

# HEART TO HEART

Newsletter of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish  
Part of the Diocese of Northampton, Province of Westminster & Deanery of St Alban

**Palm Sunday (A) - Psalter Week 2 - 5th April 2020**

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Bernadette Horsted (**Parish Secretary**)  
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Rev James Bannan (**Deacon**)  
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**Parish Office:** ☎ 723099

Sacred Heart Primary School: ☎ 730781  
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Registered Charity: 234091

## Coronavirus

**ALL PLACES OF WORSHIP, INCLUDING CATHOLIC CHURCHES, HAVE BEEN CLOSED IN ACCORDANCE WITH ANNOUNCED GOVERNMENT CORONAVIRUS REQUIREMENTS.**

**DO NOT COME TO THE CHURCH OR THE PARISH OFFICE AS THEY ARE BOTH CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE, UNLESS YOU HAVE ARRANGED A PRE-AGREED APPOINTMENT WITH FR MIREK.**

**THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE MANAGED REMOTELY AND CAN ONLY BE CONTACTED AS EXPLAINED IN THE "USEFUL INFORMATION" SECTION ON THE PARISH WEBSITE. IN AN EMERGENCY PLEASE CONTACT FR MIREK ON 01582 723099**

In accordance with the Bishops' Conference and Diocesan guidance, until further notice, the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holydays is **temporarily suspended** according to Church teaching.

All Masses will be celebrated by Fr Mirek privately without a congregation. Mass intentions already requested will be fulfilled and new Mass intentions can be requested by emailing the Parish office at [sacredheartluton@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:sacredheartluton@yahoo.co.uk).

All gatherings are postponed until it is safe to permit them, including: First Holy Communion Masses, Confirmation Masses, Rosary, Stations of the Cross, Penitential Services, the Thursday Club and all other Parish Hall activities.

Baptisms will be deferred until public health advice permits gathering safely. In the case of necessity, baptisms will be celebrated only if safe to do so, with minimal attendees and with all hygiene best practice precautions taken including social distancing, hand washing and "catch it, bin it, kill it".

Church weddings must be deferred until such time as gatherings are permitted.

Individual Confessions are available by telephone. There will be no face to face Confessions except by necessity and only if a pre-agreed appointment has been arranged with Fr Mirek.

Concerning anointing of the Sick, no pastoral home visits will be possible for the moment. However, we would be more than pleased to provide telephone support so, if you, or somebody you know, needs pastoral care then please let us know.

Funeral services will take place at the graveside or at a crematorium, subject to the conditions laid down by the relevant cemetery or crematorium authorities, which may require limitations on the number of attendees. A Mass to celebrate "in memoriam" can be arranged later, when congregations are allowed to gather.

You can watch a live streaming of all of the Masses from Northampton Cathedral on the link <https://northamptondiocese.org/live/>. Information on the Northampton Cathedral Mass times can be found at <http://northamptoncathedral.org/times/>.

Other live streaming and information sites have been uploaded on to the Parish website [sacredheartluton.org](http://sacredheartluton.org) in the **Useful Information** section.

We will be continuing to post weekly Parish Newsletters in the website **Newsletters** section, plus other helpful Parish information and Diocesan announcements concerning coronavirus in the **Useful Information** section, so please access them regularly and also please telephone others who may not have online access to keep in touch and keep them informed throughout this difficult time.

Knowing that the Mass is being celebrated, joining in spiritually in the celebration, following prayers at home, making an act of spiritual communion, this is how we share in the Sacrifice of Christ in these days. These are the ways in which we will sanctify Sunday, and indeed every day.

**We also need to care for each other.** There are so many ways in which we are able to do this: being attentive to the needs of our neighbour, especially the elderly and vulnerable; contributing to local food banks; volunteering for charitable initiatives and organisations; and by keeping in touch by all safe means.

During these disturbing and uncertain times, the rhythm of the prayer of the Church will continue. Please play your part in it. Daily acts of kindness and mutual support will, no doubt, continue and increase. Please do what you can to help others and, for your commitment to this, we thank you.

**There are no Public Masses until further notice. The Church is now closed to the Public.**

Below are the listed intentions for the next week which will be celebrated privately by Fr Mirek, without a congregation.

Saturday 4th	6.30pm	Wendy Butler RIP	<b>First Mass of Sunday</b>
Sunday 5th		Hugh Grealis RIP Tom Howell RIP	<b>PASSION SUNDAY PALM SUNDAY</b>
Monday 6th		Sophie Snook RIP	
Tuesday 7th		People of our Parish	<b>St John Baptiste de la Salle</b>
Wednesday 8th		NHS & Support Services	
<b>Thursday 9th Vale Crematorium</b>	<b>11.30am 12.00 Noon</b>	<b>Alexander Gordon Robinson RIP Sophia (Sophie) Snook RIP</b>	<b>MAUNDY THURSDAY</b>
Friday 10th			<b>GOOD FRIDAY</b>
Saturday 11th		Joe McCabe RIP	<b>HOLY SATURDAY</b>

**MASS INTENTIONS:** Those who have Mass intentions please be assured that Fr Mirek will still be celebrating Mass privately and offering those Masses already booked in. New Mass intentions can be requested by emailing the Parish office at [sacredheartluton@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:sacredheartluton@yahoo.co.uk) or by telephoning the Office on 01582 723099.

*“For weeks now it has been evening. Thick darkness has gathered over our squares, our streets and our cities; it has taken over our lives, filling everything with a deafening silence and a distressing void, that stops everything as it passes by; we feel it in the air, we notice in people’s gestures, their glances give them away. We find ourselves afraid and lost. Like the disciples in the Gospel we were caught off guard by an unexpected, turbulent storm. We have realised that we are on the same boat, all of us fragile and disoriented, but at the same time important and needed, all of us called to row together, each of us in need of comforting the other. On this boat... are all of us. Just like those disciples, who spoke anxiously with one voice, saying 'We are perishing' (Mark 4:38), so we too have realised that we cannot go on thinking of ourselves, but only together can we do this.”*

Pope Francis – Friday April 3<sup>rd</sup> 2020

**PRESENTATIONS & BAPTISMS:** **deferred** until Public Health advice permits gathering safely.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION:** **POSTPONED** until a time that allows for families and friends to gather safely within our church.

**SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION:** The celebration of Confirmation has been **POSTPONED** until such time that the public health advice is that congregations can resume public worship.

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK:** No pastoral visits will be made to people who are self-isolating until the isolation period ends. However, phone support is available, please phone Fr Mirek on **01582 723099**.

**RIP:** Please remember in your prayers Sophia (Sophie) Snook and Alexander Gordon Robinson who died recently and whose funerals take place this week.

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> April at 11.30am, Vale Crematorium – Alexander Gordon Robinson RIP**

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> April at 12 noon, Vale Crematorium – Sophia (Sophie) Snook RIP**

**PLEASE ALSO REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:** Canon Michael (Mick) Hazell who died on Tuesday 24th March. Canon Hazell was ordained in July 1958 when the Diocese also included the areas now covered by the Diocese of East Anglia. He was the Bishop's Secretary from 1961-1967 and was made a Canon of the Cathedral Chapter in 1976. He retired in 2005.

**AUTISM BEDFORDSHIRE:** Development Officers have written a social story to explain about Coronavirus and the need to stay at home for the time being. You can download the story as a PDF here: <https://www.autismbedfordshire.net/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/AB-Social-story-Why-am-I-not-at-school.pdf> Please contact [enquiries@autismbeds.org](mailto:enquiries@autismbeds.org) if you would like this social story adapted to suit an individual child's needs.

**MESSAGE FROM CATECHISTS TO PARENTS OF CONFIRMANDI CANDIDATES:** Please be assured we are praying for you all during this difficult and challenging time. We are aware that a number of parents from our Confirmation Group are working in the NHS and Support Services – thank you for all that you are doing for us!

**CHURCH NEWSPAPERS AVAILABLE TO READ:** Visit [www.churchpaper.co.uk/](http://www.churchpaper.co.uk/)

**FIRST PASTORAL LETTER FROM BISHOP DAVID OAKLEY:** Visit the website [www.sacredheartluton.org](http://www.sacredheartluton.org) for full narrative.

Please continue to pray for Bishop David, our Priests, Deacons, and Religious, and the entire Diocese during these difficult days ahead!

**PRAYERS:** On the website [sacredheartluton.org](http://sacredheartluton.org) you will find Prayers for during a time of 'flu and illness produced by the Liturgy Office, 2020 Catholic Bishops' Conference and details of many Masses and services throughout the UK that you can livestream. Daily Mass readings can be found on the website homepage by clicking on "UniversalisdailyMassreadings"

**HOLY WEEK:** This week will be a very strange Holy Week. This year there will be no public Chrism Mass or washing of feet on Maundy Thursday, no public veneration of the cross on Good Friday, no public Easter Vigil. But what we can do is live Holy Week at home. We can live-stream Masses and the Good Friday liturgy, perhaps Stations of the Cross too, and we can do our best to live it from home in other ways.  
**Masses and Services at Northampton Cathedral:** [www.northamptondiocese.org/live](http://www.northamptondiocese.org/live)

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: *Michael O'Callaghan 2018, Gaston Andre 1984, David Quinn 1984, Michael Fox 1991, Ivy Cruise 1968, Eva Mooney 2000, Joseph McCabe 2001, John Ward 1973, Yolanda Prince 1993, Stephen Lloyd 1975, Patrick Sheddock 1982, David Corcoran 1984, Brendan Marcantonio 1986, John McCauley 1997, Norma Davis 1965, Hannah Murphy 2019* ✕ **May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.**

**AS A PARISHIONER: PLEASE DO WHAT YOU SAFELY CAN TO HELP ANY ELDERLY OR VULNERABLE INDIVIDUALS IN THE COMMUNITY, YOU ARE AWARE OF, ESPECIALLY THOSE LIVING ALONE. KEEP IN TOUCH WITH THEM. A PHONECALL, A LETTER OR A FRIENDLY NOTE CAN MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE TO SOMEONE WHO MAY BE FEELING LONELY AT THIS TIME.**

**IF YOU KNOW OF ANY ELDERLY OR VULNERABLE INDIVIDUALS IN THE COMMUNITY WHO WOULD VALUE RECEIVING PASTORAL CARE BY TELEPHONE THEN ENCOURAGE THEM TO CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE OR, WITH THEIR PERMISSION, EMAIL THEIR CONTACT DETAILS TO THE PARISH OFFICE.**