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 21st December 2025
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Psalter Week 4

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

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 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 497370
Hospice Chaplain: 01582 502400

Saturday 20th December	5.45pm 6.00pm-6.20pm 6.30pm	Evening Prayer Confessions Mary Moynihan RIP	**Third Saturday of Advent**
Sunday 21st December **PARISH HALL** **PARISH HALL**	8.30am 9.00am 11.00am **Teas and Coffees** **6.00pm**	Morning Prayer Davide Nilletti RIP People of Our Parish **Christmas Jumper Sunday Competition** **Carol Event**	**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
Monday 22nd December	9.30am	Deceased Members of Caldbeck Family & O'Brien Family RIP	
Tuesday 23rd December	**NO MASS**		
Wednesday 24th December	**9.30am** **5.45pm** **6.30pm** **9.30pm** **10.00pm**	Sean Bruton RIP Evening Prayer Thanksgiving (Private Intention) Carols People of Our Parish	**THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST** **Vigil Mass** **Mass during the Night**
Thursday 25th December	**8.30am** **9.00am** **11.00am**	Morning Prayer Roque Anthonio DeSouza RIP Charles McNelis RIP, John & Margaret Lally RIP	**THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD** **Mass at Dawn** **Mass during the Day**
Friday 26th December	**9.30am** **10.00am**	Morning Prayer Hetty & Jack Hargrave RIP	**ST STEPHEN, THE FIRST MARTYR**
Saturday 27th December	5.45pm 6.00pm-6.20pm 6.30pm	Evening Prayer Confessions Margaret Manley RIP (3rd Anniversary)	**ST JOHN, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST**
Sunday 28th December	8.30am 9.00am 11.00am	Morning Prayer People of Our Parish Catherine Doherty RIP	**THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH**
Monday 29th December	**NO MASS**		**ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY, BISHOP AND MARTYR**
Tuesday 30th December	**NO MASS**		
Wednesday 31st December	**10.00am**	Mary Lawler RIP	
Thursday 1st January 2026	**10.00am**	People of Our Parish	**MARY, MOTHER OF GOD**
Friday 2nd January	**10.00am**	Sean Bruton RIP	**SS Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors**

PARISH HALL: The Parish Hall is open this Sunday 11.00am Mass for teas and coffees. All welcome! The Parish Hall will be **closed on Sunday 28th December.** Thank you to Judy and Wes for all that you do for our Parish.

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

MORNING PRAYER: Monday **22nd December** and Wednesday **24th December 8.50am**, Thursday **25th December** Christmas Day **8.30am**, Friday **26th December 9.30am**, Sunday **28th December 8.30am**, Wednesday **31st December 9.30am**, Thursday **1st January 2026 9.30am** and **Friday 2nd January 9.30am.**

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.

RIP: Sadly Maureen Murphy, Head Teacher of St Joseph's died recently. Please do pray for her and the family and all of the school. May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

RIP: Please also remember Mary Theresa Philomena Enright, Sean Bruton (Father of Stephanie Salvatierra); Brian Nunn (Husband of Sheila) and Coleman Doyle (Father to Kathleen 'Kathy' DeSouza) who died recently. Please keep Mary, Sean, Brian and Coleman in your prayers and keep their families and friends in your thoughts and prayers at this very sad and difficult time.

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.

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. Please bring plenty change!**

SACRED HEART PARISH CAROL EVENT: Sunday 21st December at 6.00pm. Everyone is welcome to this relaxed event in the Parish Social Centre. Refreshments will be available for this seasonal all age gathering.

THURSDAY CLUB: Thank you to the Thursday Club Volunteers for the wonderful Christmas Dinner enjoyed by all who attended.
Thursday Club will reopen on **Thursday 8th January 2026;10.00am-12 Noon.** Thank you to all the volunteers who work so hard in providing this wonderful opportunity to socialise. Enjoy your well-earned rest!

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).

BETHANY MASS: Thank you to all who attended the Bethany Mass on 14th December. Please note there is a change of venue for the next Bethany Mass. Mass will take place at **St Joseph's Church, Gardenia Avenue, Luton LU3 2NS** on **Sunday 18th January 2026 at 3.00pm.** Refreshments in St Joseph's Parish Hall afterwards. All welcome!

PARISH OFFICE: The Parish Office is **CLOSED until Friday 2nd January 2026**. When leaving a voicemail message please state the date and leave a contact number.

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

CHRISTMAS CRIB OFFERINGS/DONATIONS: The Christmas Crib Offerings/Donations for Christmas 2025 will go towards supporting NOAH. Your offering/donation can help NOAH to change a life by providing someone to talk to, clean clothes and something to eat for those facing homelessness.

PARISH WEEKLY COLLECTION: Figures for w/e 14th December 2025 Loose cash £275.85; Envelopes £672.62; Total: £948.47 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/**

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**

RETROUVAILLE: Helps marriages. It can bring hope and healing to relationships.
Next date: 12th February 2026. www.retrouvaille.org.uk Tel: 07887 296983

RIP ANNIVERSARIES: Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:
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; Gertrude Rance 1970; Elizabeth Savage 1976; Mary Watson 1989; Ellen Earley 1995; Dennis Kenny 2002; Mary Fennelly 2007; Richard Coady 2019; Frederick Woods 1982; Dorothy O'Neill 2006; Marie Fox 2013; Baby Hannah Swendell 1980; Dominic Gallagher 1972; Mary Gallagher 1995; Theresa Adams 2010; James (Jim) McGeoghan 2013; Kevin Patrick Oates 2013; Edward (Ned) Myers 2013; Michael Anthony Cawley 2014; Olive Smith 1966; Thomas Aitken 1972; Mary Heyhoe 1999; Guiseppe Abella 2003; Margaret Theresa Gallagher 2016; Thomas Foster 1956; John Murtagh 1976; Geoffrey Bowdidge 1982; Jerzy Swietochowski 1999; David Kenny 2004; Elizabeth Mary Judge 2012; Frederick McNamara 1968; Joan Egan 1973; Isabella Shepherd 1974; Norah Dempsey 2010; Isabella Tait 1973; Francis Hughes 1993; Ann Broderick 1998; Richard Dooley 2004; Jane Conlen 1993; Stephen Burke 1998; Patricia Ann Guigno 2014; Michael Brennan 1966; Gwendoline McShee 1975; Baby Rose Anguo 2005; Margaret Walker 1956; William Murphy 1979; Steve Domjan 2006; Margaret Jackson 2024 ✠ **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 at the top of the Newsletter 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)

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

from Fr Allan,
Deacon Jim,
Bernadette
& the Parish team