



Heart to Heart

Newsletter of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Luton – Registered Charity Number 234091
Province of Westminster, Diocese of Northampton, Deanery of St Alban

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT – Year C – Psalter Week 2 – 5th December 2021

Parish Priest: Fr Mirek Misiura
Parish Deacon: Rev James Bannan
Parish Secretary: Bernadette Horsted
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Parish Info: www.sacredheartluton.org
Diocesan Info: www.northamptondiocese.org

Parish Office: 01582 723099
Sacred Heart Primary School: 01582 730781
Cardinal Newman School: 01582 597125
L&D Hospital Chaplain: 01582 663706
Hospice Chaplain: 01582 502400
Pastoral Area Info: www.lutonpastoralarea.org
Redundancy Coaching Info: www.vitaeopus.co.uk

PARISH OFFICE: The Parish office is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday 10.00am until 12 Noon.

WEEKDAY MASSES: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at 9.30 am. Please check the weekly Newsletter for the Mass Intentions. There is an additional Mass on Wednesday at 7.30pm for the feast of The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

NEWSLETTERS: Newsletters are available this weekend. Please do not leave your copy in the Church.

Saturday 4 th	11.00am 6.30pm	Adoration, Rosary, Mass Mary Dolan RIP	St John Damascene
Sunday 5 th	9.00am 11.00am	Gerry Daly RIP Sr Anne Marie Samson RIP	SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT Bible Sunday
Monday 6 th			St Nicholas
Tuesday 7 th	9.30am	Larry McGrattan (Jnr) RIP	St Ambrose
Wednesday 8th	9.30am 7.30pm	William Gear RIP	IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF BVM Chief Patron of the Diocese
Thursday 9 th	9.30am	Judy & Wesley Weekes (Wedding Anniversary)	St Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin
Friday 10 th	9.30am	JohnJoe Wall RIP	Our Lady of Loreto
Saturday 11 th	6.30pm	Hugh Byrne RIP (1 st Anniversary)	St Damasus I

Entrance Antiphon	O People of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.
Psalm Response	What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.
Gospel Acclamation	Alleluia, alleluia! Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight, and all mankind shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!
Communion Antiphon	Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

Wednesday 9.30am & 7.30pm	THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
Entrance Antiphon	Rejoice heartily in the Lord, in my God is the joy of my soul; for he has clothed me with a robe of salvation, and wrapped me in a mantle of justice, like a bride adorned with her jewels.
Psalm Response	Sing a new song to the Lord for he has worked wonders.
Gospel Acclamation	Alleluia, alleluia! Hail, Mary, full of grace; the Lord is with thee! Blessed art thou among women. Alleluia!
Communion Antiphon	Glorious things are spoken of you, O Mary, for from you arose the sun of justice, Christ our God.

PATRONAL SOLEMNITY: IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY: Mass will be celebrated by Bishop David in the Cathedral at 12 Noon, Wednesday 8th December – all are welcome to attend.

SR ANNE MARIE SAMSON RIP: Please remember in your prayers Sr Anne Marie RIP who died recently. Many Parishioners will remember Sr Anne Marie who lived at the Convent of the Sisters of the Sacred Heart on Ashcroft Road and was one of the five sisters who taught in our Sacred Heart School and, of course, her beautiful singing and leadership of the church choir.

CHRISTMAS MASS FOR THOSE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS: will be held at St Joseph's Church, Gardenia Avenue, Luton on December 12th at 3.00pm. All are welcome. Contact Sean on 07930305362 for further details.

COVID 19 DIOCESAN ADVICE: The Diocese has provided the following advice to our Churches:

You will be aware of the recent press and updated Government Guidance to help slow the arrival and spread of the Omicron variant. That advice mainly relates to measures associated with arrivals into the country but it also highlights the importance of vaccination.

It is now a legal requirement to wear face coverings in shops and on public transport. In addition, those who have come into contact with an individual who may have been infected with the Omicron variant will need to self-isolate. This will apply even if you are fully-vaccinated or aged 18 or under. These temporary measures will be reviewed in 3 weeks' time.

Our guidance recommended the following sensible mitigations

- Holy Water stoups must not be filled.
- Hand sanitiser at entrances and exits
- Face coverings to be the norm for those in church
- General cleaning to a good standard, using commonly available cleaning fluids and detergents.
- Social distancing to be encouraged
- Designating area of the church where there will be greater social distancing, if possible,
- Using face coverings where there is any congregational singing
- Maintaining adequate ventilation in the church to minimise the opportunity for the virus to spread

Having reviewed these principles and mitigations we feel that they remain balanced and sensible, particularly in light of the arrival of the new variant and its uncertain impact. Please continue to keep safe. Do not attend Church if you have any symptoms of Covid 19.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: As we are not yet able to restart our sessions, we are setting up a small display in the church foyer for each Sunday of Advent. Please come and have a look and check out some ideas on how we can talk with our children about welcoming Our Lord at "Christ-Mass".

PREPARATION FOR BAPTISM: If you wish to have your child baptised in 2022 at Sacred Heart Church then please contact the Office in the first instance, by email, or speak to Deacon Jim after Sunday Mass. A Baptism Preparation Course Class **must be undertaken** before Baptism can go ahead.

The dates for Baptism Preparation Classes for 2022 are as follows:

Saturday 15th January 2022; Saturday 26th February 2022; Saturday 9th April 2022;

Saturday 21st May 2022; Saturday 2nd July 2022; Saturday 10th September 2022;

Saturday 22nd October; 2022; Saturday 3rd December 2022

All classes start promptly at 3.30pm. Please speak to Deacon Jim to book your place.

VOLUNTEERS/CATECHISTS REQUIRED: Parishioners – if you have time to spare then think about becoming a volunteer/Catechist. If interested please contact Fr Mirek or the Parish Office leaving your name, telephone number and/or email address.

CHRISTMAS DINNER 2021: Mary Maybury would like to invite those who will be on their own or unable to prepare a full Christmas Dinner to come and celebrate with others, to enjoy Christmas Dinner on Christmas Day, 25th December 2021 – 1.30pm to 5.00pm, at St John's R.C. Church Hall. Please contact Mary on 07866 989254 to book your place. Cost: Donations Only. Please see Noticeboard for further details.

MESSAGE OF THANKS FROM MARY'S MEALS: As we come together during Advent, we thank you for your faithful support in the year that we reached two million children every day. This incredible milestone has only been made possible by your prayers and generosity, as well as the commitment of our wonderful volunteers and staff around the world.

We hope you will continue to spread the word about our beautiful mission by watching and sharing this short film www.youtube.com/watch?v=llgBIXrVJzw with your friends and relatives, on your website or on social media. It features uplifting messages from Moses Kopurot, who manages our school feeding programme in South Sudan, and our executive director, Daniel Adams. Since the beginning, prayer has propelled our mission forward. And with more than 58 million primary-age children out of school around the world, we continue to pray in hope as we think of the next hungry child waiting for Mary's Meals.

A TIME TO LISTEN: Pope Francis has urged Catholic Bishops to collaborate with survivors of abuse to reform our church and society. Bishop David will listen to survivors and anyone affected by abuse on a bi-monthly basis or more frequently, depending on your request. Contact the safeguarding office on 01604 723514 or via the website at safeguarding@northamptondiocese.com

THE UNIVERSE CATHOLIC WEEKLY: New online newspaper. Order your digital copy by going to www.universecatholicweekly.co.uk or call Michelle 0743661 7650. Special offer: only £20 for 3 months.

LUTON FOODBANK: As Christmas approaches please remember those who are less fortunate and who struggle to provide for their families. Please place donations of food items (non-perishable) in the boxes in the Foyer. See the Noticeboard for a full list of items required.

LUTON DEANERY MARRIAGE COURSE: Saturday 26th February 2022 10.00am to 4.00pm at St. Joseph's Parish Centre. If you are planning to marry next year, please book your place by downloading a booking form at www.stjosephschurchluton.org.uk by Friday 18th February 2022.

MARY'S MEALS – DONATIONS: Until January every gift given to Mary's Meals will be **DOUBLED** by a group of generous supporters, up to £1.6m. This means a gift of just £15.90 will feed, not one, but two children, a life-changing daily school meal for a whole school year! Your kindness brings joy to more than two million children around the world – including those affected by natural disasters, conflict and the ongoing Covid pandemic. For more information, please visit www.marysmeals.org.uk. To send one of your loved ones a truly meaningful gift this Christmas, order online at <https://www.marysmeals.org.uk/gift-card-shop> or call 0800 698 1212.

VACANCIES – CARDINAL NEWMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL:

Part-time Science Technician – 29 hours per week. The closing date for applications is Thursday 9th December 2021 and interviews will take place week beginning 13th December 2021.

Part-time Food Technician. The closing date for applications is Thursday 9th December 2021 and interviews will take place on Wednesday 15th December 2021. Full details about these roles can be found on their website www.cardinalnewmanschool.net or via MyNewTerm www.mynewterm.com.

VACANCY - PARISH SECRETARY: Part Time 20 hours per week, working pattern Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Location: Our Lady Help of Christians Church, Luton. Start date: ASAP. This is a great opportunity to work in a parish environment for someone with proven administration, financial and secretarial experience. Full information and an application form can be found at <https://northamptondiocese.org/jobs/> or by email at hadmin@northamptondiocese.com. Applications should include an Application Form, CV and a covering Letter. The closing date for applications will be Friday 17th December 2021. Interview dates to be confirmed.

THE CATHOLIC NETWORK: As Catholic writers, editors and publishers, the Catholic Network team know the importance of good, relevant communication. Their mission is to spread the Good News and keep you in regular touch with Catholic concerns. Please support The Catholic Network by subscribing to their free weekly newsletter at www.thecatholicnetwork.co.uk

CARDINAL NEWMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL ADMISSION POLICY (SEPTEMBER 2023): St Thomas Catholic Academies Trust has updated the Cardinal Newman Catholic School Admission Policy (for admission in September 2023). The consultation period is now open until 31 December 2021. Details of the policy can be found on the Trust website (<https://www.stcat.co.uk/trust-governance/consultation/>). If you require a hard copy or have comments to make in regard to the proposed policy, please contact Maxine Gilmartin (consultation@stcat.co.uk, or by post to Maxine Gilmartin, St Thomas Catholic Academies Trust, c/o St Martin de Porres Catholic Primary School, Pastures Way, Luton, LU4 0PF).

NOAH WINTER APPEAL: As winter approaches, NOAH Enterprise's services and support become even more crucial for vulnerable people who are homeless and sleeping rough. This winter, with your help, NOAH hope to raise £10,000 to ensure that no one goes cold and hungry in Luton and Central Bedfordshire this year. Visit: www.noahenterprise.org/winter-appeal-2021/

WARM CLOTHING: Noah kindly requests donations of warm clothing for the predicted colder weather (particularly gloves, hats, scarves, jumpers, coats etc.) Please deliver directly to their Store Support Centre, 4a Power Court, Luton, LU1 3JJ – Monday to Friday 9.00am to 5.30pm

WINTER HEATING SMALL GRANT: Supported by the Bedfordshire and Luton Community Foundation, Luton Irish Forum will be making small grants to people who are having difficulty with their heating costs or need other small essential items. Anyone who is interested should call 01582 720 447 or email info@lutonirishforum.org

ANNIVERSARIES: Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: 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; Thomas Hunt 1992; Jean Van Develde 2002; Bill Land 2005; Lenos Moses Wilson 2014; James Walsh 1974; Hugh Devlin 1977; Vernon McLaughlin 1998; Nellie Hope 2009; Gerard (Gerry) McCarthy 2010; John Gannon 1972; Eileen Leahy 1983; Peter McCarron 1999; Gerrard West 1962; Mary Walker 1964; Andrew Smith 1988; Michael McHugh 1998; Jolan Mizsei 2004; Frank Nemeth 1998; Baby Keiden Lansangan 2017

✠ **May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.**