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 2nd March 2025
EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:	**It is good to give thanks to you, O LORD.**

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 1st March	5.45pm 6.00pm - 6.20pm 6.30pm	Evening Prayer Confessions Alice Marie Flatley RIP	**ST DAVID**
Sunday 2nd March	8.30am 9.00am 11.00am **BAPTISM**	Morning Prayer People of Our Parish Elizabeth Hannan RIP **Kiara Manzullo** **Kairo Theodosius Auguste**	**EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME** **Day of Prayer for the Unemployed**
Monday 3rd March	9.30am	Peter English RIP	
Tuesday 4th March	9.30am	Helen Newman (Healing) **Prayer Group**	
Wednesday 5th March	KS2 attending Mass 9.30am **7.30pm**	 Bernie McGrath RIP Alberto Nardi RIP	**ASH WEDNESDAY** **DAY OF FAST AND ABSTINENCE**
Thursday 6th March	**NO MASS** **10.00am-12 Noon**	 **Thursday Club**	
Friday 7th March	**NO MASS** **7.00pm**	 **STATIONS OF THE CROSS**	
Saturday 8th March	**10.00am** **12 Noon** 5.45pm 6.00pm - 6.20pm 6.30pm	Reconciliation – **First Holy Communion Group A** Reconciliation **– First Holy Communion Group B** Evening Prayer Confessions Perry Family (Foundation Mass)	
Sunday 9th March	8.30am 9.00am 11.00am	Morning Prayer People of Our Parish Lisa Doran RIP (Anniversary)	**FIRST 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 provide contact details when requesting intentions and check the weekly newsletters.

RIP: Please remember all who have died recently especially Peter English and Margarette Spring. Please keep Peter, Margarette, their families and friends in your thoughts and prayers at this difficult time.

FUNERAL DETAILS:
Margarette Spring RIP, Requiem, **Saturday 8th March, 2.30pm** at Our Lady's, Luton LU1 3AG
Peter English RIP, Requiem, **Thursday 13th March, 11.00am** at Sacred Heart (Repatriation to Ireland)

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.**

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

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.

SEASON OF LENT: Begins on Wednesday, Ash Wednesday 5th March, a day of fast and abstinence. (On Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and all Fridays, everyone of age 14 and up must abstain from consuming meat. On Ash Wednesday and Good Friday: Everyone of age 18 to 59 must fast, unless exempt due to usually a medical reason.) **Mass at 9.30am and 7.30pm.**

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.

PASTORAL LETTER FROM BISHOP DAVID: The Pastoral Letter, read at all Masses this weekend, Concerning The Terminally Ill (End of life) Bill is timed to coincide with the 3rd vote in the commons on 25th April. This letter will be followed by a message from Bishop John Sherrington, lead Bishop for life issues in early April. It is important to keep up the momentum of communication on this important issue. Bishop David invites parishioners to write to their MP asking them to oppose the bill. A useful website for this can be found here:
https://righttolife.org.uk/asvote?utm_source=righttolife.org.uk&utm_medium=referral&utm_campaign=euthanasia-commons_pmb_2&utm_content=menu

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Please remember in your prayers our young parishioners who are preparing for First Holy Communion and next weekend will be receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

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!

FREE REDUNDANCY COACHING: With the forthcoming closure of Vauxhall's Luton factory recently confirmed and other local job insecurities in mind, the career ebsite **http://www.vitaeopus.co.uk** offers free information and guidance on job hunting, self-employment and active retirement. Please pass it on to anyone who may find it helpful.

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: We need more volunteers! 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 look bleak!**

PRAYER REQUEST: The Parish has been kindly asked to pray for parishioners Cathy Goldsboro and Sylvia Williams who are unwell. Thank you.

NOAH BINS: At Sacred Heart next weekend 8th/9th March. Donations of good quality, clean pre-loved clothes, bric-a-brac, books and small items of furniture will be gratefully accepted.

EXPLORING SAFEGUARDING: You are invited to a safeguarding event at Holy Ghost, Luton on Saturday **8th March** from 10.00am – 1.00pm provided by the Diocesan safeguarding team. To sign up please go to **https://www.tickettailor.com/events/northamptondiocese/1544289**

THE LENT ENCOUNTER 2025: This Lent we're taking the book of Exodus as our guide on a journey through the Red Sea and into the wilderness. Sign up to join The Lent Encounter**,** **https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/resources/the-lent-encounter?source_code=NEW25013&utm** Your free daily devotionals delivered to your inbox will help you to read your Bible every day and make space for Jesus to shape your heart and life this Lent.

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.

SEAN O'RIADA GAELIC SUNG MASS: Monday 17th March. Our Lady Help of Christians, Castle St, Luton. 9.30am. Featuring the Luton Irish Forum Choir.

JOIN CAFOD'S BIG LENT WALK IN THE JUBILEE YEAR: You are invited to join CAFOD's Big Lent Walk and journey together with Catholics in England, Wales and Scotland as Pilgrims of Hope in this Jubilee Year - walking 200km over 40 days during Lent. Journey to one of the churches or shrines designated as places of pilgrimage in our diocese as part of your Big Lent Walk. Every £1 you raise will support communities in Kenya, experiencing the worst impact of the climate crisis, to rebuild their lives in hope. To sign up please visit: **https://walk.cafod.org.uk/**

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. It is a relatively simple process:
- Donate £1 or a non-perishable food item each day of lent (40 days)
- Encourage friends and family to join!
- Bring donations to the church for collection

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

ENVELOPES 2025/26: Planned Giving Envelopes will be distributed before and after each Mass on:
Weekend of Sunday 9th March 2025; Weekend of Sunday 16th March 2025;
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).

PARISH WEEKLY COLLECTION: Week ending **23rd February 2025** Loose cash £354.48; Envelopes £529.50; Total £883.98 Thank you. If you Gift Aid donations, we can claim an extra 25% at no extra cost to you.

RIP ANNIVERSARIES: Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:
Margaret Knight 1992; Mary Jane Crow 1958; Elizabeth McLaughlin 1964; Angela Saggia 1982; Catherine Perry 2012; Sarah Holton 1987; Rosina Bernes 2008; Edward Bernes 2020:
Winifred Mooney 2010; Margaret Rose Kelly 2012; Henry Adam 1994; Annie Murphy 1996;
Brigid McNulty 1997; Annie O'Riley 2005; Irene Davey 1989; Antonino Calvino 1991; Nan Pollard 2008;
Paul Divney 2014; Alice Flatley 2006; Colin Draper 2006; Thomas Joseph Dolan 2008;
Bernard McGrath 2009; Sarah Doherty 1965; Janek Stevens 2003; Margaret (Rita) Sansom 2018;
Mark Trowsdale 2014; Thomas Hyland 1982; Maria Munez 1982; Elizabeth Anne Murray 'Lizzie' 2022;
Robert McMillen 1994 ✠ **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.