



Is an opportunity to engage in personal reflection and spiritual conversation with others on the passage from the prophet Micah:

***'Act Justly,  
Love Tenderly,  
and Walk Humbly  
with your God'***

The Micah Conversation has been designed as a process of personal and group renewal. It involves using a prayer journal the fruits of which are brought to 3 meetings of a small local conversation group over a 2 month period. 30 or so people are involved at present in the first of these conversations in our area. If you would like to take part in future ones please contact the Cathedral Office: The Micah Conversation, Cathedral House, Kingsthorpe Road, Northampton, NN2 6AG Telephone: 01604 714556

### The NEW Roman Missal

**The new English translation of the Mass  
is coming soon to your parish**

**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2011 8pm  
Northampton Cathedral**

Monsignor Kevin McGinnell will outline the changes  
and why we are being asked to change

Vigil Mass for the Solemnity of SS Peter & Paul at 7pm



### Annual Pastoral Area Picnic

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2011 12.30pm - 2pm**

Beginning at 3.30pm - Exposition of the Blessed  
Sacrament and Benediction.

In the gardens of The Presbytery, The Sacred Heart  
& Our Lady Church, Main Street, Aston-le-Walls,  
Daventry, NN11 6UF

*Bring along some food (and drink) and join in the fun!  
Tea, coffee and cold drinks will be provided.*

*(Follow the A361 from Daventry)*



**LOCAL PASTORAL AREA  
BULLETIN No. 2** June 2011  
[www.northamptonswpa.btck.co.uk](http://www.northamptonswpa.btck.co.uk)

### NORTHAMPTON SOUTH & WEST PASTORAL AREA

*The Catholic churches and schools of south and west Northampton, Aston-le-Walls, Daventry and Towcester*

### ***Act Justly, Love Tenderly, Walk Humbly***

In February 2010 Northampton South & West Pastoral Area issued a Newsletter outlining Bishop Peter's vision for our Diocese.

**A Summary** The eight Deaneries had been replaced with thirteen Pastoral Areas, each headed by a Dean assisted by a Pastoral Area Link. Within each Pastoral Area a Steering Group was appointed consisting of one representative from each of the parishes involved. Their task was to develop a groundplan by a process of meetings and consultations to which all parishioners were invited to take part. The aim was to produce an overview of each Pastoral Area and then develop an accurate picture of each parish and its provision of service to the community. In particular to identify each Parish's strengths and the areas that they would aspire to develop and share in the future, with a particular focus on how they would manage with fewer priests.

**The Groundplan** for The Northampton South & West Pastoral Area, covering The Cathedral, Duston, Hunsbury, Aston le Walls, Daventry and Towcester Parishes was duly accepted by Bishop Peter last October. By this time St Aidan's Parish in Northampton had also been included.

**Outcomes** Bishop Peter met our Steering Group in October, and encouraged us to develop a Pastoral Area Council under the patronage of St Thomas of Canterbury. Our aim should be to promote the Pastoral Area and to develop the life and mission of the Church in line with our Groundplan. He emphasised our need to begin preparing for fewer priests. Also, that we should identify potential candidates for training as lay chaplains, look at the need for volunteers and at sharing resources.

**Fewer Priests** In February Bishop Peter wrote to Canon John Udris and the other Deans in the Diocese specifying the number of priests who would be available to serve their Pastoral Areas in the near future. He asked that our Pastoral Area should focus on how best to plan for managing with **five** priests rather than the current **eight**.

### Current Provision of Masses with Eight Priests

	Cathedral Northampton	St Aidan Kingsthorpe	St Patrick Duston	SS Francis & Therese East Hunsbury	St Thomas More Towcester	Our Lady & St Augustine Daventry	Sacred Heart & Our Lady Aston-le-Walls
Saturday Vigil	7 pm		6 pm	7 pm	5.30 pm	5 pm	
Sunday	8.30 am 10.30 am 5.15 pm	9.15 am 11 am 6 pm	9.30 am	9.30 am	11.00 am	6.30 pm (Long Buckby) 9.00 am (Yelvertoft) 10.30 am	9.00 am (Kings Sutton) 10.45 am

**Action** With this in mind our first Pastoral Area Council Meeting was held in March, at which all members of the Steering Group elected to continue their previous involvement. For ease of management it had already been decided that the Cathedral would work in conjunction with Duston and St Aidan's; Daventry and Aston le Walls would be paired as Mgr Séan Healy now had responsibility for both parishes and Towcester and Hunsbury would continue to work together, as before, led by Fr Brendan Killeen.

Currently Fr Séan is supported by Fr Andy Ollard, but in the event of there being only one priest serving two churches and three Mass Centres there would have to be a reduction in the number of Masses. Also should an older priest be appointed to this area, the considerable amount of travelling involved, would be too physically demanding. With Fr Phillip's illness St Patrick's Duston have already adjusted their weekend Mass schedule. It was envisaged that there would always be three priests in this grouping; two at the Cathedral and one at St Aidan's. However, if the numbers and times of Masses between the three parishes could be adjusted for just two priests to be able to celebrate over a weekend, then this would give some allowance for managing sickness and clergy holidays. One possibility might be to drop the evening Mass at the Cathedral on Saturday and the evening Mass at St Aidan's on Sunday.

**Your Support and feedback is needed** Attached is information detailing all times of Masses and venues for the Pastoral Area. You are asked to give these your consideration and help to determine how best to manage the Pastoral Area with three fewer priests. Please submit any suggestions either to your Parish Representative or via the Pastoral Area Link Angela Tiffen, [angela@tiffens.net](mailto:angela@tiffens.net) as soon as possible. The pressure on our Priests should not be underestimated. If we want our Parish communities to flourish everyone should be committed, take an active interest and participate.



### Northampton South & West Pastoral Area Website

[www.northamptonswpa.btck.co.uk](http://www.northamptonswpa.btck.co.uk)

Our new website is now live!  
You may access the Groundplan and other documents from our website.

Please continue to keep the *Walking Humbly Process* in your prayers. Pray also for the health of Fr Phillip Swingle and Fr Benny Joseph, MSFS, and all who are sick.

### Who do we contact with our responses to this ?

The Pastoral Area Council member from your parish – if you do not know them, Pastoral Area Link **Angela Tiffen** will forward messages.

E-mail her: [angela@tiffens.net](mailto:angela@tiffens.net)

### Who's on the Pastoral Area Council ?

As well as Canon John Udris and Angela Tiffen, already mentioned, the Pastoral Area Council includes:

All priests in our Area; so, Monsignor Séan Healy, Fr Brendan Killeen, Monsignor Tony McDermott, Fr Phillip Swingle, any assistant or retired priests, and deacons, are entitled to attend the meetings if they wish. Other members are chosen so that there is at least one from each church: but they are not “representatives” of their church as such – they have not been *elected*. They were nominated by their parish priests for skills, qualities and experience that they could bring to the council.

In alphabetical order:

Nick Bull [dellaandnick@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:dellaandnick@yahoo.co.uk) (The Sacred Heart & Our Lady, Aston-le-Walls)

Michael Dowden [smf236@talktalk.net](mailto:smf236@talktalk.net) (St Aidan, Kingsthorpe)

Anna Fox [anna@foxfam.demon.co.uk](mailto:anna@foxfam.demon.co.uk) (St Thomas More, Towcester)

Julia Gibson [juliajpnagibson@btinternet.com](mailto:juliajpnagibson@btinternet.com) (Ss Francis & Therese, East Hunsbury)

Sr Brenda Moore [brenda.moore33@ntlworld.com](mailto:brenda.moore33@ntlworld.com) (Cathedral of Our Lady & St Thomas, Northampton)

Michael O'Neill [michaeloneill589@btinternet.com](mailto:michaeloneill589@btinternet.com) (St Patrick, Duston)

Paul Street [Streetladywood@aol.com](mailto:Streetladywood@aol.com) (Our Lady of Charity & St Augustine, Daventry)



*Pastoral Area Council members at a recent meeting*

*Back row L-R: Paul Street, Canon John Udris, Michael Dowden, Deacon Michael O'Leary, Nick Bull, Deacon David Smith*

*Front row L-R: Monsignor Séan Healy, Angela Tiffen, Sr Brenda Moore, Julia Gibson, Anna Fox*