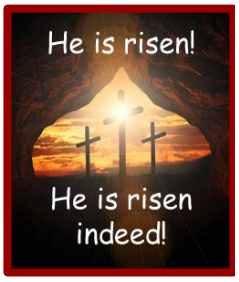

Heart to Heart

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

YEAR A – Sunday 3rd May 2026
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
Psalter Week 1

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:	**May your merciful love be upon us, as we hope in you, O Lord.**

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 2nd May	**5.45pm** **6.00pm-6.20pm** **6.30pm**	Evening Prayer Confession Gloria Keegan RIP	**St Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church**
Sunday 3rd May **PARISH HALL**	8.30am 9.00am 11.00am **Teas and Coffees**	Morning Prayer People of Our Parish Margaret O'Brien RIP	**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**
Monday 4th May	**9.30am** **10.00am**	Morning Prayer Fr William Utaski, CRIC RIP	**THE ENGLISH MARTYRS**
Tuesday 5th May	9.30am **7.00pm**	Telm Borges Simoes RIP PRAYER GROUP: Prayer for our needs, those of the Parish and beyond **Confirmation Group for Adults**	
Wednesday 6th May	9.30am	Marie Duffy RIP (Birthday)	
Thursday 7th May	**NO MASS** **10.00am-12 Noon**	 **THURSDAY CLUB**	
Friday 8th May	9.30am	Mary Plummer RIP	
Saturday 9th May	**5.45pm** **6.00pm-6.20pm** **6.30pm**	Evening Prayer Confession Alana Russell-Gear RIP (2nd Anniversary)	
Sunday 10th May **PARISH HALL**	8.30am 9.00am 11.00am **Teas and Coffees**	Morning Prayer Mary, John & James Fitzsimons RIP People of Our Parish	**SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

PARISH HALL: Open after Sunday 11.00am Mass for teas and coffees. All welcome!

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

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR MAY: That everyone might have food. Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food, and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food.

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.

MORNING PRAYER: Monday 9.30am, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 8.50am followed by Rosary. All welcome!

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.

BETHANY MASS: The next Bethany Mass will take place at Sacred Heart on Sunday 17th May at 3.00pm. All welcome!

RIP: Please remember Bridget Green and Kathleen Doyle who died recently. Please keep Bridget and Kathleen in your prayers and keep their families and friends in your thoughts and prayers at this very sad and difficult time.

FUNERAL DETAILS: Bridget Green RIP; Requiem Thursday 28th May at 2.00pm at Sacred Heart. Kathleen Doyle RIP, Requiem Friday 29th May at 11.00am at Sacred Heart.

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 - **Thursday 10.00am-12 Noon**. All welcome!

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES: If you are new to the Parish and/or wish to make your weekly donations using envelopes then please contact Wesley on 01582 738569. Thank you.

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).

BIBLE STUDY: Commenced Thursday 23rd April 2026 and will continue every other Thursday – The Acts of the Apostles, by Jeff Cavins in the Fr O'Connor Centre at Our Lady Help of Christians, 52 Castle Street, Luton, LU1 3AG. 7.30pm to 9.00pm. Everyone welcome.

LEGION OF MARY – PILGRIMAGE TO AYLESFORD PRIORY: Next weekend: Saturday 9th May 2026
Cost: Adult £20 Child £12 - Coach: Sacred Heart 8.45am Saturday 9th May 2026
(Alternative pick-up times and places – see Poster on the Noticeboard.)

DEANERY ADORATION AND CONFESSION: Posters on the Parish Noticeboard show all Adoration and Confession times available within the Deanery.

BAPTISM PREPARATION: If you wish to have your child baptised at Sacred Heart Church a Baptism Preparation Class must be undertaken before Baptism can go ahead. Please contact the Parish Office to discuss further and to book your place. The next Baptism Preparation Class will take place on Thursday 4th June at 7.00pm in the Church. Please register with the Parish through the CASPAR link.

CONFIRMATION FOR ADULTS: If any adult (16 or over) would be interested in preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation this summer, or being received into the Church, please email the Parish Office this week. Fr Allan is proposing a weekly course that will run on **Tuesday evenings from 7.00pm as of the 5th May.**

FURNITURE BANK: Caritas in the diocese of Northampton responds to local poverty and hardship through a number of initiatives like the Furniture Bank, ensuring that families in the diocese receive the dignity and care they deserve.
The Furniture Bank operating out of St John the Apostle Church, provides essential furniture and household items including beds, storage, chairs, bedding, flooring, and cooking utensils to families and individuals in real need.
Can you help? Donating furniture? Volunteering to help? Collecting and distributing items?
If yes or for more information please contact: Deacon Jim Hannigan 07756 685220
Email: deaconjimhannigan@northamptondiocese.org Website: northamptondiocese.org/caritas

PARISH WEEKLY COLLECTION: Figures for w/e 26.04.26: Envelopes £741.50; Loose Cash £348.55; Total £1090.05 Thank you. Thank you. Second Collection: Diocesan Priests Training Fund £693.20. 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/**

NOAH BLUE BINS: Available to accept donations at Sacred Heart next weekend **9th/10th May.** Please donate your good quality, preloved items to help others in need.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER FOR SURVIVORS OF ABUSE 2026: 5th May 2026
The National Day of Prayer for Survivors of Abuse takes place every year on the fifth Tuesday of Easter. In 2026, the day is marked on Tuesday, 5th May. The theme for this year's Day of Prayer for Survivors of Abuse looks at the scourge of domestic abuse which causes pain and fear that prevent its victims from living the life Jesus came to bring.
Immediately before the much-loved part of this verse from the Gospel of John, we hear Jesus's words: "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy." This is how abuse feels to those who experience it – their dignity and value as a unique child of God is stripped away and destroyed.

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

LIVING WELL EVENT: At St John's, Sundon Park on Saturday 16th May, 10.00am–3pm, with free breakfast (10-12) or lunch (1-3), short talks and local health, wellbeing and support stalls throughout the day aimed at the overs 60's.
Book your free place via Luton Irish Forum on 01582 720447.

LITURGY OF THE WORD ZOOM SESSIONS FOR 2026: The God Who Speaks – Our Liturgy of the Word:
A series of online Zoom Sessions exploring the upcoming Lectionary Readings and Seasons of the Liturgical Year. Led by the Liturgical Formation Team.
Future sessions in 2026: Wednesday 8th July, Wednesday 9th September, Wednesday 11th November.
Each session runs from 7.30pm-8.30pm Cost: No charge but there will be the opportunity to make a donation. Please register in advance to secure a place by emailing
deaconpeter.collins@northamptondiocese.org **Full details on Poster displayed on the Noticeboard.**

MISSIO – RED BOX APPEAL: Thank you to all those parishioners who contributed to Missio (APF) through the "Red Box" or giving directly to Mill Hill. Last year £792.57 was given by you in these ways.
Missio (or the Red Box) is the Catholic Church's official charity for overseas mission. It exists because of the generosity of Catholics and plays a crucial role in combatting injustice, disease, poverty and exploitation.
Many thanks on behalf of the parish to Pete and Theresa Crawley for organising the Missio Appeal.

CAFOD: Stand with Sudan. Give monthly. On the third anniversary of the war in Sudan, Kayode Akintola, CAFOD's Head of Region for Africa, asks for your help:
"So many of our sisters and brothers in Sudan are facing increasing violence, hunger, and disease. That is why today, I'm asking you to consider setting up a monthly gift to support families who are fleeing the violence – with food, safe water and other vital support. Monthly gifts are an act of steady love for our neighbours, a way of saying: we will not abandon you; we will stand with you until peace is restored."
Donate at **cafod.org.uk/StandWithSudan**

CALLED & EQUIPPED 2026-27: Want to go deeper in your faith? Is now the time to take the next step? A year-long Called & Equipped discipleship course begins again this September, offering a foundation in Catholic teaching and a journey of faith formation, with a like-minded community. This course is for anyone active in parish life or coming into ministry. Find out more
here: **https://northamptondiocese.org/called-equipped/** or sign up to introductory webinars
on **https://www.tickettailor.com/events/northamptondiocese**

RIP ANNIVERSARIES: Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:
Irene Doris McGarry 2013; Irene Mary Meek 2014; Paul Failla 2014; Lawrence Kent 1968;
William Ring 1983; Catherine Lowe 1957; Ellen Foster 1972; Margaret McAuliffe 1977;
Robert Murray 1979; Mary Barnes 1982; Kevin Campbell 2005; Mary Catherine Kieran 2005;
David Robinson 2009; Lena Chrabkowski 2011; Teresa Mary 'Tess' Davitt 2022; Mabel Money 1960;
James Fox 1993; Lorraine Taylor 1996; Margaret O'Donoghue 2002; Josephine McStravick 1991;
Joan Sweeney 1995; Rosalia Abella 2023; Eugene Bonner 2021; John McEvoy 1968;
George Alderson 1975; James Cullinane 1978; Maria Schirinzi 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 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).