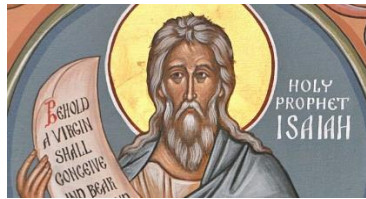


SS. Gregory & Augustine Catholic Church  
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Priest in Charge: Father John Seward - Deacon: Rev. James Forde-Johnston  
Parish business email: [stgregoryscchurch@gmail.com](mailto:stgregoryscchurch@gmail.com) – Pastoral email: [fr.john.seward@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:fr.john.seward@rcaob.org.uk)  
Website: [www.ssgregoryandaugustine.org](http://www.ssgregoryandaugustine.org)

Live stream TV available at [www.churchservices.tv/oxford](http://www.churchservices.tv/oxford)

*Utinam dirumperes caelos  
et descenderes!*



If only you would rend the heavens,  
and come down!

*Services for the First Sunday of Advent (OF, EF)  
3<sup>rd</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> December 2023*

*December – The Month of Advent, the Immaculate Conception, and Christmas*

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**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December, *The Vigil of Sunday***

Confessions, 5.15 pm  
Holy Mass, 6.00 pm

The People of the Parish

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**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December, *The First Sunday of Advent (OF, EF) – 1<sup>st</sup> Day of Novena to Our Lady of Guadalupe***

Holy Mass, 8.00 am  
Sung Mass, 10.30 am

Mother Thérèse-Marie RIP  
Risi

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**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December, *St John Damascene, Priest & Doctor of the Church (OF)  
– St Peter Chrysologus, Bishop & Doctor of the Church (EF) – 2<sup>nd</sup> Day of Novena***

Holy Mass, 9.30 am

Jim O’Kane RIP

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**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December, *The Feast of St Birinus, Bishop & Confessor (OF, EF) – 3<sup>rd</sup> Day of Novena***

Holy Mass, 9.30 am

The Rossi Family

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**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December, *St Nicholas, Bishop & Confessor (OF, EF) – 4<sup>th</sup> Day of Novena***

Holy Mass, 6.00 pm (Extraord. Form)  
Confessions, 8 pm (visiting priest)

Andrew Bancewicz RIP

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**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December, *St Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor of the Church (OF, EF) – 5<sup>th</sup> Day of Novena***

Holy Mass, 9.30 am, followed by Confessions (visiting priest) till 10.30  
NB: Noon Mass, Holy Hour, & Confessions cancelled this afternoon only

Walter Hooper RIP

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**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December, *The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of Our Lady (OF, EF) – 6<sup>th</sup> Day of Novena***

Holy Mass, 9.30 am  
High Mass, 6.00pm (Extraord. Form)

Margaret McCarthy RIP  
Charles Watts RIP

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**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December, *St Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin, Confessor (OF) – Feria (EF) – 7<sup>th</sup> Day of Novena***

Holy Mass, 9.30 am  
Holy Hour, Confessions, 10 - 11.00 am, Benediction, 11.00 am

Patricia McKenna Jones RIP

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**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December, *Vigil of Sunday***

Confessions, 5.15 pm  
Holy Mass, 6.00 pm

The People of the Parish

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**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December, *The Second Sunday of Advent (OF, EF) – 8<sup>th</sup> Day of Novena***

Holy Mass, 8.00 am  
Sung Mass, 10.30 am

Jim O’Leary RIP  
Patricia O’Ryan RIP

*Father John writes:*

***Second Collection today: Catholic Youth Service***

***Advance Notice – Second Collections:***

10<sup>th</sup> December – Poor Parishes Fund  
17<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Flowers

***This Sunday: First Sunday in Advent, First Day of the Novena to Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mother of Life***

‘O Immaculate Virgin, Mother of the true God and Mother of the Church, grant to our homes the grace of loving and respecting life in its beginnings, with the same love with which you conceived in your womb the human life of the Son of God. Blessed Virgin Mary, protect our families, so that they may always be united, and bless the upbringing of our children’ (St John Paul II).

***Advance Notice: Byzantine Liturgies***

- The next Byzantine-Catholic Divine Liturgy to be celebrated at St Gregory’s, this time in Romanian, Greek, and English, will take place on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> December at 11.30 am.
- The next Melkite Byzantine-Catholic Divine Liturgy will be celebrated at St Barnabas on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> December at 5.00 pm.

***Advance Notice: Christmas Masses***

At the centre of our celebration of the Nativity of Our Lord will be the traditional three Masses of Christmas: Midnight Mass at midnight (carols beforehand.), Mass of the Dawn at 8.00 a.m., and Mass of the Day at 10.30 a.m.. In addition, there will be a Low Mass in the Extraordinary Form at 6 p.m. on Christmas Eve.

***Getting Ready for Christmas: Confessions***

Make sure that between now and Christmas you prepare to welcome the new-born Jesus in your Christmas Holy Communion by making your Confession. Throughout Advent there will be additional opportunities for Confession with visiting priests. **This week there will be Confessions with a visiting priest on both Wednesday evening at 8 pm and following the 9.30 am Mass on Thursday morning.**

***Secular Carmelites***

Would you like to go deeper into prayer and the spiritual life? Meetings of the Secular (lay) Carmelites may be for you. Monthly gatherings of the St Elijah Community are from 4pm to 7.30pm on the second Thursday of the month in the parish hall. The meetings involve communal silent prayer, discussion of texts by the great Carmelite teachers of prayer, Evening Prayer, and Night Prayer. For further information contact Cyprian Blamires, cpblamires@aol.com; 07714 651756.

***Cutteslowe Food Larder donations***

Thank you to all those who are contributing items each week. **As the winter weather sets in, and Christmas approaches**, please continue to donate dry goods and toiletries using the boxes in the narthex and Presbytery porch. Every tin or packet makes a difference.

***Please pray for peace in the Middle East, but don’t forget Ukraine!***

***Please pray for the sick and housebound***

Anne-Marie, Jackie Ball, Christopher Browne, Clifford Browne, Jane Brownson, Ela Bulewicz, Paul Conway, Maureen Dalton, Carmen Dashwood-Evans, Nicky de Bono, Julian Foord, Mike Hall, Joyann Green, Carol Forde-Johnston, Sr. Joseph Andrew OP, Jill Kelly, Emily Long, Elsie Maria Michaud, Mohammad & Jane Masri, Fiona McLaren, Anne Morris, Alice Murphy, Jill Pinnock, Sharon Power-Hartley, Joy Smith, Fr Frank Sofie, Malcolm Spicer, Matthew Spicer, Evelyn Watkin, Anthea Watson, and Oscar Williams.

***Please pray for the faithful departed***

Please pray for the repose of the souls of all the faithful departed, especially Kathleen Mary del Nevo, Rachel Glynn, Elaine Mary Griffiths, William Hall, Michael Henderson, Peter Edward Hodgson, Walter Hooper, Warlita Lapidez, Domenica Macaro, Bruce Ronaldson, and Joan Tolkien, who have anniversaries at this time.

**+ Requiem aeternam dona eis,  
Domine, et lux perpetua luceat eis.**

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The Parish of SS Gregory and Augustine is committed to safeguarding as an integral part of the life and ministry of the Church. We work closely with the Archdiocese of Birmingham Safeguarding Team to create a safe environment for children, young people and adults at risk. Our Safeguarding Officer is Claire Harrington, [sg.stgregory-staugustine.Oxford@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.stgregory-staugustine.Oxford@rcaob.org.uk). For further information please click on <https://www.ssgregoryandaugustine.org/safeguarding>