Heart to Heart

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

Year C - Sunday 15th December 2024
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:	**Shout aloud and sing praise, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.**

Parish Priest: Rev Fr Allan R. Jones, CRIC, M.A., MTh.
Parish Deacon: Rev James Bannan
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: 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

Saturday 14th December	5.45pm 6.00pm - 6.20pm 6.30pm	Evening Prayer Confessions Mary Moynihan RIP (1st Anniversary)	**St John of the Cross, Priest, Doctor of the Church**
Sunday 15th December	8.30am 9.00am 11.00am **3.00pm**	Morning Prayer People of Our Parish Michael Gear RIP **Bethany Group Mass**	**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
Monday 16th December	9.30am **11.15am**	Arthur McNaughton RIP **Anna Demeter burial at The Vale**	
Tuesday 17th December	**10.00am**	**REQIUEM:** **Giuseppe Gristina RIP**	
Wednesday 18th December	**11.00am**	**REQUIEM:** **Kathleen Teresa (Tess) Hurley RIP**	
Thursday 19th December	9.30am	Nicola Burke RIP	
Friday 20th December	9.30am	Andrew Alphonsus Carlton RIP	
Saturday 21st December	5.45pm 6.00pm - 6.20pm 6.30pm	Evening Prayer Confessions Davide Nilletti RIP	
Sunday 22nd December	8.30am 9.00am 11.00am	Morning Prayer People of Our Parish Liam Doran RIP and Lisa Doran RIP	**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

MASS INTENTIONS: Mass intentions sometimes have to be moved due to unforeseen circumstances, such as funerals. Mass Intentions will be honoured on alternative dates. Please leave a contact number when requesting intentions and check the weekly Newsletter. There will be no 9.30am morning Mass on Tuesday **17th December** or Wednesday **18th December**.

CONFESSION: Confessions are available 6.00pm - 6.20pm every Saturday or by appointment.

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 email the Parish Office.

COLUMBANS LAUNCH 2025 SCHOOLS COMPETITION - JUBILEE: PILGRIMS OF HOPE:
Competition welcomes both written and image entries until 7th February 2025, winners being announced on10th March 2025. Cash prizes – first prize £300 – competition open to 13–18-year-old students. More information available on Columban Competition website – **https://www.columbancompetition.com**

PARISH WEEKLY COLLECTION: Figures for w/e **8th December 2024** - Envelopes: £674.20; Loose cash: £380.78; Total: £1,054.98. Thank you. As many already do, you can Gift Aid donation, enabling us to claim from the government an extra 25p for every £1 you donate at no extra cost to you. You can also donate by card via the DONA Machine in the church.

NOVENA MASSES 'SIMBANG GABI' – The Filipino Community at St Martin de Porres RC Church, Luton invites you to attend their traditional 9 days of Novena Masses of Advent - "Simbang Gabi" **15th - 23rd December at 7.30pm**. There will be a fellowship/Christmas party on the last day of the Novena Masses on 23rd December. Please bring food and drinks to share.

SAFEGUARDING: Bishop David Oakley is available to meet in private discussion in a safe environment with anyone affected by abuse and their families or supporters by contacting safeguarding office on 01604 723514 or email **safeguarding@northamptondiocese.org**

CHRISTMAS JUMPER SUNDAY: Our annual Christmas Jumper Sunday will be **22nd December** at the 11.00am Mass. Fr Allan will be judging the winning jumper after Mass in the Parish Hall.

CAFOD JUBILEE ONLINE SESSION 18th January 2025: All are welcome to join from 10.30am to Noon at **https://cafod.org.uk/pray/prayer-resources/jubilee-reflection-guide** for an introduction to the Jubilee Year with Fr Jan Nowotnik, Director of Mission for the Catholic Bishop's Conference, Christine Allen, CAFOD Director, Kayode Akintola, CAFOD's Head of Africa Programmes and featuring a special song by Catholic Group Ooberfuse. Hear about the Jubilee year, how we can celebrate as a global and national Church and how we can be tangible signs of hope and build a better world together during this holy year.

ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICE: 7.00pm on Monday **16th December** at Holy Ghost Church, 33 Westbourne Road, Luton, LU4 8JD.

RIP: Please remember all who have died recently, especially Walter Leu, Catherine O'Reilly, Nicola Burke, Teresa Hurley, Giuseppe Gristina and Anna Demeter. Please keep them, their families and their friends in your thoughts and prayers.

FORTHCOMING FUNERAL DETAILS:
Anna Demeter RIP, Graveside Service - 11.15am Monday **16th December** - The Vale.
Giuseppe Gristina RIP, REQUIEM - 10.00am Tuesday **17th December** - Sacred Heart
Kathleen Teresa Hurley RIP, REQUIEM - 11.00am Wednesday **18th December** - Sacred Heart

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR DECEMBER - FOR PILGRIMS OF HOPE: We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthens our faith, helping us to recognise the Risen Christ in our daily lives and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

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PRIMARY SCHOOL ADMISSIONS POLICY: The consultation period for St Thomas Catholic Academies Trust's proposed updated Primary School Admission Policy for admissions in **September 2026** is open until **31 December 2024.** It affects five local Catholic primary schools: Sacred Heart, St Margaret of Scotland, St Martin de Porres, St Mary's and St Vincent's. Policy details can be found at **https://www.stcat.co.uk/trust-governance/consultation/**. If you want a hard copy or have comments to make regarding the proposed policy, please contact Maxine Gilmartin at **consultation@stcat.co.uk** or by post at St Thomas Catholic Academies Trust, c/o St Martin de Porres Catholic Primary School, Pastures Way, Luton, LU4 0PF.

CHRISTMAS CRIB: The Christmas crib collection this year will go to 'Embrace', a Christian development charity tackling poverty and injustice in the Middle East. For more information go to Embrace's website **https://embraceme.org/** The crib will be up from around the **16th December** until **2nd February**.

SACRED HEART PARISH THURSDAY CLUB CHRISTMAS DINNER: Please join us on Thursday **19th December** at 12.00pm Noon for the Thursday Club free Christmas Dinner after the usual 10.00am tea and bingo session. All members, old and new, are very welcome.

BETHANY GROUP MASS: Mass for those with special needs and their families, Sunday **15th December** at 3.00pm at Sacred Heart. Refreshments will be provided in the Parish Hall after Mass. New families always welcome.

REMEMBER ME: A CATHOLIC APPROACH TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE: 'Remember Me' is a document on criminal justice by the Department for Social Justice of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, exploring contemporary issues of criminal justice in the light of Catholic social teaching. For more go to **https://www.cbcew.org.uk/remember-me/**

BECOMING A TEACHER: If you are interested in training to become a teacher, St Thomas Catholic Academies Trust is hosting a series of open mornings in December and January for you to find out all about their Train to Teach programme starting in **September 2025**. To find out more and to book a place at an open morning, visit **www.stcat.co.uk/become-a-teacher**

NYMO YOUTH MINISTRY - FLAME 2025: Flame 2025 will be on **15th March 2025** at the OVO Arena, Wembley for people aged 14 - 25. The bookings and tickets for Flame 2025 are now live on the NMYO website **nymo.org/flame-2025.** There are 2 options for buying tickets: entrance only tickets (£29) or entrance + transport tickets (£48). There are a limited number of these early bird tickets available and once they are all sold, prices will increase to £31 for entrance tickets, and £50 for entrance + transport. To secure your places you will need to both submit a booking form and purchase tickets. Transport pick-up points will be: Northampton, Milton Keynes, Aylesbury, Luton, Slough, and High Wycombe. To find out more contact **NYMO.admin@northamtondiocese.com**.

YOUTHSCAPE JOB VACANCIES: For further information and to apply for either of these roles, contact Gemma Milligan, Head of Luton Youth Work, at **gemma.milligan@youthscape.co.uk** Closing date for applications is Noon on **Friday 20th December 2024**. See poster for more info.
COMPASS PROJECT SESSIONAL WORKER: To support the Compass project for young people in Year 9 at risk of disengaging from education.
FOOTBALL PROJECT SESSIONAL WORKER: To support the Football project for young people in Years 7-8.

SIMBANG GABI NINE DAY NOVENA MASSES IN PREARATION FOR CHRISTMAS: At 7.30pm between **15th and 23rd December** at St Martin de Porres Church (LU4 0NG). Everyone's Invited Fellowship and Christmas Party will just be on the last of the Novena Mass on **23rd December**. Please bring food and drinks to share

PEACE LIGHT SERVICE: There will be a multi-faith event to welcome and distribute the Light from Bethlehem to promote peace throughout Luton at 7.30pm on **17th December** at All Saint Church, Shaftsbury Avenue Luton LU4 8AH.

DIOCESAN LEADERSHIP COURSE: The Diocese is offering a year-long leadership training course beginning in **January 2025**, called the Bethsaida Leadership Course for any formal or informal leaders in parishes to build confidence to take a lead with Parish activities. For more info go to **https://northamptondiocese.org/courses/bethsaida-leadership-course/**.

HOLY GHOST PARISH RORATE MASS: A candlelight Mass in honour of Our Lady at 6.30am on Friday **20th December**.

LUX 2025: LUX is an annual residential weekend for young people aged 11 - 18yrs. In 2025 it will take place **5th - 7th February** at Sion Catholic Community, Brentwood. The theme for LUX this year is Hope in-line with the theme for the Jubilee year, exploring what Hope means for young people today, using the life and travel of St. Paul to guide us. Bookings are now live on the NYMO website **https://nymo.org/lux-hope-2025/**. Included in the cost is accommodation, food, and social activities (e.g. high ropes, inflatable obstacle courses etc). We have a maximum capacity of 60 this year, so make sure you book sooner rather than later to avoid missing out. Contact **NYMO.admin@northamtondiocese.com** to find out more.

ANNIVERSARIES: Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:
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; Charles Graham 1964; Colin Reynolds 1968; Catherine Higgins 1989;
Frances Edmunds 1995; Mary Murray 2001; Margaret O'Riley 2002; .
✠ **May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.**

ST THOMAS CATHOLIC ACADEMIES TRUST STAFF VACANCIES: Please pass on the information below concerning job vacancies at STCAT to anyone who you feel may be interested in an attractive and motivational opportunity to work within our family of local Catholic schools.

www.stcat.co.uk

LOOKING FOR A GREAT SCHOOL FOR YOUR CHILD? LOOKING FOR A GREAT JOB FOR YOUR FUTURE?

The St Thomas Catholic Academies Trust serves 17 schools across the south of the diocese of Northampton. Our mission is to ensure our schools are places where children flourish - places of excellence where they are truly loved. If you are looking for a place for your child next year or you are new to the area, your local family of Catholic schools is the only choice! Follow the Our Schools QR code to find out about the schools in your area and take time to pay them a visit.

Our Schools

The best schools in the country have deep roots to their community. We would love to see people from your parish join our team and you can see our live vacancies on our Trust website at any time. We will be advertising five posts with great opportunity in the near future:

- 2 x Area Estates Managers - based in Slough and Luton
- 2 x School Account Managers - based in Buckinghamshire and Luton
- 1 x Trust Finance Manager - based in Luton

Trust vacancies

We would love you to contact us for a chat about these roles, call 01582 361600 or email admin@stcat.co.uk.
By joining us you will further play your part in spreading the good news of Jesus to a new generation.

Pray for us

Our schools will be strengthened through your prayers. It takes a village to raise a child and our village is defined by Parish - Home - School. May our patron, St Thomas of Canterbury, watch over us and inspire us. St Thomas, PRAY FOR US!

CASPAR PARISH REGISTRATION: From **1st January 2025** all parishes in our diocese can only use the CASPAR system to retain parishioner details. If you have not done so already, please go to **www.caspar.church/me?ID=56040** or use the QR code (on the right) to register. Alternatively, if you do not have the necessary technology or knowhow, please feel free to contact the parish office to have your registration completed on your behalf.