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 22nd December 2024
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:	**Bring us back, O God; let your face shine forth, and we shall be saved.**

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 21st December	**Noon** 5.45pm 6.00pm - 6.20pm 6.30pm	**WEDDING: Francis Anichebe and Blessing Onalike** 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 **BAPTISM: Shay Hugh Squires**	**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
Monday 23rd December	**No Mass**		
Tuesday 24th December	9.30am 6.30pm 9.30pm 10.00pm	Holy Souls Margaret Manley RIP Carols Mass during the Night	**FIRST VESPERS OF THE NATIVITY AND VIGIL MASS**
Wednesday 25th December	9.00am 11.00am	People of Our Parish Charles McNelis RIP, John Lally RIP and Margaret Lally RIP	**THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**
Thursday 26th December	10.00am	Andrew (Healing)	**ST STEPHEN, THE FIRST MARTYR**
Friday 27th December	9.30am	Holy Souls	**ST JOHN, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST**
Saturday 28th December	5.45pm 6.00pm - 6.20pm 6.30pm	Evening Prayer Confessions	**THE HOLY INNOCENTS,**
Sunday 29th December	8.30am 9.00am 11.00am	Morning Prayer Tess Hurley RIP People of Our Parish	**THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH**

MASS INTENTIONS: Mass intentions moved due to unforeseen circumstance 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 Mass on Monday **23rd 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.

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.

PARISH WEEKLY COLLECTION W/E 15th DECEMBER 2024: Cash £350.93; Envelopes £704.45; Total £1,052.38. Thank you. If you Gift Aid donations, we can claim and extra 25% at no extra cost to you. You can also donate by card via the DONA Machine in the church.

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/**

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.

RIP: Please remember all who have died recently, especially Jean Comerford, Teresa Hurley, Giuseppe Gristina and Anna Demeter. Please keep them, their families and their friends in your thoughts and prayers.

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.

PRIMARY SCHOOL ADMISSIONS POLICY: The consultation period for St Thomas Catholic Academies Trust's updated Primary School Admission Policy for admissions in **September 2026** closes on **31st December 2024.** The local schools affected are: Sacred Heart, St Margaret of Scotland, St Martin de Porres, St Mary's and St Vincent's. For more info please go to **https://www.stcat.co.uk/trust-governance/consultation/**. For hard copy or to comment contact Maxine Gilmartin at **consultation@stcat.co.uk** or 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 until **2nd February**.

BECOMING A TEACHER: St Thomas Catholic Academies Trust is hosting open mornings in December and January to find out all about their Train to Teach programme starting in **September 2025**. For more info and to book go to **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.**

LUX 2025: LUX is an annual residential weekend for young people aged 11yrs - 18yrs taking place on **5th - 7th February** at Sion Catholic Community, Brentwood. The theme is Hope in-line with the theme for the Jubilee year, exploring what Hope means for young people today. Go to **https://nymo.org/lux-hope-2025/**. There is a maximum capacity of 60, so make sure you book early by contacting **NYMO.admin@northamtondiocese.com** to find out more.

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/**.

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

JUBILEE YEAR PILGRIMAGE TO NORTHAMPTON CATHEDRAL: You are invited to a Mass at 7.30pm and a meeting at 8.00pm on Tuesday **7th January 2025** at Holy Ghost Parish Centre LU4 8JD to discuss our multi-parish Jubilee Pilgrimage to Northampton Cathedral on Saturday **17th May 2025** to celebrate Mass with Bishop David. All suggestions and ideas you would like to share at the meeting would be most welcome.

COLUMBANS LAUNCH 2025 SCHOOLS COMPETITION - JUBILEE: PILGRIMS OF HOPE: The competition welcomes both written and image entries until **7th February 2025**, winners being announced on **10th March 2025**. Cash prizes - first prize £300 - competition open to 13 - 18 year-old students. More information available on Columban Competition website at **https://www.columbancompetition.com**

ANNIVERSARIES: Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:
Michael Gear 2020; Arthur Stuart James McNaughtan 2019; Emelia Ceresale 1975; John Morrisey 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.
✠ **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!

PARISH REGISTRATION: Our parishes can only use CASPAR to retain parishioner info. Please go to **www.caspar.church/me?ID=56040**, or use the QR (code on the right), or contact the parish office for them to help you to complete your registration.

MESSAGE FROM FR JAMES: Fr James sends his Christmas greetings to the parish and will remember all at Sacred Heart in his Christmas Mass in Rome.

We wish everyone a happy
and holy Christmas with
every blessing for the New Year

from
Fr Allan,
Deacon Jim
& Bernadette