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 30th August 2026
TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Psalter Week 2

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:	**For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord, my God.**

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

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

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 29th August	5.45pm 600pm-6.20pm **6.30pm MASS**	Evening Prayer Confession Ryan Family Deceased Members RIP	**The Passion of St John the Baptist**
Sunday 30th August	8.30am **9.00am MASS** **11.00am MASS**	Morning Prayer People of Our Parish Lakshini Perera (Birthday)	**TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**
Monday 31st August	9.30am **10.00am MASS**	Morning Prayer Peter Gallagher RIP	
Tuesday 1st September	**9.30am MASS**	Marie Duffy RIP (Anniversary) **PRAYER GROUP:** Prayer for our needs, those of the Parish and beyond	
Wednesday 2nd September	**9.30am MASS**	Hyacinth Giles RIP	
Thursday 3rd September **PARISH HALL** **CHURCH**	**NO MASS** **10.00am-12 Noon** **7.00pm**	 **THURSDAY CLUB** **BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS**	**ST GREGORY THE GREAT, Pope and Doctor of the Church**
Friday 4th September	**9.30am MASS**	Mary Regan RIP & Dolores Ozyer-Key RIP	
Saturday 5th September	5.45pm 600pm-6.20pm **6.30pm MASS**	Evening Prayer Confession Rodger Gladwin Pietersz RIP (1st Anniversary) & Arlene Scotia Perera RIP	
Sunday 6th September **PARISH HALL**	8.30am **9.00am MASS** **11.00am MASS** **Teas and Coffees**	Morning Prayer People of Our Parish Garie Paulo Johnnett RIP	**TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

PARISH HALL: The Parish Hall will **reopen on Sunday 6th September** for teas/coffees after the 11.00am Mass. 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.

MORNING PRAYER: 9.30am Monday, 9.00am Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR SEPTEMBER: For the care of water
Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.

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.

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).

THURSDAY CLUB: Reopens this week on Thursday 3rd September, 10.00am-12 Noon. Please contact anyone that you may feel would benefit from attending the Thursday Club and extend a warm welcome to come along to Sacred Heart's Parish Hall to have a chat and a cup of tea. All welcome!

RIP: Please remember in your prayers Thomas Davitt who died recently. Please keep Thomas, his family and friends in your thoughts and prayers at this very sad and difficult time.

PARISH WEEKLY COLLECTION: Figures for w/e 23.08.26 Envelopes £589.51; Loose Cash £268.48; Total £857.99 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/**

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

HYMN BOOKS: Thank you to all who donated money towards dedications. The Dedications are now being prepared. **There will be a blessing of the new Hymn Books in September at the 9.00am Mass on Sunday 20th September.** The new hymn books will be available to use the following weekend Sunday 27th September.

The old hymn books will be in the Parish Hall after the 11.00am Mass on Sunday 27th September. If you wish to take home an old hymn book which has a dedication to a loved one in your family then please feel free to look through the old hymn books to locate your chosen book(s).

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.

EXAM RESULTS: Congratulations to students across Catholic secondary schools who are celebrating their 2026 GCSE and A Level results. From Northampton and Milton Keynes, Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Slough, young people have achieved results that reflect their hard work, resilience and commitment, supported by dedicated teachers, families and parish communities. We also celebrate the achievements of every student and pray for them as they begin their next chapter.

CONFIRMATION FOR ADULTS – EXPLORING THE CATHOLIC FAITH: If you are an adult and are not a Catholic, then this is your opportunity to explore the Catholic faith with no commitment. There may be others who have been baptised, and you are more than welcome to join the course and receive the Sacrament of Confirmation at Easter. Please contact the parish office and if there are enough people interested, we will begin our journey together in September.

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**

LITURGY OF THE WORD ZOOM SESSIONS FOR 2026: The God Who Speaks – Our Liturgy of the Word:
A series of online Zoom Sessions exploring the upcoming Lectionary Readings and Seasons of the Liturgical Year. Led by the Liturgical Formation Team.
Future sessions in 2026: Wednesday 9th September, Wednesday 11th November. Each session runs from 7.30pm-8.30pm Cost: No charge but there will be the opportunity to make a donation. Please register in advance to secure a place by emailing **deaconpeter.collins@northamptondiocese.org** **Full details on Poster displayed on the Noticeboard.**

BIBLE STUDY: Thursday 10th September 2026 – Can Catholics believe in Evolution? Speaker: Mr Anthony Nevard, Editor of Daylight Origins Society. **Our Lady Help of Christians, Castle Street, Luton, LU1 3AG. 7.00pm to 9.00pm. Everyone welcome.**

***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 Communion (Year 3 and above in September 2026) and for Confirmation (Year 8 and above in September 2026) is through the Parish only
REGISTRATION OPENED ON SUNDAY 15th AUGUST AND WILL 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. Once registered you will receive an acknowledgement email.**

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.

FAMILY DAY: Sunday 27th September, Holy Ghost Parish Centre, 33 Westbourne Road, Luton, LU4 8JD, **2:15pm–6:00pm** Free entry – booking required
Booking: https://sioncommunity.churchsuite.com/events/no5fkk9f
This will be an opportunity for families from across the pastoral area to come together, meet one another and be encouraged in their faith. (See Posters 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**

PARISH REGISTRATION AND THE SACRAMENTS: In order to receive the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, First Holy Communion, Confirmation), to marry within the parish, to have a form or letter endorsed by the parish priest, including certificates of Catholic practice, etc, you should live in the parish or attend Mass here regularly and be registered on the CASPAR system as a parishioner. You do not need to be a registered parishioner to receive the sacrament of the sick, Viaticum (last rites) or have a funeral at Sacred Heart or a Catholic funeral at the Vale.

YOUTH STRATEGY FOR LUTON & DUNSTABLE: On Wednesday 23rd September, from 7.00pm-9.00pm at Sacred Heart Parish Hall, Luton, invitation to anyone from Luton & Dunstable interested in or currently engaged with youth ministry to meet together for our 2nd Youth Strategy meeting.
Within this meeting, we will recap themes that arose from the 1st meeting and build on these, creating concrete plans for the youth in Luton & Dunstable, as well as plan a youth forum so that we can hear from the young people in the town about their thoughts, dreams and visions to embed within the strategy. All welcome.

ST JOHN'S PARISH FUNDRAISING EVENT: St John's Church in Sundon Park is running a fun parish evening to raise funds for local social action work, including the Furniture Bank, the Men's Shed, the development of a community outdoor space and other activities. **The event will be held in the hall at St John's on Friday 25th September, starting at 7:00pm. Tickets are just £3 on the door or call Joe on 07939 190424**. It will be a great night, including a Horse Race event, Bingo, a Raffle, Music, and a fully licensed bar. Everyone is welcome, so please bring friends and family for a great night out in support of a good cause. To make a donation please call or visit **https://donate.mydona.com/holy-family-st-john-luton**

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:
Elizabeth Griffiths 1986; Hector Vinent 1996; Timothy McCarthy 2006; Gwen Dooley 2009; Jean Johnette 1991; Revelina Ner 2002; Thomas O'Neill 2005; Rosaline McPherson 2006; Catherine Thomson 2009; William Sims 2000; John Barber 2006; Elizabeth Kimmer 2011; Baby Oscar Kent Purcell 2024; Francis Conway 1978; John Mead 1984; Alfred Thurlow 1988; Andrew Malcolm 1999; Joseph McGrath 2010; Ann-Marie Duffy 2011; Anne Marie Halloran 1968; Paul Christopher Brennan 2023; John Manning 2007; John Fennelly 2010; William 'Liam' Doran 2023; Irene Crokes 1965; Denis Michael McGrattan 1984; Martin McHugh 1989; Richard Gallagher 2004; Harry McHale 2004; Anna Mary Ficeto 2014 ✠ **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).