Heart to Heart

Newsletter of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Luton
Diocese of Northampton, Deanery of St Alban
Registered Charity Number: 234091

YEAR A – Sunday 2nd August 2026
EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Psalter Week 2

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:	**You open your hand and fulfil us, O Lord.**

Parish Priest: Rev Fr Allan R. Jones, CRIC, M.A., MTh.
Parish Deacon: Rev James Bannan (On Sabbatical)
Parish Secretary: Bernadette Horsted

Parish Info: www.sacredheartluton.org
Diocesan Info: www.northamptondiocese.org
Pastoral Area Info: www.lutonpastoralarea.org

Address: 148 Ashcroft Road, Stopsley, Luton, Beds., LU2 9AY
Parish Office: parish.sacredheartofjesus@northamptondiocese.org
Parish Hall: hallbookings.sacredheartofjesus@northamptondiocese.org
Safeguarding: safeguarding.sacredheartofjesus@northamptondiocese.org
Free Redundancy Coaching Info: www.vitaeopus.co.uk

Parish Office: 01582 723099
Sacred Heart Primary School: 01582 287480
Cardinal Newman School: 01582 597125
L&D Hospital Chaplain: 01582 497370
Hospice Chaplain: 01582 502400

Saturday 1st August	**11.00am** **5.45pm** **600pm-6.20pm** **6.30pm**	**Wedding Mass:** CHIKA NWADINIGWE & CHIKODI OLEDIBE Evening Prayer Confession Priest's Private Intention	**St Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop and Doctor of the Church**
Sunday 2nd August	**8.30am** 9.00am **11.00am** **BAPTISM**	Morning Prayer Rosemary & Seamus McKenna RIP People of Our Parish Belina Osinachi Chukwuedo-Edordu	**EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**
Monday 3rd August	**9.00am**	Bryan Votor RIP	
Tuesday 4th August	**9.30am**	Margaret Coxsey RIP	**St John Vianney, Priest**
Wednesday 5th August	**9.30am**	John Prosper RIP	
Thursday 6th August	**9.30am**	Arthur McNaughtan RIP	**THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD**
Friday 7th August	**9.30am**	Joanna (Private Intention)	
Saturday 8th August	**5.45pm** **600pm-6.20pm** **6.30pm**	Evening Prayer Confession Mary Gear RIP	**St Dominic, Priest**
Sunday 9th August	**8.30am** **9.00am** **11.00am**	Morning Prayer Percy Votor RIP People of Our Parish	**NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

PARISH HALL: The Hall **closed last weekend after teas/coffees on 26th July and will reopen on Sunday 6th September.** This will enable Wes and Judy Weekes to have a well-earned break. Thank you to Wes and Judy for all that you both do for the Parish. Volunteers always welcome – contact the Parish Office or speak to Wes and/or Judy if you are able to help.

CONFESSION: Confessions are available 6.00pm - 6.20pm every Saturday, or by appointment.

MONDAY MORNING MASS: Please note Mass on Monday this week will be at 9.00am.

MORNING PRAYER: 8.30am Monday. 9.00am Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR AUGUST: For evangelization in the city
Let us pray that in large cities often marked by anonymity and loneliness we find new ways to proclaim the Gospel, discovering creative paths to build community.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK: If you wish to receive the Sacrament of the Sick or to ask for a relative/friend then please contact Fr Allan or telephone/email the Parish Office.

MASS INTENTIONS: Mass intentions moved for unforeseen reasons (e.g. funerals) will be honoured on another day. Please provide contact details when requesting intentions and check the weekly newsletters.

SUNDAY MISSAL 2027: If you wish to order a Sunday Missal for 2027, please speak to Judy in the Repository. Thank you.

PARISHIONERS: There are many parishioners who are unwell at the moment, both at home and in hospital. The Church is not always notified. Please let the Parish Office know if you are aware of a parishioner who is unwell (name/address/telephone number or family contact details).

RIP: Please remember Patrick Barry, Jordan Baldry and Hyacinth Giles who died recently. Please remember Patrick, Jordan and Hyacinth in your prayers and keep their families and friends in your thoughts and prayers at this very sad and difficult time.

FUNERAL DETAILS:
Patrick Joseph Barry RIP, Requiem Monday 17th August at Sacred Heart at 10.30am
Jordan Baldry RIP, Requiem Friday 21st August at Sacred Heart at 11.00am

THURSDAY CLUB: Thursday Club has now closed for the summer break and will reopen on the 3rd September. Thank you to the Thursday Club Volunteers who work so hard to provide this wonderful opportunity for all to socialise. Enjoy your well-earned break!

PARISH WEEKLY COLLECTION: Figures for w/e 26.07.26 Envelopes £701.81; Loose Cash £342.17; Total £1043.98 Thank you. Many parishioners give faithfully through the offertory collection each week. Did you know that if you are a UK taxpayer, your gift could be worth 25% more at no extra cost to you? Through Gift Aid, a donation of £10 becomes £12.50 — and we can even reclaim up to four years of past donations. Signing up is simple, confidential, and makes a big difference to parish life. Find out more at: **https://northamptondiocese.org/gift-aid/**

NOAH BLUE BINS: Available to accept donations at Sacred Heart next weekend **8th/9th August**. Please donate your good quality, preloved items to help others in need.

CSSA THEMATIC INSPECTION: SURVIVOR ENGAGEMENT AND SUPPORT: The Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (CSSA) has launched a public survey as part of its thematic inspection on survivor engagement and support. Victims and survivors of abuse—whether recent or historic—are invited to share their experiences of contact with dioceses and Religious Life Groups.
In Northampton, we continue to walk alongside survivors through initiatives such as the Healing Garden at Northampton Cathedral. Survivors are encouraged to participate in the survey, helping shape a safer Church for all. Visit:
https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=SSQzRY2fT0OpJmB_Xy63KLBEXoG2tlVAm_9UYqKjMSFUOTc5TzlLTEdTWkUySjhaTlU0QURaOU05SC4u

LUTON FOODBANK NEWSLETTER: highlighting everything achieved together during June and July. In this issue, you'll discover:

- The impact your support is making across Luton.
- Inspiring stories from local schools, volunteers and partners making a real difference.
- How we're continuing to support people beyond emergency food through advice, practical help and building long-term resilience.
- Every donation, volunteer hour and act of kindness help us support local people facing hardship. Thank you for being such an important part of our community. Thank you for your continued support. Together, we're helping people in Luton move towards a more hopeful future.

You can read the full newsletter here:
https://lutonfoodbank.org.uk/luton-foodbank-newsletter-june-july-2026/

HYMN BOOKS: The new Hymn Books have now arrived. If you wish to have a Dedication in a Hymn Book - £10 per dedication per book. Please send your donation and the name(s) you wish to have dedicated to the Parish Office before Friday 21st August 2026.

BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS: If you wish to have your child baptised at Sacred Heart Church **a Baptism Preparation Class must be undertaken before Baptism can go ahead**. Please contact the Parish Office to discuss further and to book your place. The **FINAL Baptism Preparation Class for 2026** will take place on **Thursday 3rd September at 7.00pm** in the Church. Please register with the Parish through the CASPAR link.

PRIESTHOOD DISCERNMENT DAY: Men aged 16 and over who are considering a vocation to the priesthood are warmly invited to a Discernment Day on Saturday, 8th August, from 10:30am at St Augustine Catholic Church, Milton Keynes. The day will include prayer, reflection, Mass, fellowship, and opportunities to speak with priests and others discerning God's call.
To register or find out more, contact Fr Pius at **vocationsdirector@northamptondiocese.org** or telephone 01753 523147. Please keep vocations in your prayers.

REGISTRATION 2026 FOR SACRAMENTS IN SACRED HEART OF JESUS CHURCH IN 2027:
FIRST RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)
FIRST HOLY COMMUNION
CONFIRMATION

Registration for First Reconciliation (Confession) and First Holy Communion (Year 3 and above in September 2026) and for Confirmation (Year 8 and above in September 2026) is through the Parish only and **WILL OPEN ON SUNDAY 15th AUGUST AND CLOSE ON SUNDAY 27th SEPTEMBER 2026.** Please make sure you have registered as a parishioner with the Parish through the CASPAR link.

Please complete a form (available in the Foyer) and email to the Parish Secretary (Bernadette).
parish.sacredheartofjesus@northamptondiocese.org

Please include a copy of your child's Baptism Certificate.

Please check you have registered your child for the correct Sacrament. The responsibility for this lies with you as parents/guardians/carers alone. **No applications to register for the Sacraments will be accepted after the closing date 27th September 2026.**

MARY'S MEALS FOREIGN CURRENCY COLLECTION: Mary's Meals would like to invite you to collect all your foreign currency* no matter how old or obscure. After the summer break especially if some of you have travelled abroad, we would like you to put all your foreign coins/notes aside**; we will be collecting all your foreign currency in September (final date for collection 19th/20th September)** with special Mary's Meals envelopes available in the Foyer. Currently the charity feeds over 3 million young children one good meal every day in their place of education – by giving Mary's Meals your foreign currency you can help feed the next hungry child.
***Mary's Meals will also take UK coins/notes that aren't legal tender**

SAVE THE DATE: DIOCESAN MASS FOR MARRIAGE AND FAMILIES: The annual Mass for Marriage and Families is a popular Diocesan event returning again at Northampton Cathedral on **5th September 2026 at noon**. All are welcome, and as usual we look to congratulate couples celebrating milestone anniversaries this year. Please register online, if at all possible, Registration Form available at: **https://bit.ly/43Qkt0u** to let us know about your anniversary and to book refreshments. A form is also available in the Foyer. If you know someone who may find the online process difficult, please consider offering support with their registration.

LUTON COUNCIL OF FAITHS – PEACE WALK 2026: Saturday 26th September 2026
1.15pm start – St Mary's Church – 30th Annual Peace Walk: A public demonstration of community solidarity to build a stronger Luton by fostering understanding and friendship. For more information contact: **info@lutonfaiths.org** See Poster on the Noticeboard.

FAITH ART PRIZE 2026: Artists of all background are invited to submit work to The Faith Art Prize, where they could share in a total prize fund of £30,000. The international competition, formerly known as the Laudamus Award, explores faith, devotion and spirituality. **The deadline is 5pm on 1st October**, and the entry fee is £15 for one piece of work, £25 for two, or £35 for three. Up to 100 shortlisted works will be exhibited at Westminster Cathedral in London from 9th-13th November. You can find out more and enter, at **https://artopps.co.uk/opportunities/thefaithartprize**

SAVE THE DATE SUNDAY 4TH OCTOBER 2026: TEA DANCE AFTERNOON – SACRED HEART PARISH HALL
Please mark your diary and watch out for more information to follow.

ANCIENT BYZANTINE ICONOGRAPHY COURSE, 12th-18th OCTOBER 2026: A seven-day course writing an icon in the ancient Byzantine style, using the liquid egg tempera technique. The course leads the student through each step of writing an icon of their own, providing theological explanations and practical demonstrations. Our October course is for those with some experience: please register your interest for an opportunity to book onto the next novice course.
https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/ancient-byzantine-iconography-course/

RIP ANNIVERSARIES: Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:
Paul Dove 1985; Sean Ryan 2003; Giovanna Chiazza 2018; Margaret Ryan 1985; Almerinda Tome 2004; Terence Kelly 2007; Janina (Jasia) Baxter 2013; Kathleen Blake 2024; Erno Ale 1995; Cecelia McLeod 1980; Seamus McManus 1982; Vernon McLaughlin 1988; Laszlo Aradi 1999; Jane Bainbridge 1960; Kathleen Lyons 1971; Jane Early 2003; Christopher O'Leary 1981; Nora Naughton 2023; Marian Nally 2023 ✠ **May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen**

PARISH REGISTRATION: To complete your parish registration, please use the QR code at the top of the Newsletter on the right, or go to **www.caspar.church/me?ID=56040**, or contact the parish office for assistance.

If you do not have an email address then please pick up a form in the Foyer to give your authority for the Parish Office to register you. Please remember to include the following information on the back of the form: Name, Address, Postcode, Telephone Number (if applicable).