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 29th March 2026
PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD
Psalter Week 2

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:	**My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?**

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

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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 28th March	5.45pm 6.00pm-6.20pm **Blessing of Palms 6.30pm**	Evening Prayer Confessions Margaret Borg RIP	
Sunday 29th March **PARISH HALL**	8.30am 9.00am **Blessing of Palms 11am** **Teas and Coffees**	Morning Prayer People of Our Parish Maria (1st Anniversary), Don & Christopher Hamilton RIP	**PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD**
Monday 30th March **OUR LADY'S**	9.30am **7.30pm**	Margaret O'Brien RIP **Deanery Penitential Service**	**MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK**
Tuesday 31st March	9.30am	Mary Waite RIP **PRAYER GROUP**: Prayer for our needs, those of the Parish and beyond	**TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK**
Wednesday 1st April	**12 Noon**	**CHRISM MASS – Northampton Cathedral**	**WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK**
Thursday 2nd April	**7.30pm**	**Healing (Private Intention)**	**HOLY WEEK/SACRED PASCHAL TRIDUUM THURSDAY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER (MAUNDY THURSDAY)**
Friday 3rd April	**8.45am** **9.30am** **3.00pm** **7.00pm**	Morning Prayer Walk of Witness (Begin at St Francis' Church) Solemn Liturgy of the Passion of the Lord **Stations of the Cross**	**FRIDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD GOOD FRIDAY**
Saturday 4th April	9.30am 10.00am **9.00pm**	Morning Prayer Swieconka – Blessing of food (Service in English) **Vigil of the Lord's Resurrection and First Mass of Easter** Joe McCabe RIP (25th Anniversary)	**HOLY SATURDAY**
Sunday 5th April **PARISH HALL**	8.30am 9.00am 11.00am **Teas and Coffees**	Morning Prayer People of Our Parish Eileen Howell RIP	**EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD**

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.

MORNING PRAYER: Monday, Tuesday, Friday 8.30am followed by Rosary. All welcome.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR APRIL: For priests in crisis. Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.

DEANERY PENITENTIAL SERVICE: Monday 30th March at Our Lady's 7.00pm.

CHRISM MASS: Please be aware that the Chrism Mass will take place on **Wednesday, 1st April with Mass at the Cathedral at midday. Lunch 1.00pm - Parishioners - St Thomas Centre.**

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Friday at 7.00pm. All welcome to attend.

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.

RIP: Please remember Margaret O'Brien (Sister of Pat and Steve Howell), and Catherine Henry who died recently. Please keep Margaret and Catherine in your prayers and keep their families and friends in your thoughts and prayers at this very sad and difficult time.

FIRST ANNIVERSARY RIP: MARIA HAMILTON. Please remember Maria in your prayers as her daughter Catherine and family gather at Sacred Heart this weekend to lovingly honour Maria on her first anniversary. Please also remember in your prayers Maria's late husband Don and son Christopher RIP.

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.

BLESSING OF PALMS – PALM SUNDAY: Palms will be blessed this weekend at the 6.30pm Mass on Saturday 28th March and also at the 11.00am Mass on Sunday 29th March. Palms already blessed at 6.30pm Mass will be available at the 9.00am Mass.

CLOCKS: In the UK, clocks go forward one hour at 01:00 GMT on the last Sunday in March (March 29th 2026), marking the start of British Summer Time (BST). Clocks shift to 02:00 BST, resulting in one less hour of sleep but lighter evenings. (Thanks to Maria Gordon for the reminder!)

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES: Wesley Weekes will be distributing new envelopes for the 2026 financial year before and after each Mass this weekend: **W/E 29th March.** 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.

GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION: Holy Places of Palestine.

LENTEN PROJECT 2026: Thank you to all who gave so generously to the collection last weekend £725.36. The Bleed Kit Cabinet has now been installed. This will be of benefit to the wider Stopsley community.

THURSDAY CLUB: Closed for the Easter Break and will reopen on Thursday 16th April. Thank you to all the volunteers who work together to provide a wonderful opportunity for everyone to socialise over a cup of tea or coffee, enjoy a game of bingo and to just chat! The recent Easter lunch provided was well attended and enjoyed by all.

SACRED HEART QUIZ NIGHT: FRIDAY 24TH APRIL – 7.00PM START: £3 PER TICKET
Come along and participate in a social event Quiz in the Parish Hall. Bring your own drinks and nibbles. Tea and coffee will be available to purchase. All welcome! Tickets available next weekend 4th/5th April from the Repository or from the Office (during Office hours 10am-12 Noon Wednesday 8th April, Friday 10th April, Monday 13th, Wednesday 15th and Friday 17th April). See Poster on the Noticeboard for further details.

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).

BIBLES – EUROPEAN LANGUAGES: The airport chaplaincy is interested in Bibles in European Languages. Luton Airport has flights all over Europe plus North Africa and the Near Middle East. They would be grateful if any Church felt able to provide Bibles in European Languages, if you have spare Bibles that you are not using, please pass them on to Fr Allan and he will pass them on to the Airport Chaplaincy.

LEGION OF MARY – PILGRIMAGE TO AYLESFORD PRIORY: 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.)
All seats must be confirmed and payment received by Tuesday 28th April 2026. Payments to be forwarded to Judy Weekes. Contact Judy Weekes via Sacred Heart Parish Office 01582 723099 or via Wesley Weekes 01582 738569 or 07549 996123

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

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 22.03.2026: Envelopes £737.00; Loose Cash £345.02; Total £1082.02 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/**

MARRIAGE SUPPORT: From relationships that are 'Just in a Rut', needing some refreshment or more serious issues - If you are open to try again – Retrouvaille could be the solution. Retrouvaille have helped thousands of couples get their relationship back on track as they rediscovered hope and trust in the marriage. To find out more: **www.retrouvaille.org.uk +44 797 338 0443**

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

SCHOOL CHAPLAIN OPPORTUNITY: Cardinal Newman Catholic School is an outstanding Catholic secondary school, seeking a committed and faith-filled Chaplain to join their vibrant school community. Cardinal Newman is a high-performing 11–18 school, placed in the top 25% nationally for both GCSE and A Level outcomes, where academic excellence sits alongside strong formation of character, faith and mission. It is the only Catholic secondary school in the Luton and Dunstable area, serving a richly diverse community, with strong and active parish links and close collaboration with clergy and local faith communities. The role is full time (term time + 5 days). For further information on how to apply, or to arrange an informal visit, please contact PA to Headteacher, Jade McKinlay on **jmckinlay@cardinalnewmanschool.net**

ESCORTED TOUR TO WESTPORT, KNOCK & CO MAYO, 26TH APRIL 2026: £999.00 pps. Price includes flight from Heathrow or Luton, 10kg hold luggage, 5 nights in 4* Castlecourt Hotel, Westport with Dinner, Bed & Breakfast. Full use of leisure facilities. All entertainment, excursions and transport included. Visit Knock Shrine, Ballintubber Abbey, Fr. Peyton Centre & Kylemore Abbey. Irish music nightly. Cooking demonstration. Single supplement on Enquiry. Contact 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email **knockpilgrimages@gmail.com.**

READERS' ROTA: Copies of the Readers' Rota for the period 5th April to 31st May 2026 available in the Foyer.

FORMING CATHOLIC STUDENT LEADERS: Two summer courses exploring faith, ethics and leadership for sixth form students, offered by the Christian Heritage Centre at Stonyhurst. Six days in the beautiful Ribble Valley to explore themes linked to The Common Good (Year 12, 10-15 August) and to The Human Ecology (Year 13, 5-10 July). Meet new friends, discuss and share with peers, tutors and academics, learn new skills, develop your relationship with Christ, build your character. **www.christianleadershipformation.com** **(See Poster on the Noticeboard.)**

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 April, 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.**

RIP ANNIVERSARIES: Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:
Beryl Breslin 2007; James McCafferty 1985; John Wilkinson 1990; Margaret Borg;
John Peter Doherty 2020; George Burr 1991; Giuseppe Panepinto 2010; Baby David Elliott Smith 2012;
Mary (Maureen) Purcell 2022; Mary Margaret Waite 2020; William Hackett 1983; Thomas Cregan 1992;
Milagros Oseo 2024; Alice Ryan 2010; Michael Walsh 1963; Charles Matthews 1973;
Matthew Early 1979; Giuseppe Coronella 2001; Elizabeth (Betty) Hanlon McClements 2019;
Agnes Wilson 2022; Helena Purcell 'Helen' 2025; Michael Brennan 1990; Alice Christina Botham 2014;
Thomas Wilkins 1957; Robert Loughran 1961; Andrew Harrold 1972; Hugh McGurk 1973;
Denise Stephen 1998; Colin John Flitton 2012; Maria Demeter 2024; John Egan 2019
✠ **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).