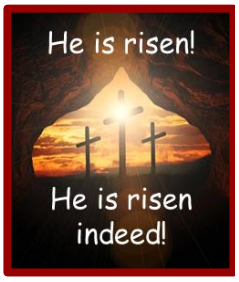

Heart to Heart

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

YEAR A – Sunday 17th May 2026
SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
Psalter Week 3
WORLD COMMUNICATIONS SUNDAY

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:	**I believe I shall see the Lord's goodness in the land of the living.**

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 16th May	**5.45pm** **6.00pm-6.20pm** **6.30pm**	Evening Prayer Confession Private Intention (Healing)	
Sunday 17th May **PARISH HALL**	8.30am 9.00am 11.00am **Teas and Coffees** **3.00pm**	Morning Prayer People of Our Parish Eileen Howell RIP (Birthday) **Bethany Mass**	**SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**
Monday 18th May	9.30am	Joseph Duffy RIP	
Tuesday 19th May	9.30am **7.00pm**	Private Intention (Healing) **Prayer Group:** Prayer for our needs, those of the Parish and beyond **Confirmation Group for Adults**	
Wednesday 20th May	**NO MASS**		
Thursday 21st May	**NO MASS** **10.00am-12 Noon**	**THURSDAY CLUB**	
Friday 22nd May	**NO MASS**		
Saturday 23rd May	**6.00pm-6.20pm** **6.30pm**	Confession Eddie Travers (Snr) RIP	
Sunday 24th May **PARISH HALL**	9.00am 11.00am **Teas and Coffees**	People of Our Parish Rosaline Henry RIP (50th Anniversary)	**PENTECOST**

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 and Tuesday, 8.50am followed by Rosary.

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: This weekend 17th May at Sacred Heart at 3.00pm. All welcome! Tea will be served in the Parish Hall after Mass.

RIP: Please remember Enrico Mattera, Bridget Green and Kathleen Doyle who died recently. Please keep Enrico, 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.

SECOND COLLECTION: This weekend 16th/17th May there will be a second collection at all Masses for Catholic Communications Network on behalf of World Communications Sunday. In his message for the 60th World Day of Social Communications, Pope Leo XIV highlights the importance of ensuring that technological innovation, particularly artificial intelligence, serves the human person rather than replacing or diminishing human dignity.

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).

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.

PARISH WEEKLY COLLECTION: Figures for w/e 10.05.26 Envelopes £666.70; Loose Cash £396.63; Total £1063.33 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/**

CHURCHES ON THE HILL ECUMENICAL PILGRIMAGE: Join us for a **4 KM pilgrimage walk** across Stopsley Common this **Sunday (17th May)** beginning at **St Thomas' Church Stopsley at 1.00pm**. The terrain is fairly flat there will be a halfway comfort and refreshment stop at Inspire (please bring a packed lunch). There will be 7 stations on the pilgrimage to stop and consider key words. The pilgrimage will finish at St Thomas'.

OUR LADY OF THE SACRED HEART NOVENA: 22nd-30th May at St. Joseph the Worker, 68 Gardenia Avenue, Luton, LU3 2NS. The novena will be prayed after Mass each day, beginning on Friday 22nd May. There will be a Healing Mass with Anointing of the Sick on Wednesday 27th May at 7pm. Confessions available: Fridays 10.30am – 11.30am and Saturdays 10am -10.30am.

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**

FURNITURE BANK AT ST JOHN'S - We have had a request from a young family in very small accommodation for a bunk bed. If you have a bunk bed in good condition that you no longer use and would be happy to donate to a family in need, please contact Deacon Jim 07756 685220

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

PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM FOR THE SANCTITY OF LIFE: Saturday 1st August 2026. Led by Bishop Peter Collins (East Anglia). Coaches leave St Mary's Dunstable at 7.20am, St Joseph's Luton at 7.40am (No parking – Vigil Mass that evening), Our Lady's Luton at 8.00am. Adults £27.00, children, teenagers and students £8.00. Seats reserved only with payment. Bring a packed lunch and drinks. **For more information go to www.prolifepilgrimage.org and to book kevin.drew@btinternet.com or 07802 525581.**

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 THANK YOU AND APPEAL: There will be a Red Box Appeal at Sacred Heart next weekend **23rd/24th May.** Sacred Heart Parish look forward to welcoming Rev Fr Gerry Hastie who will preside over all Masses and make the appeal on behalf of Missio.
Missio is the Pope's charity for world Mission and through the Red Box we support the Church around the World where it is young and in need. Please do consider supporting this important cause by taking a Red Box or signing up to give via Direct Debit.
Many thanks on behalf of the parish to Pete and Theresa Crawley for giving their time in being the local Missio Secretaries representing Sacred Heart Parish.

FAMILY DAY: Mission Northampton and the Sion Community are hosting a Family Day on **Sunday 17th May at Holy Ghost Church in Luton. The event, which runs from 2.15-6pm**, offers the chance to gather, celebrate and be inspired with other Catholic families from across the diocese and beyond.
Mass will be held at 3pm, presided by Fr. Pius Amoako, and the event will also include worship, music and refreshments. Input for adults will be led by Sophie Sullivan, youth worker, mother and advocate for smart phone-free childhoods for kids. Streams of the day will be available for children and teens so they have space to connect and grow in their own way. Entry is free, though donations are welcome, but it is important to book so the organisers know how many people will be attending.
See Poster on the Noticeboard in the Foyer for further information and booking details.

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**

MEN'S SHED – SUNDON PARK: Following a really successful "Come and See" event, Sundon Park Men's Shed will be opening weekly from Thursday 14th May, 10:30am–12:30pm, at St John's Parish Centre, Sundon Park Road, Luton, LU3 3AL. Men's Sheds are friendly, informal places for men 55+ to meet people, enjoy a cuppa, share skills, learn something practical, and spend time in good company—whether you're handy with tools or just fancy a chat. The Shed is about connection and wellbeing as much as making and mending, and you can be as involved as you like: turn up, have a look around, suggest ideas, or help shape what the Shed becomes. Everyone is welcome—bring a friend. For more information, contact Joe on 07939 190424 or Deacon Jim Hannigan 07756 685220

HEALING GARDEN: Parishioners and friends are invited to the blessing of the new gazebo in the Healing Garden at the Cathedral of Northampton on **Saturday 6th June**. All are welcomed from **2-3.30pm** to join us in giving thanks for this new space of prayer, reflection and healing. Following the blessing and prayers, there will be pizza and light refreshments, as well as art and craft activities for children to ensure it is a joyful and family-friendly occasion. **Please RSVP by 30th May to bishopssecretary@northamptondiocese.com**

ADVANCE NOTICE: FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS AT SACRED HEART, JUNE 2026: Please note this year the children will be receiving the Sacrament of the Eucharist during two dedicated **11.00am Sunday Masses – 7th June and 14th June**. Parishioners who usually attend 11.00am Mass are welcome to attend but please be aware seating will be limited to the outside aisles only. The centre aisles will be reserved for first holy communicants and their families. Please pray for our young parishioners preparing for the Sacraments.

SAVE THE DATE: DIOCESAN MASS FOR MARRIAGE AND FAMILIES: The annual Mass for Marriage and Families is a popular Diocesan event returning again at Northampton Cathedral on **5th September 2026 at noon**. All are welcome, and as usual we look to congratulate couples celebrating milestone anniversaries this year. Please mark your diary, and watch for a registration link coming soon.

DIOCESAN RESIDENTIAL YOUTH WEEKEND: Young people from across the diocese are invited to join a residential summer weekend filled with games, discussions, activities, socialising, and prayer. This will take place on 17th-19th July 2026 at Buckden Towers, St Neots, and is aimed at young people aged 11-18. This is a great opportunity to meet new people, reconnect with old friends, and take a break from everyday life in a relaxed and supportive environment. The cost of the weekend includes accommodation, all meals, and organised social activities. There will also be a tuck shop available throughout the weekend, so participants may wish to bring some spending money for additional snacks. The diocesan youth team will be staying on site for the full weekend, providing supervision, support, and pastoral care. Young people will stay in shared rooms at Buckden Towers. If you have any questions about room arrangements, or if you need support with transport, please contact nymo.admin@northamptondiocese.com. **Booking is essential, and places must be paid for in advance.** If you have any concerns about the cost of the weekend, please get in touch - happy to discuss support options in confidence.

RIP ANNIVERSARIES: Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:
John Porr 1998; Kathleen Nairn 2013; Clare Caldbeck 2016; William Merrick 1983; Alexandra Diengdoh Pavel 2021; Alice McNelis 1990; Joseph McKenna 1996; Frank Gallagher 2014; Nora O'Neill 1979; Hannah Coyle 1985; Brenda Carroll 2006; Patrick Cain 1986; Julia Myers 2006; Margaret Rose Coskun 2021; John Reynolds 1998; Thomas Dalton 1991; Margaret Rose Halligan 2016; Sarah (Sally) Ayres 2010; Kevin Conry 1969; Dennis Buckingham 2004; Fernand Ollieuz 1965; Martha Stevens 1981; Elizabeth Abiola Olubunmi Ashiru 'Lisa' 2025 ✠ **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).