

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

First Sunday of Lent

Saturday 21 st February	Vigil Mass	Oakham Stamford	Exposition & Benediction 3.30 pm - 4.00 pm Vigil Mass - 4.30 pm Vigil Mass - 6.00 pm	Elizabeth Jones & John Cassidy (RIP) Pro Populo
Sunday 22 nd February	First Sunday of Lent	Stamford Oakham Stamford	Holy Mass - 9.00 am Holy Mass - 10.30 am Holy Mass - 11.00 am	Peter, Jim, Neilly, Joe, Michael & John Shevlin (RIP) Ann Robinson (Int) Veronica Calabrese (Int)
Monday 23 rd February	Lenten Feria	Oakham	Holy Mass - 10.00 am	Holy Souls in Purgatory
Tuesday 24 th February	Lenten Feria	Stamford	Liturgy of the Word & Holy Communion	
Wednesday 25 th February	Lenten Feria	Oakham	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.00 am - 10.00 am Holy Mass - 10.00 am	David Wade (Good Estate)
Thursday	No Holy Mass in the Parish			
Friday 27 th February	Lenten Feria	Stamford Exton	Exposition & Benediction 9.00 am - 10.00 am Holy Mass - 10.00 am Traditional Latin Mass - 7.00 pm	Kathleen Vellacott (RIP) Holy Souls in Purgatory
Saturday 28 th February	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 Jim & Carmel Penny (Int)
Sunday 1 st March	Second Sunday of Lent	Stamford Oakham Stamford	Holy Mass - 9.00 am Holy Mass - 10.30 am Holy Mass - 11.00 am	Peter Jacobs (RIP) Holy Souls in Purgatory Pro Populo
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 carrieanngatespsr@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 / ppcchair@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. Children's Liturgy resumes this Sunday 22 nd February after the half term break. All welcome		Stamford Tea & Coffee: Please do join us for tea & coffee after Holy Mass on Sunday 9.00 am & 11.00 am All welcome

*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.*

†

The Catholic Church has dedicated each month of the year to a particular devotion. While the feast day of the Holy Family is celebrated on the Sunday between Christmas and New Year's, the month of February carries a unique resonance with the sacred bond and hidden life of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. February was chosen by the Church for this devotion, for in this month, we celebrate the Feast of the Purification, also known as the Feast of the Presentation. This occurs 40 days after the birth of Jesus, when Mary and Joseph, according to Jewish law, presented Jesus in the temple to Saint Simeon. Now is a good time to start praying the Rosary as a family, especially focusing on the Joyful Mysteries. Meditate on the devotion of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph in their daily prayers together, expressing adoration to God the Father throughout their days in Nazareth.

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

Stamford 7-day Votive Lights: As you may have noticed, at the statue of Our Lady and the statue of St Joseph there is a new wall mounted 7-day Votive Light. 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 repose of the soul of Kathleen Vellacott (RIP)

**The 7-day candle at the
Statue of St Joseph burns in prayer for**
The intentions of Neil Mackenzie

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! Each week we will have a special prayer intention for all our Parishioners to join in prayer, no matter where you are, at 2.00 pm each day. We will pray an Our Father; Hail Mary and the Glory be. If you forget to do it at 2.00 pm, don't worry, do it when you remember. **This week's intention is for: All those struggling with illness, grief, or financial hardships.**

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

Parish 200 Club: Both the annual draw for two prizes of £1000 and the usual monthly draw for February took place on 8th February with the annual prizes won by Elaine Grayson and Julia Rossiter. In the monthly draw, first prize of £200 goes to Val Calabrese; the second prize of £100 to Liz Murphy and the final prize of £50 goes to Jeffrey Rossiter. Congratulations to the winners.

A gentle reminder that subscriptions begin once again in March, so unless you pay by regular Standing Order, please make sure payment is made for the months or whole year ahead to keep you in the draw. If you have been thinking about joining the 200 Club, this is the perfect time. For more information, please pick up a form in the Church/porch.

Stations of the Cross during Lent in St Joseph's. Fridays at 10:30 am starting on Friday **27th February** and Sundays at 4:30 pm, starting this **Sunday 22nd February.**

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

Lenten Deanery Station Mass: On Tuesday, 24th February Bishop Patrick is to preside at the Lenten Deanery Station Mass. The itinerary for the evening: 6.00 pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament - Confessions available from 6.00 pm to 6.45 pm and 7.00 pm Holy Mass. All are welcome. The Immaculate Conception & St Norbert Catholic Church, 52 Saint Thomas's Rd, Spalding PE11 2XX.

Save the Date: CAFOD Big Lent Walk: Saturday 7th March 2026 St Mary & St Augustine (Stamford) Youth Club is excited to invite you to join us as we take on CAFOD's Big Lent Walk Challenge, a fundraising event that will help support the important work of CAFOD. All are welcome to participate, whether you're walking with the Youth Club on the day, or just supporting us through prayer and donations! **Shorter Lent Walk 21st February:** As part of the Lenten Big Walks there are several shorter walks taking place throughout the diocese. The first one is hosted by St Mary and St Augustine's Stamford. Meet at Pay Station, Wharf Road Car Park, 14 Wharf Road, Stamford, PE9 2YG at 10:30 am on Saturday 21st February. This will be a gentle 6 kms, a good warm up for those wanting to join our longer walk on 7th March. Contact Wendy Mitchell 07880 788783 for more information.

Last week's Parish collection:

Loose Plate & Envelopes £ 645.69
Standing Orders £1,298.00
Total £1,943.69

As always, many thanks for all your contributions to our Parish, however you may contribute.

Oakham Churches Together:

In February the meetings will take place at 1.00 pm to 1.30 pm at All Saints Church on Church Street in Oakham.

Lenten Bible Study: Figures of Faith: A six-week Lenten Bible Study has now begun, meeting weekly on a Thursday from 6.30 pm to 8.00 pm in Stamford Church Hall. All welcome.

Stamford Food Bank:

Items needed: Milk, Tinned potatoes
Tinned hot and cold meat, Fish,
Spaghetti hoops, Toilet roll,
Shampoo
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



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Newsletter Addition

Lenten Bible Study: Figures of Faith

Join us for Week 2 of our Lenten Bible Study as we explore the life of David and focus on Repentance and Prayer. David's heartfelt prayers and repentance offer valuable lessons on coming before God in honesty and trust. This week's study will help deepen our understanding of God's mercy and our call to turn toward Him with humility and openness.

Whether you've joined us for the first session or are coming for the first time, each week is a standalone topic, so there's no need to worry if you missed a session. All are welcome to attend! Refreshments are served at 6:15 pm, with the study beginning promptly at 6:30 pm in Stamford Church Hall finishing at 8:00 pm

For more information, please contact Carrie Ann at the Stamford Office. Looking forward to seeing you there!

Big Lent Walk - Sign Up Now!

Join us for the Big Lent Walk on Saturday, 7th March 2026, to raise money for CAFOD!

You can sign up in three ways:

1. Pick up a hard copy form from the porch / back of the Church and return it to the Church office (Oakham or Stamford).
2. Submit your form electronically by filling out the attached form in this email.
3. Sign up online using the MS Form link or QR code provided below.

We look forward to seeing you there!

[Big Lent Walk - Sign Up Form – Fill in form](#)



Join Us in Prayer for the Big Lent Walk

Even if you're unable to join us in person for the Big Lent Walk, we invite you to support this important event through prayer.

More information will be shared closer to the walk.

We specifically ask our sick and housebound parishioners to join us spiritually on Saturday 7th March 2026, as we walk to raise funds for CAFOD. Your prayers for the success of the walk, the safety of the participants, and the continued work of CAFOD will be deeply appreciated.

Let us come together in spirit to support this cause and the community of faith that unites us all.