving: For your convenience, digital payment by card is now available using the Dona machine at the back of Church. You are able to donate via card to make a general donation, for your Sunday offering, for Second Collections (listed by name when taking place) and for lighting a candle. Simply follow the on-screen instructions. You can also gift-aid the donation if applicable by selecting the option and entering the details requested.

Enabling our Mission Campaign: Our parish is currently undertaking the Enabling Our Mission Campaign which aims to support our mission of becoming more outward looking, while also striving to ensure that the fewer priests now available for active ministry across the Diocese are best able to serve our communities. We will be hosting an additional small gathering to explain this initiative to parishioners and hope you are able to make the following date: Sunday, 20th July at 10:15a.m. (after the 9:00a.m. Mass) in the Parish Hall. The meeting will only last half-an-hour.

To RSVP, please email office.catholicstamford@dioceseofnottingham.uk or call the Parish Office on 01780 762010 by 19th July. Thank you.

Foodbank: In particular need at present are: biscuits; treats (crisps, sweets etc.); tins of rice pudding; tinned beans or spaghetti with sausages; tins/jars hot dogs; tinned spaghetti hoops; tinned peas, carrots, potatoes; toothbrushes; deodorant; shower gel. Thank you so much for your continued support.

Discernment meeting: If any young man would like to learn more about the priesthood and reflect on a possible vocation, please email vocations@dioceseofnottingham.uk for the zoom link for the next discernment meeting on Wednesday 23rd July at 7:00p.m.

The National Pilgrimage of Reparation and Prayer for the Sanctity of Life: Is being celebrated at Walsingham by Bishop John Keenan on Saturday 2nd August. The Pilgrimage can be followed on livestream at www.walsingham.org.uk/live-stream/ or for more details, visit www.prolifepilgrimage.org or see the poster in the porch.

The Celebrate Festival - Witnesses to Hope: Is being held this summer at Worth School, in the beautiful West Sussex countryside. It is going to be a fun, family and faith-filled event with a Festival Big Top! There will be eight children's and youth groups for all ages from babies in the creche to the Joel's Bar youth (16-22 years). Held between Saturday 16th and Wednesday 20th August, amazing speakers will include Father Roberto Pasolini, the Papal Preacher; Father Columba Jordan CFR; Rachel Turner; and more. For details and booking, visit: www.celebratetrust.org/festival

Youth 2000 Summer Festival: Taking place in the grounds of Ampleforth College from Friday 22nd - Monday 25th August, the Youth 2000 Summer Festival provides young adults (aged 16-35) from across the UK the opportunity to come together and explore faith, build relationships and find hope. This four-day festival includes great speakers, social time, break-out sessions, Daily Mass, 24/7 Adoration and much more! Register your place at: youth2000.org/events/summerfestival2025. Tickets are also available for priests, religious, families and groups. If you have any questions, please email events@youth2000.org.

Concert for the Independence Day of Ukraine: There will be a concert for the Independence Day of Ukraine on Sunday 24th August at 4p.m at Browne's Hospital, in Stamford. There will be Ukrainian songs, piano and chamber music in aid of the charity HUGS, 'Helping Ukraine - Grassroots Support'. Tickets: £12 (if bought in advance); £15 on the door, limited to sixty seats in the venue. Further information is available at www.highnotesmusic.org/ukraine-2025/

Jubilee of Hope Pilgrimage: Will be held at Mount Saint Bernard Abbey on Sunday 31st August, starting with Mass at 2:00p.m., together with a family picnic, Marian Procession, and Adoration. For more details email jnoakes@englishmartyrs.org.

Young Adults' Pilgrimage to Assisi and Rome for the Canonisation of Carlo Acutis: Join the diocese for a special Young Adults' Pilgrimage to Rome between Friday 5th and Monday 8th September for the Canonisation of Blessed Carlo Acutis and Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati. The Pilgrimage is open to anyone aged 18-35, costing £475 per person based on sharing a room, with financial help available. For more information and to book a place email: vocations@dioceseofnottingham.uk

Vacancies: The Diocese is looking to appoint a **Compliance and Support Property Officer** who is an experienced administrator, preferably with a background in property management, with excellent IT and communication skills. There may be opportunity for occasional home working, as well as working in our Nottingham Office, and visiting parishes across the diocese. The job is 37.5 hours per week. More details are available at: www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/careers/compliance-support-property-officer-2. Please send application forms to: Christa Wardle, HR Officer by email: office@dioceseofnottingham.uk by 9a.m on Monday 21st July.

The Diocese is looking to appoint an **Adult Formation Officer**, to be based at Saint Thomas More Parish, Knighton Road, LE3 3HN. The job will be to coordinate and support opportunities in the parishes for the faith formation of adults, through the sacramental preparation programmes and other avenues, and to ensure that adult faith formation is organised and delivered to a high standard to provide effective primary evangelisation for adults in the parish communities. The job is 10 hours per week. More details are available at: www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/careers/adult-formation-officer. Please send application forms to: Christa Wardle, HR Officer by email: office@dioceseofnottingham.uk by 9a.m on Monday 21st July.

The Diocese is looking to appoint an **IT and GDPR Assistant** based at the Diocesan Curia Office, and will be someone who can support the work of the IT and GDPR Officer and departments of the curia in their service to the parishes of the diocese. The job is 25 hours per week (five hours for each of five days). More details are available at: www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/careers/it-gdpr-assistant. Please send application forms to: Christa Wardle, HR Officer by email: office@dioceseofnottingham.uk by 9a.m on Monday 21st July.

The Diocese is looking to appoint a **Deanery Administration Manager** based at Boston, with travel required to multiple parish locations in the Southern Lincolnshire Deanery. The role of Deanery Administration Manager will be to be responsible for leading, managing, actioning and aligning with the daily administrative operations of collective parishes within a designated geographical area, and will be responsible for undertaking administrative duties individually and as part of the wider team, aligning with parish administrators. The job is 37.5 hours per week, with flexibility required, including some evening and weekend commitments. More details are available at www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/careers/compliance-support-property-officer-2. Please send application forms to: Christa Wardle, HR Officer by email: office@dioceseofnottingham.uk by 9a.m on Monday 21st July.

The Diocese is looking to appoint a **Parish Administrator** for the Parishes of Corpus Christi, Clifton, and Our Lady and Saint Patrick in the Meadows, Nottingham. The parishes are looking for a motivated, professional and approachable individual with excellent administration and IT skills to join our small team. The post holder will play a key part in the management of the parishes' office and parishes' administration, including administrative support to clergy, as well as frequent liaising with parish volunteers. The role is 22.5 hours per week. More details are available at www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/careers/parish-administrator-3. Please send application form to: Christa Wardle, HR Officer by email: office@dioceseofnottingham.uk by 9a.m on Monday 21st July.

The Sisters of Saint Joseph of Peace are seeking to appoint a **Director of Finance**, based in Nottingham. More details can be found at: www.csjp.org/news/2024/2/15/job-posting-financedirectoruk and the deadline for applications is Thursday 31st July.

Mass Schedule and Intentions

Weekend 19 th July / 20 th July Sixteenth Sunday of the Year	5:00p.m. - 5:40p.m. Sacrament of Confession 6:00p.m. Vigil Mass <i>In Thanksgiving</i> 9:00a.m. Mass <i>Tim Jolley (RIP)</i> 11:00a.m. Mass <i>Pro Populo</i>
Monday 21 st July (<i>Feria</i>)	No Mass in the Parish
Tuesday 22 nd July (<i>St Mary Magdalene</i>)	10:00a.m. Mass <i>James Eames (Int)</i>
Wednesday 23 rd July (<i>St Bridget of Sweden</i>)	No Mass in the Parish
Thursday 24 th July (<i>Feria</i>)	No Mass in the Parish
Friday 25 th July (<i>St James</i>)	9:00a.m. Exposition and Benediction 10:00a.m. Mass <i>Susan Cushen (Int)</i>
Weekend 26 th July / 27 th July Seventeenth Sunday of the Year	5:00p.m. - 5:40p.m. Sacrament of Confession 6:00p.m. Vigil Mass <i>George Flattery (RIP)</i> 9:00a.m. Mass <i>Florence & Alfred Buxton & Children (RIP)</i> 11:00a.m. Mass <i>Pro Populo</i>

Readings for this Sunday and next Sunday

	<i>This week</i>	<i>Next week</i>
Celebration	Sixteenth Sunday of the Year	Seventeenth Sunday of the Year
Cycle & Psalter	Year C, Week 4	Year C, Week 1
First Reading	Genesis 18:1-10	Genesis 18:20-32
Psalms	Psalm 15	Psalm 138
Second Reading	Colossians 1:24-28	Colossians 2:12-14
Gospel	Luke 10:38-42	Luke 11:1-13
Preface	VII of the Sundays in Ordinary Time	Priest's Choice
Eucharistic Prayer	II	Priest's Choice

Cycle of Prayer during the Season of Ordinary Time

During the Season of Ordinary Time, we are asked to pray for the following intentions in our own private prayer: A Deeper Understanding between Christians and Jews; Those who Suffer Persecution, Oppression, and Denial of Human Rights; Europe; Human Life; Seafarers.

Thank you for your generosity

Standing Orders: £685

Weekly Offertory Collection Basket: £515.30

I am very grateful to all who continue to contribute to the Church by whatever means. Thank you.