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 7th December 2025
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Psalter Week 2

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:	**In his days shall justice flourish, and great peace for ever.**

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

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

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 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 6TH December	5.45pm 6.00pm-6.20pm 6.30pm	Evening Prayer Confessions John Joe Wall & Bill Gear RIP	
Sunday 7th December **PARISH HALL**	8.30am 9.00am 11.00am **Teas and Coffees**	Morning Prayer Seamus McKenna RIP People of Our Parish	**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
Monday 8th December	9.30am	Josef Gois RIP	**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY Principal Patron of the Diocese**
Tuesday 9th December	9.30am **In Church 2.00pm**	Wedding Anniversary – Judy & Wes Weekes Sacred Heart Primary School Nativity	
Wednesday 10th December	9.30am	Augusta Nunes RIP & Pedro Gois RIP	
Thursday 11th December	9.30am **10am-12Noon**	Pat Browne RIP **THURSDAY CLUB**	
Friday 12th December	9.30am	Dylan Vas (Birthday Intention)	
Saturday 13th December	5.45pm 6.00pm-6.20pm 6.30pm	Evening Prayer Confessions Michael Gear RIP	**St Lucy, Virgin and Martyr**
Sunday 14th December **PARISH HALL**	8.30am 9.00am 11.00am **Teas and Coffees** **3.00pm**	Morning Prayer People of Our Parish Pat Brennan RIP (3rd Anniversary) **Bethany Mass**	**THIRD SUNDAY OF SUNDAY – GAUDETTE**

PARISH HALL: The Parish Hall is open after the Sunday 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-Friday 8.50am followed by Rosary – All welcome.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR DECEMBER: For Christians in areas of conflict. Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.

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: Please remember all who have died recently especially Mary Lawler and Brian Rowland (Father of Natalie Nilletti). Please keep Mary and Brian in your prayers and keep their families and friends in your thoughts and prayers at this very sad and difficult time.

FIRST ANNIVERSARY: JEAN COMERFORD RIP: Please remember Jean in your prayers as her family gather at Sacred Heart this weekend to lovingly honour Jean on her first anniversary. Please keep Jean's family and friends in your thoughts and prayers at this difficult time.

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!
Thursday Club Christmas Dinner Thursday 18th December – members old and new 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).

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL: Our Lady Help of Christians on the **6th December 10.00am-4.00pm and Sunday 7th December 2.00pm-4.00pm**. Saturday – hear the choirs. Sunday, have a picture with Santa. £2.00 entry – proceeds will support the work of Noah and the Luton Food Bank. See Poster.

CARDINAL NEWMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL CAROL SERVICE: Monday 8th December from 7.00pm-8.00pm in the school hall. All very welcome. Please use the following link to book a free ticket:- **https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/cardinal-newman-carol-service-2025-tickets-1975790155542?aff=oddtdtcreator**

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY: You are warmly invited to the celebration of the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, our diocesan Co-patron, with a **Midday Mass at the Cathedral on Monday, 8th December.**
This feast is an important moment in our diocesan calendar, giving us the opportunity to honour Our Lady and unite as a diocesan family in prayer. Your presence would be most welcome as we gather in gratitude and joy under the patronage of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

BETHANY MASS: Sunday 14th December at 3.00pm. Refreshments in the Hall afterwards. All welcome!

VACANCY PARISH SECRETARY: Parish Secretary to provide administration support to the parish of St Margaret of Scotland, Luton. The role will be for 7 hours per week, ideally worked Tuesday and Friday. Flexible working pattern to be agreed.
Full information for the position and an application form can be found by visiting **https://northamptondiocese.org/jobs**
All candidates should complete a Diocesan application form and email it to: **hr.admin@northamptondiocese.org** This vacancy remains open until the position is filled.

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

CONGRATULATIONS: To Judy & Wesley Weekes as they celebrate their 58th Wedding Anniversary. Thank you for all that you both do for our Parish.

ONLINE ADVENT RETREAT: MONDAY 8TH DECEMBER, 7.30PM: Disrupted by Grace, week 3, Dr Avril Baigent will be joined by Fr Matt Blake who will continue exploring Jesus' more disreputable ancestors. Fr Matt Blake, a Discalced Carmelite priest, will be unpacking the story of Ruth for us whilst exploring the presence of grace in our lives. To register, visit: **https://northamptondiocese.org/grace/**

NOAH BLUE BINS: Please note NOAH Blue Bins will be available to accept donations at Sacred Heart next weekend **13th/14th December**. Please donate your good quality, preloved items to help others in need.

CHRISTMAS TREE/CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS: Volunteers required to dress the Christmas tree and decorate the Church after the 9.30am Mass on Monday 15th December. Please speak to Maurice or Wesley.

LUTON FOODBANK: Please take a moment to read the Luton Foodbank November 2025 Newsletter **https://lutonfoodbank.org.uk/luton-foodbank-newsletter-november-2025/**
It includes important updates about: The rise in people needing food support; Christmas appeals, including Luton Smiles and the Reverse Advent Calendar; Support available such as the Food Club and the Essential Skills Course.
One way in which you can help is to join the Reverse Advent Calendar. (Copies available in the Foyer.)

MINISTERS OF THE WORD AND EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS: CHRISTMAS MASSES: Can Ministers please sign the sign-up form in the Foyer to show availability to minister at the four Christmas Masses? Thank you.

PARISH WEEKLY COLLECTION: Figures for w/e 30th November 2025 Loose cash £352.04; Envelopes £602.00; Total: £954.04 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/**

CHRISTMAS DINNER 2025: Mary Maybury would like to invite those on their own or unable to prepare a full Christmas Dinner to a 4 course Christmas Dinner at:
St John's RC Church Hall LU3 3AL on Christmas Day, Thursday 25th December, 1.30pm-5.00pm. Cost: Donations only. Transport will be provided if there are enough volunteers who can provide transport. **Please contact Mary on 07866 989254 to book your place.**

DOUBLE YOUR LOVE FOR MARY'S MEALS THIS CHRISTMAS! Donations made to Mary's Meals will be **doubled** by a group of generous supporters, up to £1.1 million! This means your kindness will go even further and Mary's Meals can reach even more hungry children with a life-changing school meal. Millions of children are still waiting for Mary's Meals, unable to go to school because of poverty and hunger. Those that do attend are often too hungry to learn. With your support, more and more children will wake each morning knowing they will eat a good meal today – and have hope for a brighter tomorrow. It costs just £19.15 to feed a child with Mary's Meals every day for a school year. Double The Love, a donation of **£19.15** will feed **two children**. Together, through Double The Love, we can turn hunger into hope for many more desperately hungry children waiting for Mary's Meals. Visit: **https://www.marysmeals.org.uk/campaigns/double-the-love**

SUPPORTING THE JUBILEE FOR PRISONERS – A CALL TO ACTION: In the lead-up to the Jubilee for Prisoners on 14th December, Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN) is delighted to share a new Call to Action Guide, developed in response to last year's Bishops' Conference publication *Remember Me*, which explores the realities of the criminal justice system in the UK. Documents can be found here **https://www.csan.org.uk/news/responding-to-remember-me-a-call-to-prayer-reflection-and-action/** The *Remember Me* Call to Action guide is designed to empower parishes and individuals to discern practical ways to support people with convictions and the wider communities affected by the criminal justice system. It includes a variety of practical ideas and suggestions to help each parish respond to this important call to accompany and support those in need.

CROWN OF ADVENT NOVENA: A reminder that the Crown of Advent Novena begins on 17th December. This beautiful nine-day devotion invites us to prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ through Scripture, prayer, and reflection on the themes of the Advent wreath.
This is an opportunity for individuals and families to unite in prayer during these days of hopeful expectation. More information: **www.northamptondiocese.org/advent-novena/**

CHRISTMAS JUMPER SUNDAY: Enter the **Christmas Jumper Competition** – four age categories: **KS1 and under; KS2; Secondary Education; Adult. £1 to enter.** First prize and runner up prize for each category! Come and join in the Christmas fun in the Parish Hall **after the 11.00am Mass on Sunday 21st December.**

THE COMMUNITY OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM: Seeks help to purchase a property to accommodate their growing community and further their apostolates of prayer, parish missions, hospitality, chaplaincy and youth work. Any amount, large or small is greatly appreciated and the community assure you of their prayers. Cheques payable to COLW can be sent to *House of the Divine Will,* **Neatherd Moor, Dereham, NR20 4AZ. More information, as well as the option to donate online, can be found at: www.maryshouseappeal.org E: office@walsinghamcommunity.org T: 01362 692574**

VACANCY – EXAM INVIGILATOR - CARDINAL NEWMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL: Exam Invigilators are required to supplement an experienced and committed team of public examination invigilators. This team invigilate public examinations at GCSE and GCE (Advanced) Level and are required to be available primarily during May and June but also at other examination periods throughout the year. Working hours are flexible. Morning sessions begin at 08:30am and afternoon sessions may not end until 5.00pm. For more information and to apply, please see our My New Term webpage **https://mynewterm.com/jobs/142310/EDV-2025-CNCSSSC-91753**

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED: As from January 2026 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!**

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**

LUX: 13th -15th February 2026, Kings Park Centre, Northampton.
Who: Ages 11-18 (school years 7-13) How much? £110
If you've not heard about it before, LUX is our diocesan residential weekend for teens that happens in February every year. It's for those in school years 7 – 13 and is a weekend packed with activity. Every year we explore a theme through workshops, dramas, music, worship, Mass, prayer times, games, inputs, and time with friends. This year's theme is Belong.
Visit nymo.org/lux-belong-2026/ or email NYMO@northamptondiocese.com to find out more.

RIP ANNIVERSARIES: Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Francis Beirne 1982; Frederick Stockley 1991; Bridget Toomey 1997; Bridget Burke 2001; Thomas Hennessy 2002; Jean Van Develde 2002; Bill Land 2005; Lenos Moses Wilson 2014; James Walsh 1974; Hugh Devlin 1977; Thomas Hunt 1992; Vernon McLaughlin 1998; Nellie Hope 2009; Gerard (Gerry) McCarthy 2010; Jean Comerford 2024; 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; Mary Kinnane 1959; Charles Gauron 1976; William Fleming 1977; Baby Nicola Lemmon 1987; Martin McDonald 1997; Patricia Gallagher 2013; Baby Michelle Coleman 1981; John MacGuire 1984 ✠ **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 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)