



# Heart to Heart

Newsletter of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Luton  
Diocese of Northampton, Deanery of St Alban

**Year B - Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2023**

**First Sunday of Advent**

**Responsorial Psalm: God of hosts, bring us back;  
let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.**

**Parish Priest:** Rev Fr Allan R. Jones, CRIC

**Assistant Parish Priest:** Rev Dr James M. Cassidy, CRIC

**Parish Deacon:** Rev James Bannan

**Parish Secretary:** Bernadette Horsted

**Email:** parish.sacredheartofjesus@northamptondiocese.org

**Address:** 148 Ashcroft Road, Stopsley, Luton, Beds., LU2 9AY

**Parish Hall:** hall.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 663706

**Hospice Chaplain:** 01582 502400

**Parish Info:** www.sacredheartluton.org

**Diocesan Info:** www.northamptondiocese.org

**Pastoral Area Info:** www.lutonpastoralarea.org

**Registered Charity Number:** 234091

**PARISH OFFICE:** Open Monday, Wednesday and Friday this week from 10.00am until 12 Noon. When leaving a voicemail message please state the date and provide a contact number.

**SECOND COLLECTION:** This weekend 2<sup>nd</sup> /3<sup>rd</sup> December at all Masses towards Christmas flowers.

Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	11.00am 5.45pm 6.30pm	Confession Evening Prayer Jose Gois RIP	
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December	8.15am 9.00am 11.00am <b>3.00pm</b>	Morning Prayer People of Our Parish David Barber RIP & John Barber RIP <b>Legion of Mary Meeting</b>	<b>FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>
<b>HALL</b>			
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	9.30am	Sinead Garahee Sugrue RIP (5 <sup>th</sup> Anniv.)	
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	9.30am	Chrissie O'Dwyer (Get Well) <b>PRAYER GROUP: Prayer for our needs, those of the Parish and beyond</b>	
<b>CHURCH</b>			
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	9.30am <b>11.00am</b>	Georgio De Filippo RIP <b>REQUIEM: Patrick Mathurin</b>	
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	9.30am <b>10am-12</b>	Bill Gear RIP & John Joe Wall RIP <b>THURSDAY CLUB</b>	<b>St Ambrose</b>
<b>HALL</b>			
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	9.30am	Liam Doran RIP	<b>IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY</b>
Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	11.00am 5.45pm 6.30pm	Confession Evening Prayer Eileen Walsh RIP	
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	8.15am 9.00am 11.00am 3.00pm	Morning Prayer Judy & Wes Weekes (Wedding Anniversary) People of Our Parish Mass for those with Special Needs and their families	<b>SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>

**PARISH HALL:** Teas and Coffees available after Sunday 11.00am Mass. All welcome!

**POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR DECEMBER: For persons with disabilities:** We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

**RIP:** Please pray for all those who have died recently especially Margaret Mary Bowes and Patrick Mathurin. Please keep Margaret and Patrick, their families and friends in your thoughts and prayers at this very sad time.

**Patrick Mathurin RIP,** Requiem 11.00am at Sacred Heart on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December

**ONLINE ADVENT RETREAT:** Mondays from 27<sup>th</sup> November, 7.30-8.30pm "Let the Wilderness Bloom!" Join Fr John Udris and Avril Baigent as we draw on the life of John the Baptist to explore themes of silence, solitude, dryness, and vulnerability, moving towards resilience, promise and hope. Join live on Monday evenings or access the recording at a more convenient time. Register here: <https://pastoralministryoffice.org/bloom/>

**SAFEGUARDING:** Bishop David Oakley is available to meet with anyone affected by abuse, as a victim, survivor, their families or supporters, where private discussions can take place in a safe and non-judgmental environment. Bishop David ensures that he is able to meet with people affected by abuse on a bi-monthly basis or more frequently, depending on your request and can be accessed through the safeguarding office on 01604 723514 or email [safeguarding@northamptondiocese.org](mailto:safeguarding@northamptondiocese.org)

**QUALIFIED FIRST AIDERS:** Qualified First Aiders required for the Sunday 9.00am Mass – if you can help then please email the Parish Office.

**CARITAS - LOVE CHRISTMAS CAMPAIGN 2023:** Our parish is pleased to be taking part in the diocese Campaign 2023. With the continuing cost of living crisis and even more help being required by lots of people, we are hoping to support many more in-need individuals and groups. We will be accepting donations of items at Sacred Heart commencing Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November. Boxes marked '**CARITAS – LOVE CHRISTMAS CAMPAIGN**' will be in the **SMA Room, (Side room to the left of the Altar).** (See Noticeboard: suggested items to donate.)

**VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED:** To dress the Parish Christmas Tree on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2023 after the 9.30am Mass. Please speak to Maurice if you are able to help.

**TRAVELLER CHRISTMAS PARTY:** Luton Irish Forum in partnership with Luton Council are holding a Traveller Christmas Party at St Mary's Catholic Church Dunstable on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 12.30-3.00pm. This event will be fun for GRT children (with Santa) and parents will be able to avail of health advice and support from a Doctor and other medical professionals.

**THE SYNOD AND US MOVING FORWARD:** This is about listening and responding to one another in the grace of God's Spirit. Take time to reflect together as Pilgrims of Hope Tuesdays of Advent, Mass 7.30pm, meet 8-9pm at Holy Ghost Church and Centre, LU4 8JD.

**HOW WE CELEBRATE OUR MASS (See Poster on the Noticeboard.)**

5<sup>th</sup> December COMMUNION; 12<sup>th</sup> December PARTICIPATION; 19<sup>th</sup> December MISSION

**DIOCESAN PATRONAL FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION:** Bishop David will preside at Mass to celebrate our Diocesan Patronal Feast. Our two diocesan Patrons are Our Lady Immaculate and St Thomas Becket. All are invited to attend Mass in Northampton Cathedral at 7.00pm on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December and for mince pies after in the St Thomas Centre.

**YOUNG@HEART CAFÉ:** Christmas Dementia Friendly Carol Service 9<sup>th</sup> December 2.00pm-4.00pm at Holy Family Church, Freshwater Close, Luton LU3 3TA followed by festive refreshments. This is free to attend but please notify Home Instead on 01582 742275 to book your place for refreshments.

**MASS FOR FAMILIES WITH SPECIAL NEEDS:** Will be held at Sacred Heart on 10<sup>th</sup> December at 3.00pm. This Mass will be Fr Kevin's last Mass with the group so please come along to show your appreciation. Thank you, Fr Kevin. Further details contact Sean 07930 305362

**THANK YOU:** A big thank you to Sean and Bernie Ballantyne for organising, over the many years, the monthly Mass in the area for people with disabilities, their families and friends. We wish Sean, Bernie and family every happiness as they will be returning to Ireland in the near future. The organising will be taken over by Elizabeth Craigen [craigendavid@hotmail.com](mailto:craigendavid@hotmail.com) Fr James Cassidy will celebrate Mass each month from January onwards. Mass will take place each time on the third Sunday of each month at 3.00pm at Sacred Heart Church. The Group will be renamed '**The Bethany Group**' recalling how Mary, Martha and Lazarus welcomed Jesus into their home in Bethany.

**CATENIAN ASSOCIATION:** Enjoy Christmas whilst supporting NOAH & Keystage Housing – 13<sup>th</sup> December: Venue Harpenden Golf Club, Redbourn Lane AL5 2AX; Time 6.15pm or 7.00pm sit down; Dress: Smart Casual. Tickets: £35 per head for two course Christmas Dinner including wine. See Poster on the Noticeboard for further information. Booking deadline 6<sup>th</sup> December – Email John Williams to reserve places: [johnwilliams58@btinternet.com](mailto:johnwilliams58@btinternet.com)

**ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICE:** Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December, 7.00pm at Holy Ghost, 33 Westbourne Road, Luton LU4 8JD

**CHRISTMAS DINNER:** Mary Maybury would like to invite those of you who will be on their own or unable to prepare a full Christmas Dinner to come and celebrate and enjoy a 4 Course Christmas Dinner with others at St John's R.C. Church Hall, 296 Sundon Park Road, Luton, LU3 3AL on Christmas Day at 1:30pm to 5pm. Cost: Donations Only. (Transport will be provided if there are enough volunteers who can provide transport.) Volunteers are also required. Please contact Mary Maybury 07866 989254 to book your place or volunteer. If you would like to donate financially to this great cause then please drop your donation to Sacred Heart Parish Office. (Poster on the Noticeboard.)

**URGENT REQUEST FOR WINTER COATS:** Luton currently has 900+ asylum seekers/refugees. There is an urgent need as winter sets in for good quality coats suitable for men aged 20-40 years. Please leave donated coats in the Foyer in the box marked 'Winter Coats'.

**CRIB COLLECTION 2023:** Our Crib Collection this year will be for Friends of the Holy Land. Friends of the Holy Land is uniquely placed as a registered charity in the Holy Land and can quickly meet families' urgent needs in the West Bank, Gaza, East Jerusalem and Israel.

**NOAH:** The NOAH Blue Bins are at Sacred Heart next weekend 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> December. Please donate your good quality, preloved items to help others in need.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:  
Louise Taylor 1969; Charlotte Mary Byrne 2011; James Connolly 1980; Stanislaw Curtis 2000;  
Henry (Harry) Sheridan 2008; Sinead Patricia Garahee-Sugrue 2018; James Bennett 1988;  
Maurice Croke 1993; John Joseph Comerford 2013; Mary Robinson 1962;  
Margaret Burton 1982; Carmella Borcellino 2003; Bridget Mulligan 2009;  
Bridget Gallagher 2017; Francis Beirne 1982; Frederick Stockley 1991; Bridget Toomey 1997;  
Bridget Burke 2001; Thomas Hennessy 2002; Jean Van Develde 2002; Bill Land 2005;  
Lenos Moses Wilson 2014; James Walsh 1974; Hugh Devlin 1977; Thomas Hunt 1992;  
Vernon McLaughlin 1998; Nellie Hope 2009; Gerard (Gerry) McCarthy 2010;  
John Gannon 1972; Eileen Leahy 1983; Peter McCarron 1999 ✠ **May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.**