

SCARBOROUGH CATHOLIC PARISHES

CHURCHES OF ST PETER, ST JOSEPH, ST EDWARD THE CONFESSOR

Part of the Middlesbrough Diocesan Trust: Reg. Charity No. 233748

Parish Priest: Canon Edmond Gubbins

St Joseph's Presbytery
1 Greyland's Park Grove, YO12 6HY

St Peter's Rectory
Castle Road, YO11 1TH

St Edward the Confessor
Avenue Victoria, YO11 2QS

Tel: 01723 360358 • Email: scarboroughcatholicparishes@gmail.com • Website: www.scarboroughcatholicparishes.org.uk

7 JULY 2024 – 14TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B

Divine Office: Week 2

BLESSED NICHOLAS POSTGATE - MARTYR OF THE MOORS (50TH ANNIVERSARY OF POSTGATE RALLY)

Blessed Nicholas Postgate is known variously as **the Priest of the Moors**, the **Hermit of the Moors**, or as the **Martyr of the Moors**. He was one of 85 English martyrs beatified by Pope John Paul II in 1987. He was **born at Kirkdale House in Egton** somewhere between **1596–1599 to parents James and Margaret Postgate**. The family name was variously given as Poskitt or Poskett, but Nicholas wrote it as Postgayt, as shown by his signature on the flyleaf of his book, a relic kept in St Hedda's Church at Egton Bridge.

Nicholas Postgate left England aged around **25 years**, to train for the priesthood in **Douay College in France**, a seminary near Dunkirk in Flanders that specialised in training priests for the 'English Mission'. He was **ordained a priest in 1628** and was sent to the mission in June 1630 on the Feast of St Peter & St Paul.

On returning to this country, he became chaplain to various recusant gentry families in Yorkshire, among them the Hungate family near Tadcaster, and Lady Dunbar at Constable Burton in the East Riding. He later moved to the North Riding to serve the Saltmarsh family at Kilvington Castle near Thirsk and then the Meynells of Kilvington Hall. It is not known whether Nicholas requested to be sent to the north of England for his ministry, or whether it was thought to be a good idea due to his knowledge of the area.

Around **1660**, he returned to his birthplace on the moors, where he eventually made his home at a dwelling near **Ugthorpe**, later called The Hermitage. The contrast between his new life on the moors and his old among the landed gentry must have been considerable, moving to a life of great simplicity and hardship from one of relative sophistication and comfort. His parish, which was known by the extinct name of Blackamoor, roughly covering an area of moorland to the northeast known as Cleveland Moor and Blackamoor. It extended from the Whitby coastal area northwest to Ugthorpe and on towards Guisborough, then south to Egton, Eskdale, Grosmont and even further south to Pickering.

Fr Postgate's house at Ugthorpe was open house to all who came for help or advice, in trouble or need. **Whenever he was going to say Mass, he would hang out sheets on the bushes, as if to air them, to let the people know his intention.** He was totally committed and dedicated to serving his moorland folk. He walked the moors in all weather and at all hours in response to his parishioners' needs. On his travels he always **wore a brown tunic**, covered by a cape of white canvas to protect him from the wild moorland weather. He is depicted wearing this cape in the stained-glass window in St. Hedda's Church at Egton Bridge.

Arrest & Execution: The newly ordained Fr Nicholas Postgate would have probable understood well what fate he would face on his return to England from France. **Catholic priests were regularly betrayed, hunted down, condemned as traitors and executed in the most barbaric way.** Although anti-Catholic feeling in England had subsided a good deal at that time, it flared up again due to the fake Popish Plot of 1678. This followed a **false testimony** from **Titus Oates** in which he claimed there was a conspiracy to install a Catholic king, and he managed to foment a renewed and fierce persecution of English Catholics. During the panic engineered by Oates, a prominent Protestant magistrate in London, Sir Edmund Berry Godfrey, was murdered and Oates loudly blamed the Catholics; Sir Edmund's manservant, John Reeves, set out to get his revenge. For reasons which are not clear, he decided to base his actions in the Whitby area, possibly because he knew that priests arrived there from France.

Fr Nicholas Postgate's **last free journey** over the moors took place in **December 1679** when he went to baptise the baby son of Matthew Lythe at Redbarns, on the Ugglebarnby to Littlebeck road. Reeves, with a colleague called William Cockerill, raided the house during the ceremony and caught the priest, then aged 82. Lyth had apparently spoken publicly about the ceremony, thus accidentally alerting the authorities to Postgate's presence. Postgate was condemned under the 1584 Act "*against Jesuits, seminary priests and other such like disobedient persons*" for being a priest on English soil. He was hanged, disembowelled and quartered at the Knavesmire, York. His quarters were given to his friends and interred. One of the hands was sent to Douay College. On the scaffold he said that he was too old and frail to make long speeches: he would simply die for the Catholic faith to which he had devoted his life. It was to be the last time that Catholics were put to death in England for their faith, and Nicholas Postgate was one of the last victims.

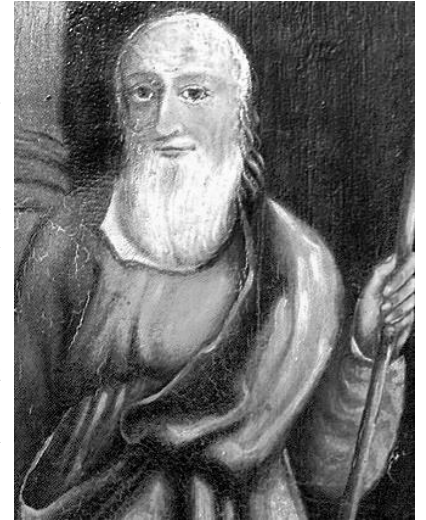
Nicholas Postgate's legacy: A portable altar stone, said to have been used by Nicholas Postgate, is placed in front of the wooden altar at St Joseph's Catholic Church, Pickering, where it is now venerated. St Hedda's Church at Egton Bridge holds relics of the life and ministry of Fr Nicholas Postgate, and a magnificent stained-glass window by artist Thomas Denny depicting Fr Postgate striding over the moors. The pub in Egton Bridge is called "The Postgate" in his honour. The main street through Ugthorpe is called Postgate Way.

50TH POSTGATE RALLY (SEE ALSO NOTE OVERLEAF)

This year marks 50 years since the first Postgate Rally, which was held at Ugthorpe on Sunday 30 June 1974. It is an open-air Mass (weather permitting) and has alternated between Ugthorpe and Egton Bridge every year since, apart from during the Covid lockdown. To mark this special occasion, Bishop Terry has arranged for His Eminence Cardinal Arthur Roche, to be this year's preacher.

The Postgate Society, which is under the patronage of Bishop Terry, exists to spread knowledge of Blessed Nicholas and to promote interest in Catholic history during penal times. See their website: <https://postgatesociety.org>

Image: Portrait of Fr Nicholas Postgate, Whitby Museum, probably dated around 1710. Unknown author (*in the public domain*)



MASS TIMES WEEK COMMENCING 7 JULY 2024 – YEAR B

14TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Masses at St Peter’s Church are also LIVE STREAMED via YouTube: <https://youtube.com/@stpeterschurchscarborough>

Saturday	6	5.30pm	St Edward’s	
Sunday	7	9.30am	St Joseph’s	
		9.30am	St Peter’s (Polish)	
		11.30am	St Peter’s	
Monday	8	10am	St Joseph’s	
Tuesday	9	5.30pm	St Edward’s	St Augustine Zhao Rong
Wednesday	10	10am	St Peter’s	
Thursday	11	10am	St Joseph’s	ST BENEDICT (day of special prayer for Europe)
Friday	12	10am	St Peter’s	
Saturday	13	10am	St Peter’s	St Henry

MASS IN THE SYRO-MALABAR RITE celebrated monthly **10.30am** on **4th Sunday of month** at St Edward’s Church.

CONFESSIONS Normal times **Sat: 10.30-11am** at St Peter’s & **5-5.20pm** at St Edward’s; **Sun: 9-9.20am** at St Joseph’s; & **by request**

ADORATION OF BLESSED SACRAMENT weekdays **9.15 - 9.55am** at St Peter’s, **1 hour before Mass** at St Joseph’s, **5pm** St Edward’s
POPE FRANCIS’ JULY PRAYER INTENTION: *that the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick confer to those who receive it and their loved ones the power of the Lord and become ever more a visible sign of compassion and hope for all.*

RECENTLY DIED: Jutta Marshall (Southlands); **ANNIVERSARIES:** Brian O’Flynn, Paul Garrity, James Gubbins, Jim Davey;

MASS ATTENDANCE: Vigil: St Edward’s **71**; **Sunday:** St Joseph’s **154**; St Peter’s **181**; Polish **55** (est); **Total 461**

OFFERINGS: Loose Plate **£790**; Gift Aid Envelopes **£404**, **Standing Orders £760** (av.); Contactless **£170**; Polish: **£30**; **Total £2,154.**



Thank you! ONLINE GIVING Parish Bank: Barclays, Account No: **50003417**, Sort Code: **20-56-90**, Account name: *Diocese of Middlesbrough.* **Include a reference** if Gift Aiding your donation (do sign up if have not already). **OR** donate online.

300 CLUB WEEKLY WINNER: £25 No.116; £10 No.20. Congratulations! Spaces available: **£1** p/wk for 2 numbers.

GROUPS IN OUR 3 CHURCHES: **Divine Mercy Devotions** (9.45am Fridays at St Peter’s in church); **Rosary Devotions** (before Mass Wednesdays at St Peter’s in church) **RCIA Instruction for Adult Converts** (11.30am Saturdays, St Peter’s Parish Centre); **Rosary Prayer Group** (11am Thursdays, St Joseph’s Sr Rita Room); **Mothers Prayers** (1.30pm Mondays, St Peter’s Parish Centre); **Legion of Mary** (11am Saturdays, St Peter’s Parish Centre); **Alive Group** (2pm Tuesdays, St Edward’s Hall fortnightly); **Parents & Toddlers** (10am Mondays, St Peter’s School); **Union of Catholic Mothers** (1pm 3rd Tuesday monthly alternating: St Peter’s & St Joseph’s parish rooms) **Craft Group** St Peter’s 1st Tues of the month 1.45pm St Peter’s Parish Centre)

ST AUGUSTINE’S SUMMER CONCERT 6pm on Thursday 11 July at the school. Doors open at 5.30pm. Tickets **£2** on the door.

50TH ANNUAL POSTGATE RALLY Sunday 7 July (today) at **Lawn’s Farm, Ugthorpe YO21 2BQ.** Hymns **2.30pm**, Mass **3pm** celebrated by Bishop Terry. **Cardinal Arthur Roche**, *Prefect of the Dicastery for Divine Worship* is the preacher for this 50th anniversary. **A commemorative badge to mark the anniversary will be on sale.** Bring own packed lunch. Under-18s to be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Terrain not suitable for wheelchairs or buggies.

ST PETER’S SCHOOL LEAVERS MASS Tues 16 July at St Joseph’s (Mass time tbc).

ST AUGUSTINE’S SCHOOL END OF YEAR MASS 9.30am Wed 17 July in school.

LIVING CATHOLICISM TODAY 3-DAY SUMMER COURSE 1-4 August at the Christian Heritage Centre, Stonyhurst (nr Clitheroe: How do we interpret the sources of Christian morality? What is the significance of the virtues? Part of the “Faith & Reason” series, this course will explore morality and the Christian life, with Dr Caroline Farey, Dr Andrew Beard & Stefan Kaminski. Booking closes **19 July.** Go to <https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/faith-and-reason-series>

SCARBOROUGH PILGRIMAGE TO ST THÉRÈSE OF LISIEUX 2025 Mon **28 April** to Fri **2 May.** **33 names.** 7 places left **Deposit £50 required.** *Cash or cheque (payable to St Peter’s Church), and put envelope with your name on the outside and marked Lisieux Pilgrimage & Telephone Number.* Est cost **£500 pp** half board sharing. Single rooms (if available) will cost more.

CARE NOT KILLING - SAY NO TO ASSISTED SUICIDE Bishop Draine encourages parishioners to sign this online petition calling on MPs to reject any proposal to legalise assisted suicide. Still time to sign at <https://carenotkilling.uk/this-election>

NEW LECTIONARY for Readings at Mass comes in **November in 3 volume** sets. The **total cost of sets for all 3 of our churches is £1,772.** Would any persons wish to donate towards the cost of these. We would place a list of donors inside the covers for each church.

PUBLIC SPEAKING/ READING IN CHURCH 1-hour training sessions on **Zoom** for anyone interested in building their confidence for public speaking, **11am-12pm on Sat 13 July & 7pm-8pm on Tues 16 July.** Designed for beginners and anyone who needs to make announcements, ask for volunteers or speak on behalf of a charity or a parish appeal at Mass. Offered by CAFOD for general parish purposes (not CAFOD only). Register https://cafod.formstack.com/forms/speaking_at_mass_training to receive the link.

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR EVERYONE - DBS REQUIREMENTS: It is a common misunderstanding that DBS clearance is not necessary if a person is with someone else who does have DBS clearance. EVERY individual that is in contact with children or vulnerable adults **MUST** be cleared. Also, if a person already has DBS clearance for one role, it does not mean that they are automatically cleared for another. This is not only because clearance is required for both adults and children (where there is contact with both), but also there are different levels of check depending upon whether a person is a leader or not, and also how often a role is carried out. **It is essential to check with parish DBS coordinator, Liz White, or the diocesan Safeguarding department for each new role undertaken.** This may seem overly strict and complicated, and an extra ‘hoop’ for people who just want to help out, but **DBS checks are a legal obligation for parishes.** But we do want you to know that **each individual** who supports our three parishes in any way, either with vulnerable groups or not, is greatly valued and appreciated. Thank you for your time and dedication and help.

SUNDAY SMILE: (Funny Pun) *My Landlord wants to talk to me about my high heating bills. I told him my door is always open.*