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 23rd March 2025
THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:	**The Lord is compassionate and gracious.**

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

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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 663706
Hospice Chaplain: 01582 502400

Saturday 22nd March	5.45pm 6.00pm - 6.20pm 6.30pm	Evening Prayer Confessions Billy O'Reilly RIP	
Sunday 23rd March **Parish Lounge**	8.30am 9.00am 11.00am	Morning Prayer Holy Souls People of Our Parish **A SYNODAL CHURCH – LISTENING PROCESS**	**THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT**
Monday 24th March	**NO MASS**		
Tuesday 25th March	**NO MASS**		**THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD**
Wednesday 26th March	**NO MASS**		
Thursday 27th March	**NO MASS** **10.00am-12 Noon**	 **Thursday Club**	
Friday 28th March	**NO MASS** **7.00pm**	 **STATIONS OF THE CROSS**	
Saturday 29th March	5.45pm 6.00pm - 6.20pm 6.30pm	Evening Prayer Confessions Teresa While RIP	
Sunday 30th March	8.30am 9.00am 11.00am	Morning Prayer People of Our Parish Eileen Howell RIP	**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

PARISH HALL: Teas and coffees available after Sunday 11.00am Mass. All are welcome!

MASS INTENTIONS: Mass intentions moved for unforeseen reasons (e.g. funerals) will be honoured on another day. Please include contact details when requesting intentions and check the weekly newsletters.

RIP: Please remember all who have died recently especially James O'Donoghue and Simon Comerford (son of the late Jean Comerford). Please keep James, Simon their families and friends in your thoughts and prayers at this difficult time.

FUNERAL DETAILS: Simon William Comerford RIP, Requiem 11.30am Wednesday **9th April** at Sacred Heart.

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. **All Extraordinary Ministers taking Communion to the sick speak to Deacon Jim before or after Mass please.**
ppointment.

POPE FRANCIS: Please continue to pray for Pope Francis, entrusting him to the healing mercy of our loving Father.

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR MARCH: For families in crisis
Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Throughout Lent there will be Stations of the Cross **every Friday at 7.00pm** led by Deacon Jim. All welcome to attend.

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

BISHOP DAVID OAKLEY: Special thanks to Bishop David for recently celebrating the Bethany Mass. Thank you to all those who attended and to those who prepared and served refreshments afterwards. The next Bethany Mass will take place in May.

MILAGROS GUBAN OSEO 'MILA': Please remember Mila in your prayers and keep her family and friends in your thoughts and prayers as they lovingly honour her on the first anniversary of her death.

SECOND COLLECTION: NATIONAL JUBILEE 2025 COLLECTION FOR NATIONAL SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM. The Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales have approved a special National Collection, to take place in parishes across England this weekend **22nd/23rd March.** This is dedicated to supporting the Jubilee initiatives and projects at the Catholic National Shrine and Basilica of Our Lady of Walsingham. These initiatives aim to enhance the Jubilee pilgrim experience and further the spiritual mission of the Shrine.

LENTEN RETREAT: Led by Fr Sunday Ikpe OSA – 28th-30th March 'Hope in the Wilderness: Discovering God's Presence in Times of Trial.' (See Poster on the Noticeboard.)
Bookings and more information: walsingham.org.uk/our-retreats or telephone 01328 820217

PARISH MAINTENANCE: Financial support to maintain our Church is desperately required to keep our Church, property and equipment in good condition, safe and presentable. The sound system is a major concern at the moment so any donations would be gratefully received to help upgrade the system. **Please consider to gift aid your donations.** Ideas to raise money within the Parish? Please email 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!

SAFEGUARDING: Bishop David Oakley is available to meet anyone affected by abuse via the safeguarding office 01604 723514 or by email **safeguarding@northamptondiocese.org**

VOLUNTEERS: For several weeks we have been asking for volunteers to help in any way in our Church – please think carefully about how **you** might be able to help. If you can spare some time and are happy to volunteer to help this Parish flourish – please do so. Please speak to Fr Allan after Mass or email the Parish Office. There are so many opportunities (reading, cleaning, DIY, grounds/gardening, Repository, Hall – teas/coffees etc.) in which you can offer to help within the Parish - a few minutes or even an hour, all help is appreciated. **Without volunteers our future looks bleak!**

PARISH LENTEN PROJECT FOR 2025: Every child coming out of a Catholic school should have a good grounding and knowledge of the Scriptures. As a Parish our Lenten Project will raise money for Bibles for Sacred Heart Primary School.

ENVELOPES 2025/26: Planned Giving Envelopes will be distributed before and after each Mass on: Weekend of Sunday **23rd March 2025**; Weekend of Sunday **30th March 2025**. The envelopes should not be used before the weekend of **6th April 2025**. Please see poster on the Noticeboard for further information or contact Wesley Weekes, Parish Gift Aid Co-ordinator (01582 738569).

A SYNODAL CHURCH: LISTENING PROCESS: Bishop David has asked us to reflect on our life as flourishing Catholic communities, now and into the future, thinking about these questions:
What is good about our Catholic communities currently?
What are the needs in our local area?
How do we work together to seize new opportunities?
All parishioners are invited to join in the conversation this weekend on **Sunday 23rd March** (after the 11.00am Mass) in the **Parish Lounge**. Your thoughts and opinions are important – all welcome!

PARISH WEEKLY COLLECTION: Week ending **16th March 2025** Loose cash £385.18; Envelopes £589.24; Total £974.42 Thank you. If you Gift Aid donations, we can claim an extra 25% at no extra cost to you.

CARITAS SOCIAL ACTION NETWORK (CSAN): Is conducting a survey to understand the impact of the two-child benefit cap and the current economic climate on Catholic families in England and Wales. Please share your experience by completing the survey, which can be accessed at **csan.org.uk/news/familysurvey** The survey will close on **25th March**.

INTERESTED IN TRAINING TO BE A TEACHER? St Thomas Catholic Academies Trust are running a series of open mornings where you can find out what is involved in our training programme and progress your application for **September 2025**. To book your place, go to **www.stcat.co.uk/become-a-teacher/open-mornings/**

KHAYAAL THEATRE: Sufi Tales, at The Quaker Meeting House, 28 Crawley Green Road, Luton LU2 0QX on **Saturday 5th April at 3.00pm**. Cost £7 per person, on the door, with contributions of food most welcome. The afternoon will begin with performances of the tales. There will be a shared food break at 4.00pm. Luqman Ali, Director, will speak about the meaning of the stories in terms of Sufi beliefs and values, leading to a discussion about possible parallels with other faiths, with an emphasis on social and environmental justice. A short further performance will provide a finale. All welcome.

LUTON COVID MEMORIAL SERVICE: Sunday **6th April**, 3.00pm at Newland Church, Crawley Green Road, LU2 9TE. Share stories of our loved ones lost to Covid, over tea and cake.

LUTON FOODBANK: Help all who need food assistance and support with problems during a crisis. This year for the first time they have developed a Lent Challenge, which suggests parishioners might like to donate food or funds to support those in need in Luton. See Poster on Noticeboard to raise awareness of this campaign.

SVP AND CAFOD WORK EXPERIENCE: The St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) and CAFOD are collaborating to offer a week of free residential work experience for 20 young adults in England and Wales. The program will run from **22nd to 27th June** in London. Candidates must have completed their first or second year at university and have a passion for social justice. Applications close on 20th April. For any queries, please contact **KeziaH@svp.org.uk.** More details and the application form can be found here:
https://svp1.formstack.com/forms/work_experience_application_form_2025WEEKLY PLANNED GIVING

DIVINE MERCY RETREAT: The Divine Mercy Apostolate, London is holding a Preparation for Divine Mercy Sunday Retreat at Aylesford Priory, Aylesford, Kent on Saturday **26th April 2025** from 10.00am to 4:30pm. The retreat will include teachings on the Message of Divine Mercy, Holy Mass, Hour of Mercy with Stations of the Cross, Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All welcome. Call Millie on 07957594646 for more information. Coaches from Slough, Ealing Broadway and Victoria.

SATURDAY 17th MAY 2025 - JUBILEE YEAR - PILGRIMAGE TO NORTHAMPTON CATHEDRAL:
Mass 11.00am. Presided over by Rt Rev. David Oakley, Bishop of Northampton.
Bring a packed lunch and drinks. Northampton Cathedral, Cathedral House, Primrose Hill, Northampton, NN2 6AG. Please let the Parish Office know by **12th April** if you wish to attend as there may be the possibility of organising a coach **if** enough parishioners are interested.

ALTAR SERVERS: Bishop David Oakley invites all Altar Servers and their families to the annual Northampton Diocese Altar Servers Mass 2025 at the Cathedral of Our Lady Immaculate & St Thomas of Canterbury, Northampton – Saturday 28th June, 11.00am, followed by refreshments in the St Thomas Centre. Further information and booking please contact Deacon Peter Griffin **pfgriffin@hotmail.co.uk**

RIP ANNIVERSARIES: Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:
Alice McManus 1966; Ilona Tojan 1994; Sergio Mareschi 2018; Roberta Mugione 2023; Edward O'Shea 1988; John Duffy 2000; Agnes Walsh 2003; Noel Francis (Frank) Flynn 2017; Brian Aspell 1983; Patrick Smyth 1999; Teresa Abbott 2006; Brian Richards 1994; Eileen Howell 2009; Valerie Irene Drakeley 2022; Beryl Breslin 2007 ✠ **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.