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 13th September 2026
TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Psalter Week 4

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:	**The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger and rich in mercy.**

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 12th September	**9.30am-11.30am** 5.45pm 600pm-6.20pm **6.30pm MASS**	PARISH OFFICE - **DBS Checks** Evening Prayer Confession Louis Borg RIP	
Sunday 13th September **PARISH HALL**	8.30am **9.00am MASS** **11.00am MASS** **Teas and Coffees**	Morning Prayer People of Our Parish Kyle Prosper, Giselle Prosper & Juliana Falcon RIP	**TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**
Monday 14th September	**9.30am MASS**	Ben Clarke RIP	**THE EXHALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS**
Tuesday 15th September	**9.30am MASS**	Chris & Jim Bannan - Intentions Prayer Group: Prayer for our needs, those of the Parish and beyond	**Our Lady of Sorrows**
Wednesday 16th September	**9.30am MASS**	Margaret & Derek Berry – 60th Wedding Anniversary	**SS Cornelius, Pope and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs**
Thursday 17th September **PARISH HALL**	**NO MASS** **10.00am-12 Noon**	 **THURSDAY CLUB**	
Friday 18th September	**9.30am MASS**	Rose Chukwuemeika Ewelike RIP	
Saturday 19th September	5.45pm 600pm-6.20pm **6.30pm MASS**	Evening Prayer Confession Michael King & Family RIP	
Sunday 20th September **PARISH HALL**	8.30am **9.00am MASS** **11.00am MASS** **Teas and Coffees** **3.00pm MASS**	Morning Prayer People of Our Parish Blessing of the New Hymn Books Frank Hurley RIP (17th Anniversary) **Bethany Mass**	**TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

PARISH HALL: The Parish Hall is open this Sunday after the 11.00am Mass for teas and coffees. All welcome!

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

MORNING PRAYER: 9.00am Monday, 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.

BETHANY MASS: Next weekend **20th September at Sacred Heart at 3.00pm**. All welcome! Tea will be served in the Parish Hall after Mass.

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: Thursday 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.

FUNERAL DETAILS: Thomas Davitt RIP, Requiem 1.30 pm at Sacred Heart on **Thursday 24th September**.

PARISH WEEKLY COLLECTION: Figures for w/e 6.09.26 Envelopes £622.50; Loose Cash £429.75; Total £1052.25 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/**

MARGARET COXSEY RIP: Margaret's family would like to express their thanks for all the Mass Cards and messages of sympathy received together with the kind words of comfort and support offered following the loss of Margaret. Mass will be offered in thanksgiving for your intentions. Please continue to keep Margaret's family in your thoughts and prayers.

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

DBS CHECKS: If you have **DBS renewal paperwork and ID to be checked** Jenny Dowsett (Parish Safeguarding Representative) will be in the **Parish Office on Saturday 12th September between 9.30am and 11.30am.** If you are unable to make that date, please email **safeguarding.sacredheartofjesus@northamtondiocese.org** to arrange a convenient time.

NOAH BLUE BINS: Available to accept donations at Sacred Heart **this weekend 12th/13th September.** Please donate your good quality, preloved items to help others in need.

ACT OF PRAYER AND WITNESS: Saturday 19th September 2026, 11.00am to 12 Noon Act of Prayer and Witness in support of life and against abortion at the junction of Pastures Way and Leagrave High Street, Luton (LU4 0PT) 150 metres from the Luton and Dunstable Hospital.

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.

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.

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.

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).

SAFEGUARDING CONFERENCE 2026: Invitation to attend Safeguarding Conference **on 3rd October 2026 at St Thomas' Centre at Northampton Cathedral.** To book your place please email Laura.lester@northamptondiocese.org See Poster on the Noticeboard for further information.

MARY'S MEALS FOREIGN CURRENCY COLLECTION TALK: This weekend 12th/13th September, a representative from Mary's Meals will give a talk at all weekend Masses about how the foreign currency collection helps Mary's Meals.
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. Please place your filled envelope in the Box in the Foyer.
***Mary's Meals will also take UK coins/notes that aren't legal tender**

SECOND COLLECTION: Next weekend 19th/20th September there will be a Second Collection at all Masses in aid of Home Mission Sunday.
Those with long memories will be familiar with Home Mission Sunday. It is the name given to the day we ask our parishes to pray for the work of evangelisation and to support this vital work through a second collection. A few years ago, this day was re-named Evangelii Gaudium Sunday after Pope Francis's Apostolic Exhortation 'The Joy of the Gospel'. Now, in 2026, we revert to using the original name. On Home Mission Sunday the bishops of England and Wales ask the faithful across our countries to look for ways in which we can all do our part in sharing the beauty and joy of knowing Jesus Christ. Resources, prayers and more can be found in our special section.

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. The final Session in 2026 will take place on **Wednesday 11th November.** 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.**

***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 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.

FAMILY DAY: Sunday 27th September, Holy Ghost Parish Centre, 33 Westbourne Road, Luton, LU4 8JD, **2:15pm–6:00pm**
Free entry – booking required **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.)

FRANCISCAN JUBILEE YEAR – 800TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATH OF ST FRANCIS: Italian Mass to honour St Francis of Assisi with the blessing of animals. **Holy Ghost Catholic Church**, Luton, LU4 8JD – **Sunday 4th October 2026 at 2.30pm.** All welcome! (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**

DIAMOND WEDDING ANNIVERSARY: Congratulations to Margaret and Derek Berry who recently celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary.

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.

MARRIAGE HELP: Communication failure is a major cause of marital breakdown. Thousands of couples have found Retrouvaille helped their relationship. Retrouvaille is not counselling but a programme to help married couples work through conflicts more effectively. They focus on helping restore trust and hope. Bookings close 18th September **www.Retrouvaille.org.uk +44 7887 296 983**

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**

RIP ANNIVERSARIES: Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:
John Walsh 1983; Cressy Modestine Baptiste 2014; Marie Usmani 2023; Charles Riley 1964; Josef Zacek 1986; Tony Conway 2007; Vivian Pinney 2007; Owen Byrne 1991; Baby Shona Cooke 1995; Camille Francois Brown 2012; John Marrion 1961; Reginald Watson 1974; Christina Connell 1989; Nino Russo 1992; Matthew O'Loughlin 1992; Michael McGuirk 1966; Paul Duobridge 1972; Jeremiah Coffey 1996; Elizabeth Wiltshire 2004; Alice McMichael 2005; Michael Marshall 2006; Francis Anthony Rogan; Mary Millar 2018; Jessie Roy 1969; Janet Hughes 1996 ✠ **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).