



Heart to Heart

Newsletter of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Luton
Diocese of Northampton, Deanery of St Alban

Year B - Sunday 17th December 2023

Third Sunday of Advent

Responsorial Psalm: My soul rejoices in my God.

Parish Priest: Rev Fr Allan R. Jones, CRIC

Assistant Parish Priest: Rev Dr James M. Cassidy, CRIC

Parish Deacon: Rev James Bannan

Parish Secretary: Bernadette Horsted

Email: parish.sacredheartofjesus@northamptondiocese.org

Address: 148 Ashcroft Road, Stopsley, Luton, Beds., LU2 9AY

Parish Hall: hall.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 663706

Hospice Chaplain: 01582 502400

Parish Info: www.sacredheartluton.org

Diocesan Info: www.northamptondiocese.org

Pastoral Area Info: www.lutonpastoralarea.org

Registered Charity Number: 234091

PARISH OFFICE: Open Monday, Wednesday and Friday this week from 10.00am until 12 Noon. When leaving a voicemail message please state the date and provide a contact number.

TUESDAY 19th DECEMBER: Please note Mass will commence at **9.15am** and not 9.30am.

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| Saturday 16 th December | 11.00am 5.45pm 6.30pm | Confession Evening Prayer Deceased Members of Gois Family RIP | |
| Sunday 17 th December | 8.15am 9.00am 11.00am | Morning Prayer People of Our Parish Michael Gear RIP Christmas Jumper Competition | THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT GAUDETE |
| Monday 18 th December | 9.30am HOLY GHOST CHURCH 7.00pm | Mary Sweeney RIP ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICE | |
| Tuesday 19 th December | 9.15am 10.00am | Wendy Butler RIP Funeral Service: Thomas Rogan | |
| Wednesday 20 th December | 9.30am | James & Gertrude Carberry RIP | |
| Thursday 21 st December | 9.30am | Davide Nilletti RIP | |
| Friday 22 nd December | 9.30am | Bill MacManus RIP | |
| Saturday 23 rd December | 11.00am 5.45pm 6.30pm | Confession Evening Prayer People of Our Parish | |
| Sunday 24 th December | 8.15am 9.00am 11.00am 6.30pm 9.30pm 10.00pm | Morning Prayer Bill MacManus RIP Pat Brennan RIP Day of Prayer for Expectant Mothers Liam & Lisa Doran RIP Marie Fox RIP (10th Anniversary) | FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT |
| Monday 25 th December | 9.00am CHRISTMAS DAY 11.00am | People of Our Parish Sinead O'Sullivan RIP (1 st Anniversary) | SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF JESUS CHRIST |

PARISH HALL: Mulled wine and mince pies, teas and Coffees available after Sunday 11.00am Mass 17th December for the Christmas Jumper Competition (£1 entry fee). All welcome! The Hall will be closed on Sunday 24th December.

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR DECEMBER: For persons with disabilities: We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

THURSDAY CLUB: The Thursday Club is closed this week and will reopen on 4th January 2024. We look forward to welcoming you all back in the New Year. Thank you to all the volunteers who give their time so generously to the Thursday Club.

RIP: Please pray for all those who have died recently especially Thomas Rogan and John Walsh. Please keep Thomas, John, their families and friends in your thoughts and prayers at this very difficult and sad time.

MARGARET BOWES RIP: (Former parishioner of Sacred Heart Church), Margaret's daughter Susan has informed the Parish that Margaret's funeral will take place on Monday 18th December, Our Lady Immaculate Church, Chelmsford. The church has a 24-hour live webcam feed. Open YouTube, type in the name of the church - Our Lady Immaculate Chelmsford. Further information is available on the funeral director's website: www.mluckingandsons.co.uk/donations.

KATE 'KITTY' KEHOE RIP: Kitty'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 Kitty. Mass at 11.00am will be offered in thanksgiving for your intentions on Sunday 4th February 2024.

SAFEGUARDING: Bishop David Oakley is available to meet with anyone affected by abuse, as a victim, survivor, their families or supporters, where private discussions can take place in a safe and non-judgmental environment. Contact safeguarding office on 01604 723514 or email safeguarding@northamptondiocese.org

CARITAS - LOVE CHRISTMAS CAMPAIGN 2023: Thank you to all who generously donated. The gifts have now been collected and will be distributed to those most in need.

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED: To dress the Parish Christmas Tree on Monday 18th December 2023 after the 9.30am Mass. Please speak to Maurice if you are able to help.

ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICE: Monday 18th December, 7.00pm at Holy Ghost, 33 Westbourne Road, Luton LU4 8JD

ONLINE ADVENT RETREAT: Week 4, Monday 18th December, 7.30-8.30pm. Our online Advent Retreat this year is "**Let the Wilderness Bloom!**" Join Fr John Udris and Avril Baigent to explore the desert life of John the Baptist. This week's theme is vulnerability: how our faith grows the more we learn to rely on God. Join us live on Monday evening or access the recording at a more convenient time. Register: <https://pastoralministryoffice.org/bloom/>

PRAYER GROUP: Please note the Prayer Group will not be meeting on Tuesday 19th December or Tuesday 26th December.

CRIB COLLECTION 2023: Our Crib Collection this year will be for Friends of the Holy Land. Friends of the Holy Land is uniquely placed as a registered charity in the Holy Land and can quickly meet families' urgent needs in the West Bank, Gaza, East Jerusalem and Israel.

CHRISTMAS DINNER: Mary Maybury would like to invite those of you who will be on their own or unable to prepare a full Christmas Dinner to come and celebrate and enjoy a 4 Course Christmas Dinner with others at St John's R.C. Church Hall, 296 Sundon Park Road, Luton, LU3 3AL on Christmas Day at 1:30pm to 5pm. Cost: Donations Only. (Transport will be provided if there are enough volunteers who can provide transport.) Volunteers are also required. Please contact Mary Maybury 07866 989254 to book your place or volunteer. If you would like to donate financially to this great cause then please drop your donation to Sacred Heart Parish Office. (Poster on the Noticeboard.)

URGENT REQUEST FOR WINTER COATS: Luton currently has 900+ asylum seekers/refugees. There is an urgent need as winter sets in for good quality coats suitable for men aged 20-40 years. Please leave donated coats in the Foyer in the box marked 'Winter Coats'.

EXAM INVIGILATORS: Cardinal Newman Catholic School are looking to recruit Exam Invigilators to supplement their experienced and committed team. The team invigilate exams primarily during May and June but also at other examination periods throughout the school year. Working hours are flexible. For an informal chat about the role of an exam invigilator please contact the Exams Manager on 01582 597125.

LUX.DIVE RESIDENTIAL WEEKEND: LUX is a residential weekend for those in Year's 7-13, Friday 9th-Sunday 11th February 2024 at Kings Park Conference Centre, Northampton. The cost is £125.00 and this includes accommodation, all meals and activities over the weekend. There will be the usual mix of fun, games, prayer, Mass and the chance to meet other young people who want to explore their faith too. Visit Lux Dive – NYMO to book online and pay the non-refundable deposit of £50.00 to secure their place (or full payment if you wish). The remainder will be due by Friday 12th January 2024 but if this is an issue, this can be organised to be paid in instalments past this date.

CAFOD: Thank all parishioners at Sacred Heart for their generous support to CAFOD this year and for the latest donation of £649.59 received by CAFOD on the 5th December.

ANNIVERSARIES: Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:
Emelia Ceresale 1975; John Morrissey 1983; Mary McCaffrey 1996; Patrick (Pat) Brennan 2021;
Barry Shakeshaft 1986; Patrick Joseph Sweeney 2015; Lilian Vinzon Kightley 2015;
Nelson Weeden 1980; Pietro de Lucia 1984; Patrick Savage 1978; John O'Hara 1982;
Stephen Leahy 1989; Antony Giugno 1998; Catherine McGhee 2014;
Margaret Rose Ann Holyland 2019; Michael McIntyre 1974; Helena Richards 1978;
Kathleen Simms 1980; Alicia Sconcia 2018; John Dowling 1970; Thomas Donovan 1970;
Lavinia Collard 1973; John McNama 1988; Alicia McCafferty 1999; Davide Nilletti 2007;
Noreen Wallace 2016; Margaret Manley 2022; Isabel Hill 1963; Stanley McCaulsky 2004
✠ **May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.**