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 4th October 2026
TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Psalter Week 3

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:	**The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel.**

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 3rd October	5.45pm 6.00pm-6.20pm **6.30pm MASS**	Evening Prayer Confession Irene & William Davey RIP	
Sunday 4th October **PARISH HALL**	8.30am **9.00am MASS** **11.00am MASS** **Teas and Coffees**	Morning Prayer Patricia & Noel McLaughlin (Intentions) People of Our Parish **'TEA DANCE CANCELLED'**	**TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME** **Annual Parish Mass Count Week 3**
Monday 5th October	**9.30am MASS** **SH Primary School KS2 attending**	St Francis Day Mass	
Tuesday 6th October	**9.30am MASS**	Emidio Sebastiao RIP Prayer Group: Prayer for our needs, those of the Parish and beyond	
Wednesday 7th October **LANDSIDE PRAYER ROOM – LONDON LUTON AIRPORT**	**NO MASS** **11.00am MASS**	 **MONTHLY MASS**	**Our Lady of the Rosary**
Thursday 8th October **PARISH HALL**	**NO MASS** **10.00am-12Noon**	 **THURSDAY CLUB**	
Friday 9th October	**9.30am MASS**	Jose Dos Santos RIP	**ST JOHN HENRY NEWMAN, Priest and Doctor of the Church**
Saturday 10th October	5.45pm 6.00pm-6.20pm **6.30pm MASS**	Evening Prayer Confession Eddie Travers (Jnr) RIP	
Sunday 11th October **PARISH HALL**	8.30am **9.00am MASS** **11.00am MASS** **Teas and Coffees** **BAPTISM**	Morning Prayer People of Our Parish Vicente & Cherry Mendenilla RIP Hayden Damien Duncan Canning	**TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME** **Annual Parish Mass Count Week 4**

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 on Saturday, or by appointment.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR OCTOBER: For mental health ministry
Let us pray that the mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses.

MORNING PRAYER: 9.00am Monday, Tuesday and Friday. All welcome.

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.

TEA DANCE CANCELLED: Purchased tickets – Full refunds available from 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.

RIP: Please remember in your prayers Lily Dolly, Damian Waite, Rossanna Angeli who died recently. Please keep Lily, Damian and Rosanna, their families and friends in your thoughts and prayers at this very sad and difficult time.

FUNERAL DETAILS:
Damian Waite RIP, Funeral Service **Friday 16th October 10.00am at Sacred Heart.**
Rossanna Angeli RIP, Funeral Service **Thursday 29th October,10.00am at Sacred Heart.**

XAVERIAN MISSIONARIES APPEAL: Thank you to all who donated so generously to the Xaverian Mission Appeal last weekend. Thank you to Fr Sowa for presiding over all Masses in Fr Allan's absence.

Fr Allan made a short pilgrimage to Lourdes last week. While there he offered Mass for our parishioners.

CELEBRATING THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF OUR SCHOOLS: As we celebrate Education Sunday in our Diocese this weekend, our local Catholic schools in the St Thomas Catholic Academies Trust have produced a newsletter highlighting the ways in which they have been living out their mission over the last year. You can read it online here **https://www.stcat.co.uk/about-us/catholicity-and-inclusion/celebrating-catholic-life-newsletter/** or take a copy from the Foyer.

ANNUAL PARISH MASS COUNT: This weekend is the third week of four Annual Parish Mass Counts. Counters, please pick up a Count Sheet from the Foyer and record numbers accordingly for each Mass. Please also remember to include musicians and choir members in the Loft. Once the count has been completed and signed by each Counter, the sheets should be posted through the Parish Office letterbox. Thank you.

MONTHLY MASS AT LONDON LUTON AIRPORT: Beginning on **Wednesday 7th October, in the Landside Prayer Room, Mass will be celebrated by Fr Allan at 11.00am** each month on the first Wednesday of the month. All are welcome. You will need to pay parking if you are neither staff nor travelling, there are ample buses to the airport.

BETHANY MASS: The next Bethany Mass will take place at Sacred Heart Church on Sunday 18th October at 3.00pm. Refreshments will be served in the Parish Hall after Mass. All welcome!

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!

PARISH WEEKLY COLLECTION: Figures for w/e 27.09.26 Envelopes £776.60; Loose Cash £385.35; Total £1161.95 Thank you. Second Collection in aid of Xaverian Mission Appeal £878.16 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/**

CONGRATULATIONS: To Iona Thomas and Joshua Grant on their recent marriage. Wishing Mr & Mrs Grant a lifetime of love, laughter and happiness. God bless you both.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: The Parish Office will be open Monday and Friday mornings 10.00am-12 Noon. Please note emails will be answered remotely each Wednesday. Any telephone messages to the Parish Office – please state your name and state clearly twice a contact telephone number so that your query can be dealt with as quickly as possible.

PRAYER AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR SURVIVOR ENGAGEMENT: Two initiatives this October offer support and meaningful opportunities for those affected by abuse in the Catholic Church. From 18–23 October, the Jesuit Institute is offering a free Online Week of Guided Prayer for those directly or indirectly affected by clergy abuse, providing daily personal prayer, confidential one-to-one spiritual accompaniment and space for reflection. For more information, contact Sarah Young at syoung@jesuit.org.uk or visit www.jesuitinstitute.org/events.

The Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (CSSA) is also inviting victims and survivors of abuse in a Catholic Church setting to join its Survivor Panel, helping bring lived experience to the development and inspection of safeguarding standards. The role is remunerated, with expenses covered. Expressions of interest are invited by 5pm on Friday 16 October. For a confidential conversation, contact Sarah Gleadall at sarah.gleadall@catholicsafeguarding.org.uk.

CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE: Fr Allan will be signing Certificates on **Tuesday 13th October after the 9.30am Mass and 6.00-7.00pm in the Parish Office.**
Please bring to the Office your child's Sign-Up Sunday Card. Please make sure you are registered with CASPAR as a parishioner.

CAFOD SECOND COLLECTION: Family Fast Day – Friday 2nd October. A second collection will take place THIS WEEKEND 3rd/4th October at all Masses. Family Fast Day is a day when we are invited to pray, eat simply and give generously. By giving to CAFOD this Harvest we can put our faith into action and share God's love with our neighbours overseas. Please collect a CAFOD envelope (available in the Foyer) as you leave Church today, so that you can gift aid your donation or give through the CAFOD website. Please return your envelope for next weekend's Second Collection, or donate online at **cafod.org.uk/envelope** or call 0303 303 3030. Thank you to Geraldine and Bozena for being the representatives of this Parish for CAFOD.

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.**

SECOND COLLECTION 10TH/11TH OCTOBER: PRISONERS' SUNDAY takes place on 11th October and is the Catholic Church's National Day of Prayer and action for prisoners, their children and families, and all those affected by imprisonment. It is an opportunity to reflect on Christ's call,

"I was in prison and you visited me"

and to respond with prayer, compassion and practical support.

Pact (Prison Advice and Care Trust) is the national Catholic prison charity. Pact supports prisoners, people with convictions, and their families. Rooted in Catholic Social Teaching, Pact believes in the dignity of every person and in the possibility of a fresh start. Pact warmly invites you to take part in Prisoners' Sunday 2026. There will be a second collection at all Masses next weekend 10th/11th October. (Donation envelopes in the Foyer)

***REGISTRATION 2026 FOR SACRAMENTS IN SACRED HEART OF JESUS CHURCH IN 2027:**
FIRST RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION); FIRST HOLY COMMUNION; CONFIRMATION
Registration has now closed for First Reconciliation (Confession) and First Communion (Year 3 and above in September 2026) and for Confirmation (Year 8 and above in September 2026).
Once registered you should have received an acknowledgement email to confirm registration. If you have not received an acknowledgement then please contact the Parish Office immediately.

PRICE INCREASE – CANDLES: Please note as from the 1st October the cost of Votive Candles increased due to rising supply costs – **60p per candle or £1 for 2 candles.**

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.)

NOAH BLUE BINS: Available to accept donations at Sacred Heart **next weekend 10th/11th October.** Please donate your good quality, preloved items to help others in need.

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED: As from January 2027 we would like a Rota to be set up with volunteers to make/serve teas/coffees after the Sunday 11.00am Mass. This is a wonderful opportunity for parishioners to gather after Sunday Mass but the facility is not being utilised as it should be. **Without more volunteers we cannot continue to offer this service**. So please email the Parish or speak to Wes if you are able to help out on a regular basis and are happy to have your name put forward to be added on a Rota. We need more volunteers throughout our Parish – counters, cleaners, general maintenance, gardening etc. If you can help, please put your name forward, email the Parish or speak to Fr Allan. Most volunteers are retired and the time and commitment offered is most appreciated during working hours, but we need more parishioners to offer their help – please suggest a time when maybe you are available to help and then if we get enough volunteers, we may be able to draw up a rota for hours outside of normal working hours! Thank you.

SCHOOL ADMISSIONS SEPTEMBER 2027: Do you have a child due to start Reception or Year 7 in September 2027? Would you like to find out more about our Catholic Schools in this area? Use the QR code below to complete a short questionnaire and your preferred school will contact you with more information.

RIP ANNIVERSARIES: Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:
Desmond Carroll 1967; Brian Tohill 2003; William Hannon 2003; Iain Byrne 2004; Maureen McHugh 2013; Mary Hobbs 1963; William Conlen 1971; Mary Bloomer 1980; Elizabeth McHugh 1991; John Forrest 1995; Luis Ortigosa 2008; Patrick James McGowan 2018; Pasqualina Maria Antonia Varga 2023; Michael Forde 2009; Patricia Gallagher 2022; William Keogh 1969; Michael Ryan 1974; Marion Grimes 2005; Bryan Mogman 2009; Francis (Frank) David Paul Breheny 2019; John Zechs 1983; Frances Anderson 2000; Ethel Murtagh 1975; John Kokas 1988; John McManus 1989; Patrick Flanigan 2001; Lurleen Leu 2024; Austin Knights 2015 ✠ **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).