

The Roman Catholic Parishes of



**St Gregory, Longton.
St Maria Goretti, Bentilee.
Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, Fenton.**





Parish Clergy Parish Priest: Canon John Gilbert. VF

Parish Office: c/o St Gregory's Presbytery, Heathcote Road, Longton, Stoke on Trent.
ST3 2JU ☎ 01782.313796 ✉ office@longtoncatholic.org.uk

Also: **The Polish Mission** with Fr Jacek Jablonski: based at 43 Watkin Street, Fenton,
Stoke on Trent ST4 4PF. ☎: 01782.411195 ✉: jacek1984@poczta.onet.eu

Church Locations:

St Gregory's 8 Heathcote Road Longton ST3 2JU	St Maria Goretti's 137 Aylesbury Road Bentilee ST2 0LU	Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Masterson Street Fenton ST4 3QB
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 Access available.  Loop system  facilities in Longton & Fenton
 see the Facebook page: St Gregory's Catholic Church

Parish website: www.longtoncatholic.org.uk

Deanery Website: www.northstaffsdeanery.org.uk Diocesan Website: www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk

Primary Schools serving our Parishes:

St Gregory's Catholic Academy, Spring Garden Road Longton ST3 2QN Tel: 235340	Head: Mrs M Yates
St Maria Goretti's Catholic Academy, Aylesbury Rd, Bentilee, ST2 0LY Tel: 234737	Mrs Z Cooper
Our Lady's Catholic Academy, Watkin Street, Fenton ST4 4 NP Tel: 235385	Mrs K Oakley

Secondary School:

St Thomas More Catholic Academy, Longton Hall Rd, Longton ST3 2NJ Tel: 882900 Mr M Rayner

The Parish Newsletter for the weekend of
Fourth Sunday of Advent- Year C 23rd December 2018

Welcome: We wish you a warm welcome to our parishes. If you are a visitor for the day we wish you well, if you are new to the area – please make yourself known to one of the many helpers in our churches who will be pleased to welcome you to our community.

It is a sad fact of life that we also have to remind you to take care of your valuables and purses whilst in church – unfortunately not everyone comes here for the right and correct reasons.

Liturgy This Week: LONGTON

Day	Time	Intention	Services
Sat	22 nd	5.45 pm	Olive Brombroff
Sun	23 rd	10 am	Darrell Smith
Mon	24 th	5.45pm	Private Intention
Tues	25 th	9.30 am	Private Intention
Wed	26 th	10 am	<i>Eucharistic Service</i>
Thur	27 th		No Service
Fri	28 th	9.30 am	<i>Eucharistic Service</i>
		10.30am	Funeral Service for Michael Fitzsimons
Sat	29 th	9.30 am	<i>Eucharistic Service</i>
		5.45 pm	M & R Carroll & L Clayton
Sun	30 th	10am	Peter Cook

Liturgy This Week: BENTILEE

Day	Time	Intention	Services
Sun	23 rd	10.30am	Cath Rockey
Mon	24 th	6 pm	Private Intention
Thur	27 th	9.30 am	<i>Eucharistic Service</i>
Fri	28 th	9.30 am	<i>Eucharistic Service</i>
Sun	30 th	10.30am	Linda Gadd & Family

Liturgy This Week: FENTON

Day	Time	Intention	Services
Sun	23 rd	9 am	Doris Coady
Sun		11am 2pm 7pm	Polish Masses
		<i>The Polish community will celebrate Mass each day this week – for the times please check their newsletter</i>	
Mon	24 th	4 pm	Special Intention
Sat	29 th	9 am	Joan Cork
Sun	30 th	9 am	Michael Callan
		11am 2pm 7pm	Polish Masses

The Saturday morning Mass at Fenton will be at 9am and will be a joint English/Polish Mass by Fr Jacek. On the Second Saturday of each month this will be followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament until 10.15am.

Parish Finance:

Longton: Total £420.75 (GA £88.35, PG £117.04).

Bentilee: Total £ (GA £ PG £).

Fenton: Total £176.84 (GA £48.00 PG £44.10).

Our Sunday Scriptures:

1st Reading: (Micah 5:1-4). Jerusalem was under siege and David's dynasty was in jeopardy. But the prophet said that salvation would

come from a comparatively insignificant place — Bethlehem. From there a new leader would come to gather together the scattered exiles and unite the nation once more.

2nd Reading: (Hebrews 10:5-10). The sacrifices of the Mosaic Law were unable to purify people from sin. Only Christ, through his obedience and sacrifice of self, was able to bring about the reconciliation between God and his people.

Gospel: (Luke 1:39-45). This deals with Mary's visit to Elizabeth. Enlightened by the Holy Spirit, Elizabeth praises Mary and hints at the uniqueness of the child she has just conceived.

Diocesan Safeguarding Co-ordinator.

0121 230 6240

Or independent of the Church the NSPCC: 0808 800 5000

Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinators:

Longton: Tessa Taylor

Fenton: Christine Bagnall

Bentilee: Susan Lyons

Feast Days This Week:

Sun: 4th Sunday of Advent

Tues: Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord

Wed: St Stephen

Thur: St John

Fri: Feast of Holy Innocents

Sat: Feast of Thomas Beckett

Sun: Feast of the Holy Family

Bentilee:

Sanctuary Lamp:

Linda Gadd & Family

Fenton:

Blue Lamp:

Exposition of the Blessed

Sacrament: St Gregory's Longton:

Saturday 10.30-11.30am

Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual

Succor at Fenton on Saturday

Mornings after the morning Mass.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Longton: Saturday 10.30-11.30am

& after the Vigil Mass

Bentilee: after Mass on Sundays

Fenton: 8.30 am Sunday Mornings

Prayers: Please remember in your prayers all those who are sick or ill, those who are housebound and those who care for them. Also remember those who have died recently, Delphi Cartledge and Michael Fitzsimons and all whose anniversaries are about this time. Eternal rest, unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.

The Royal Stoke University Hospital. Ring the Chaplaincy Office on 01782 676400 and leave a name & ward number. **When someone is ill....** If you, or someone you know, becomes ill and is no longer able to get to Mass PLEASE inform the presbytery. We can arrange a visit via the SVP, or a Minister to bring Holy Communion to them at home.

Stoke on Trent Foodbank. All three of our churches are still collecting your kind donations to the local Foodbank. Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

The Homeless this Christmas. For a number of years now we have aimed to help those who are homeless and on the streets at this time. We have been given a list of items needed:
Any Clothes especially SMALL size:- Ladies size 6,8,10, Men's Small and possible medium 32,34.
Underwear for both men and women, Winter Hats, scarf gloves and socks.
Warm winter boots and shoes. Sleeping bags, Flasks for hot drinks, toiletries & Haversacks or Rucksacks.

Parish Pilgrimages: NOW is the time to start and plan for the next two years. In 2019 we are aiming to travel to the Holy Land in October half-term. A leaflet about the Holy Land is now available – Booking Forms now available.

Contactless Payments for your collection.

This week we have eventually received our new Contactless Payment machine for use at St Gregory's. This means that you can make a donation (pay your collection) using a contactless debit or credit card. The machine has three "set" amounts. A default of £3, and options for £5 or £10. This is part of a Diocesan trial (only five parishes will be using the machines) and its results will be monitored closely by the Diocesan Treasurers Offices. If you would wish to use the machine –but are unsure please ask and we will assist you.

Our Regular Events:

St Vincent de Paul meets at St Gregory's on 2nd & 4th Mondays of the month 7.30pm

Ladies Guild meets at St Gregory's on 3rd Tuesday of each month

Union of Catholic Mothers meets at St Maria Goretti.

Journey in Faith course meets at St Gregory's – Thursdays of term time 7.30pm.

Tea Coffee Cakes and Social meets at St Gregory's after the 5.45pm Mass on the 1st & 3rd Saturdays also

On Wednesday mornings after the Morning Mass – all are welcome.

Tea Coffee and Social after Mass each Sunday at St Maria Goretti

OLPS: the raffle raised £207.00, thanks to all. The prizes have now been claimed.

Thank you for the wool. No Bingo until January 6th 2019.

Longton Rota

	This Week		Next Week	
	5.45	10 am	5.45	10am
Readers	J Clough	S Rushton	J Smith	L Colclough
Offertory	F Mullett D Mullett	S Chadwick L Chadwick	J Rushton N Simpson	C Leonard S Walker
Eucharistic Ministers	C Simpson K Wass	A Middleton Hill D Ball	M Reynolds G Till	S Rushton P Power
Cleaners	Team C		Team D	
Counters	Team 8		Team 2	

Bentilee Rota

Fenton Rota

	This Week	Next Week		This Week	Next Week
	10.30 am	10.30 am		9 am	9 am
Readers	K Toon M Poole	P Johnson M Stencil		A Bamford R Lewis	A Rowley P Bradley
Eucharistic Ministers	Team G	Team A		P Bradley	C Bagnall
Church Opening	R Chadwick S Chadwick	K McLoughlin S McLoughlin			

Christmas Timetable:

STG Christmas Eve (24th) 5.15pm Carols, 5.45pm Christmas Vigil Mass,
Christmas Day (25th) 10am Christmas Day Mass

SMG Christmas Eve (24th) 6pm Christmas Vigil Mass,

OLPS Christmas Eve (24th) 4pm Christmas Vigil Mass,

Sadly there will be no Mass on Christmas Day at either St Maria Goretti or Our Lady's. Fr Kevin will be attending on Christmas Eve to celebrate the two Vigil Masses – but it is unreasonable to ask him to return on Christmas Day when the numbers have been much less than “normal”

A full list of Mass times for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day for the whole deanery is available at the back of Church.