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 18th January 2026
SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Psalter Week 2
PEACE SUNDAY

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:	**Behold, I have come, Lord, to do your will.**

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 17th January	5.45pm 6.00pm-6.20pm 6.30pm	Evening Prayer Confessions Geraldine Bonner RIP (1st Anniversary)	**St Anthony of Egypt, Abbot**
Sunday 18th January **PARISH HALL**	8.30am 9.00am 11.00am **Teas and Coffees** **BAPTISM** **3.00pm**	Morning Prayer People of Our Parish Geoffrey O'Brien RIP (30th Anniversary) **Maya Ashley** **BETHANY MASS (St Joseph's Church, Luton)**	**SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME** **Peace Sunday**
Monday 19th January	9.30am	Cathal Prior RIP	
Tuesday 20th January	9.30am	William O'Reilly RIP **PRAYER GROUP**: Prayer for our needs, those of the Parish and beyond	
Wednesday 21st January	9.30am	Holy Souls	**St Agnes, Virgin and Martyr**
Thursday 22nd January	**9.30am** **Yr 5 SHP attending** **10.00am-12Noon**	**Holy Souls** **THURSDAY CLUB**	
Friday 23rd January	**NO MASS**		
Saturday 24th January	**11.00am-12 Noon** 5.45pm 6.00pm-6.20pm 6.30pm	**Churches Together in Luton: Unity Service at Holy Ghost Church** Evening Prayer Confessions Joseph Borg RIP	**St Francis de Sales, Bishop and Doctor of the Church**
Sunday 25th January **PARISH HALL**	8.30am 9.00am 11.00am **Teas and Coffees** **3.00pm**	Morning Prayer People of Our Parish McManus & Sherry Family Deceased Members RIP **Diocesan Celebration in Northampton Cathedral**	**THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME** **Sunday of the Word of God**

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: Monday-Thursday this week - 8.50am followed by Rosary – All welcome.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR JANUARY: For prayer with the Word of God
Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

SECOND COLLECTION: This weekend 17th/18th January there will be a second collection at all Masses in aid of **Peace Sunday**.

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.

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.

RIP FIRST ANNIVERSARY: Geraldine Bonner RIP: Please remember Geraldine in your prayers and keep her family and friends in your thoughts and prayers as they lovingly gather at Sacred Heart to honour Geraldine on her first anniversary.

MINISTERS OF THE WORD: Please pick up and complete a form in the Foyer to show your availability to read at your preferred Mass time attendance. Thank you. Completed forms to be returned to the Parish Office.

THURSDAY CLUB: 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 **every Thursday 10.00am-12 Noon**. All welcome!

BAPTISM PREPARATION: 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. Baptism Preparation Classes for 2026 will take place on **Thursday 5th March at 7.00pm, Thursday 4th June at 7.00pm and Thursday 1st September at 7.00pm.** Please make sure you have registered as a parishioner with the Parish through the CASPAR link.

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).

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 11th February, Wednesday 8th April, Wednesday 8th July, 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 the Poster displayed on the Noticeboard.

BETHANY MASS: Please note there is a change of venue for the next Bethany Mass. Mass will take place at **St Joseph's Church, Gardenia Avenue, Luton LU3 2NS** on **Sunday 18th January 2026 at 3.00pm.** Refreshments in St Joseph's Parish Hall afterwards. All welcome!

CHRISTMAS CRIB OFFERINGS/DONATIONS: The Christmas Crib Offerings/Donations (for Christmas 2025 until Candlemas 2nd February 2026) will go towards supporting NOAH. Your offering/donation can help NOAH to change a life by providing someone to talk to, clean clothes and something to eat for those facing homelessness.

PRAYER SERVICE: A Service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity – One Body, One Spirit, Light from Light for Light. **Saturday 24th January 2026, 11.00am followed by refreshments** at Holy Ghost Church, Luton LU4 8JD. See Poster on the Noticeboard.

LAST CALL FOR ONLINE MARRIAGE PROGRAMME: Does your marriage need some TLC? Need help with communication and trust? Retrouvaille helps marriages. It can bring hope and healing to relationships. Next date: 12th February 2026. **www.retrouvaille.org.uk** Tel: 07887 296983

SUNDAY of the WORD of GOD – 25th January 2026: "The word of Christ dwells among you" (Colossians 3:16). The Dicastery for Evangelisation has prepared a series of resources that are available at: **evangelisatio.va/content/pcpne/en/parola/2026**
Celebrating the Sunday – our Liturgy at the Cathedral 3pm with reflections by Fr Jerome Ituah OCD and commissioning of readers to proclaim the Word. Booklet available on the diocesan website. Follow the liturgy on the livestream.
Going one step further – **Saturday 31st January 11am-3.00pm** - A day for readers to reflect and share at Holy Ghost Centre, Westbourne Rd, Luton LU4 8JD. Refreshments will be available.

SING THE SEASON, LENT 2026: The latest event in the Northampton Diocese Music Liturgy series, offering new and seasonal music alongside fresh ideas for the Lenten season. Designed for cantors, choir leaders, singers, and musicians.

- **Date & Time: Saturday, 24th January 2026, 11am – 4pm**
- **Location: St Aidan's Catholic Church, Finch Lane, Little Chalfont, Amersham (HP7 9NE)**
- What to bring: Packed lunch, voice, and instruments (tea and coffee provided)
- Cost: Free (suggested donation £5 to support future events)

Further details: https://northamptondiocese.org/courses/sing-the-season-lent-2026/

JOURNEY WITH JESUS THROUGH LENT: During Lent, the Pastoral Development Vicariate is offering the opportunity for online small group sessions once a week for 6 weeks beginning w.c. 16th February. During each weekly small group session, facilitators will be using St Beuno's Outreach Prego resources, allowing you to pray and reflect on Scripture for the coming Sunday. Within the session, there will also be time for silent reflection and sharing what spoke to you from Scripture. Sessions will be available on various days and times.
To find out more information and to sign-up to our introductory webinar on Tuesday 27th January, 7:30pm, visit our diocesan website: **https://northamptondiocese.org/lenten-journey/**

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

HOW TO APPLY FOR A SCHOOL PLACE FOR SEPTEMBER 2026: If your child was born between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022 you must apply for a school place **by 15th January 2026. You can apply online at luton.gov.uk/school admissions** (See Poster on the Noticeboard.)
To get an information pack or to ask for further information and advice please contact: Admissions Team, Children, Families and Education Directorate, Luton Council, Town Hall, George Street, Luton LU1 2BQ. Telephone: 01582 548016 or email: **admissions@luton.gov.uk**

SAFEGUARDING SURVEY FOR THE YOUTH: The diocesan Safeguarding team is looking at how young people perceive safeguarding and how they receive information from a diocesan level. They want to know how we can communicate better so if you are aged 11 to 18, please take 5 minutes to complete a few questions using this link, or by scanning the QR code displayed on the Noticeboard.
Northampton Diocese Safeguarding Feedback 2025 - Youth – Fill in form

PARISH WEEKLY COLLECTION: Figures for w/e 11.01.2026: Envelopes £618.43; Loose Cash £377.28; Total £995.71 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/**

THE ASCENT: Are you 16-18 and looking to grow in your faith? Then you need to know about The Ascent. The Ascent is a one-of-a-kind process of discipleship run by volunteers across the UK for people in school years 10-12. It partners with organisations like NYMO to bring young people together to learn about their faith and grow in relationship with Jesus. There are three parts to the process:

- 3 residential weekends per year providing opportunities for teaching and formation in the Catholic faith, encounter with Jesus Christ, personal prayer, and envisioning of your next steps.
- Weekly 'PoDs' (Pockets of Disciples) which are small groups who meet together online for friendship and formation.
- Monthly 1:1 mentoring giving you a space to talk, process, and get support from a trained member of the team.

Contact NYMO (NYMO@northamptondiocese.com) or visit their website to find out more (nymo.org/the-ascent-2). There are only 6 places left for the 2026 group so don't miss out!

COME AND SEE – DISCERNMENT DAY FOR MEN: Are you a man who is wondering whether God may be calling you to the priesthood? The Diocese warmly invites you to "Come and See" — a day of prayer, reflection, and questions for men who are thinking about or discerning a vocation to the priesthood. **Date: Saturday 28th March, 2026**
Programme: A day including prayer, reflection, input on priestly vocation, and an open Q&A
Who is it for? Men who are exploring, questioning, or discerning a call to the priesthood
Where? Our Lady of Christian and St Lawrence, Olney
This day offers a relaxed and supportive opportunity to reflect on God's call, to learn more about priestly life, and to ask honest questions in a prayerful setting. **To register your interest or for more information, please contact: Fr Pius: vocationsdirector@northamptondiocese.org Tel:** 01753 523147

COULD YOU BE A MAGISTRATE? TRAINING PROVIDED: As you may have seen in the press, e.g. **https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cp87xm23e8ko**, the government is giving extra powers to magistrates and is seeking to recruit many more. This puts greater responsibility of magistrates to ensure that justice is served in our nation and town. Those close to the criminal justice system are aware of the dangers being faced in maintaining justice and the need for greater diversity amongst magistrates, most currently being older white men!
Any member of the public with a clean record and no conflict of interest may become a magistrate, training is given. Currently the role is voluntary, and most work places will grant time for you to serve. This is therefore a unique opportunity for Christians in our town to serve the greater good.
We would encourage members of our congregations to consider applying for the role of magistrates. **Become a magistrate: Apply to be a magistrate – GOV.UK**
Visit: https://www.gov.uk/become-magistrate/apply-to-be-a-magistrate

RIP ANNIVERSARIES: Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:
Robert George Neil 2014; Mary Simpkins 1969; Charles McEvitt 1972; May Burke 1993; Elizabeth O'Donnell 1997; June McCarthy 2005; Thomas O'Neill 2005; Julia Manning 2009; Matthew (Mat) Brennan 2017; Christopher Knights 1971; Joseph Mulholland 1995; Martin Kelly 2003; Stephen Brannon 2005; Maureen Breweton 2006; Karoly Schmidt 2012; Kathleen Gallagher 2015; Baby Olivia Hope Broderick 2014; Patricia Marian MacDonald 2023; Dennis Danaher 1968; Kate Davies 1978; Agnes Blakey 1979; Elizabeth Tyson 1988; Reginald Flower 1989; Geoffrey O'Brien 1996; Dermott MacDonald 2001; Paul Gerrard Hope 2001; Bridget Gallagher 2001; Arthur McGhee 2019; Jane McNalty 1971; Bridget Early 1975; Leo William Clarke 2017; James Devlin 1966; Cyril Perry 1982; Elizabeth Hannan 2002; Edward Hendley 2006; Brigid Collard 2007; Barbara Lobo 2009; Margaret Mary Geraghty 2016; Brenda Eileen Ryan 2014; Gladys Wilkins 1972; Edward Molloy 1995; Charles Dephley 1998; Philip (Phil) Cusack 2016; Thomas (Tom) Richard Walker 2017 ✠ **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)