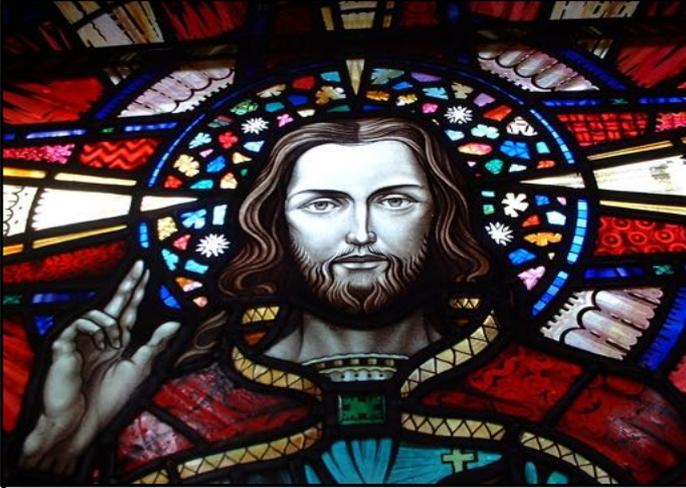


# newsletter



2 and 3 December 2017

First Sunday of Advent, Year B



## Catholic Parish of The Sacred Heart

### *Our Mission*

Through the power of the Holy Spirit we will be a parish renewed in our knowledge and understanding of the love of Jesus Christ, to enable each of us to fulfil our Christian mission



Roman Catholic Diocese of Northampton

Pope Close, Flitwick, MK45 1JP

Contact: 01525 715 109, 07711 953 926, [www.sacredheartflitwick.co.uk](http://www.sacredheartflitwick.co.uk)

**Father John Danford**, Parish Priest

[sacredheartlb@btinternet.com](mailto:sacredheartlb@btinternet.com), 01525 372 321

**Deacon Philip**, Pastoral Administrator

[deaconphilip@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk](mailto:deaconphilip@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk), 07711 953 926

**Suzanne Yates**, Parish Secretary

[secretary@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk](mailto:secretary@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk)



Follow  
us on  
Facebook

## A Message from Deacon Philip

Since Fr. Denis fell ill in October 2014, I have been both informally and formally the parish's Pastoral Administrator. That time has seen us navigate the sad loss of Fr. Denis and the appointment of two different parish priests, with all the implications that that has entailed. My intention had been to hold the role formally for two years, which would have seen me step down last August. Anticipating all the recent change, I offered to remain in post until the end of this year. On Friday I wrote to Bishop Peter and the Diocesan Office, stepping down from the job of Pastoral Administrator. I am pleased to tell you that our parish secretary, Suzanne Yates, has come forward to take over as the Pastoral Administrator, in addition to her

existing responsibilities. I hope you will join me in thanking her and congratulating her on her appointment, effective 1 January 2018.

This change will allow me to become simply 'your deacon' once again. I will work with Fr. John, Suzanne and the whole team of people who help run the parish for the benefit of everyone in our community and beyond.

The last few years have been very challenging for everyone involved in the life and work of the Sacred Heart Parish. No doubt we face much to resolve and adjust to in our life together. The time is now upon us to recognise our new reality, and to look forward to how we can work together to remain a strong and thriving parish community into the future.

Thank you all for the support and encouragement you have given me in the last three years. God bless each of you for the season of Advent and Christmas.

*Deacon Philip*

## CHRISTMAS MASSES 2017 AT SACRED HEART

Saturday 24 December Christmas Eve	6.00 pm	Mass especially for Children and Families
	10.00 pm	Midnight Mass
Sunday 25 December Christmas Day	9.00 am	Mass during the Day

### Carol Service with Nativity Tableau Next Sunday

10 December 2017  
3.00 pm

Followed by Refreshments



## Thank You



We are very happy to say that we had 42 shoeboxes to donate to Christmas Child. Well done everyone!



### THE NEED PROJECT CHRISTMAS APPEAL

We expect to deliver around 500 food parcels this Christmas. What do we need? In addition to the usual dried and tinned food, we include Christmas items such as: tinned salmon, mince pies, Christmas cakes and tinned ham. Food we are often short of includes: coffee, sugar, tomatoes, tinned fruit, and vegetables, tinned puddings, fish although anything else is gratefully received.



**Closing date 15 December!**

## Thank You, Tea and Coffee Drinkers

We have amassed another £100, which has been donated, to the wonderful charity Mary's Meals again. Between now and the 31 December every donation to Mary's Meals is being doubled! Please see letters on the door of the serving hatch.

Grateful thanks to all the makers and drinkers.

Flitwick Singers present  
*The Greatest Gift of All*  
A Christmas Concert  
for Noah Enterprises, Luton  
on Friday 15 December  
at 7.30 pm  
Here at Sacred Heart Church



### BOOK CLUB

Thursday, 18 January 2018 at 7.30 pm

The next book we have for you to read is:

**THE GRACE OUTPOURING: BLESSING OTHERS  
THROUGH PRAYER** by Roy Godwin and Dave Roberts  
New members welcome

## The Advent Conversation

Our Baptismal Mission

Discovering what it means to be a Priest,  
Prophet and King or Queen  
Next two Tuesday in Advent  
5 December and  
12 December



Gather at 7.30 pm for a time of reflection and conversation about our baptismal mission as priests, prophets and kings or queens

**BOOKING IS NOT ESSENTIAL**

please come along to the next session on 5 December

### ADVENT EXPOSITION

Our Advent period of Exposition will be on **Wednesday 13 December**. It will commence at 7.00 pm and end with benediction at 8.45 pm.

This period of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will offer an opportunity to be with Our Lord in silent vigil and could form an important part of our Advent preparations.

Please feel free to come for as long as you like. Even if you can manage only a few minutes of prayer in a busy day, it will be worth it to experience peace and tranquillity in Our Lord's presence.



## THE GIVING TREE

As usual, the first Sunday in Advent will see the appearance of the SVP Giving Tree in our church. The stickers that cover it bear the name of an item needed at the Prebend Day Centre in Bedford to support the homeless and rootless. If you can help, please take some of the stickers, purchase the items named and return them to the church by **Monday 18 December**.

The items we are seeking are toothpaste and toothbrushes, deodorant, shaving foam and gel, disposable razors, shampoo and shower gel. We would also like men's pants and ladies' knickers, along with socks, scarves, hats and gloves. In the food line we would like some tins of corned beef, packets of biscuits and small bars of chocolate.

When buying items, please avoid expensive ones – value and store own brand are much better and are less likely to be stolen from the recipients; not a nice thought but a real one when we want to help those in need hang on to the few possessions they might have.

Thanks in advance for your generosity. Everything that you give will reach those in need in time for Christmas.



## CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

The next meeting is on **7 December**, 7.30 pm till 9.30 pm. Please contact Nicky Paterson on 01525 750 654.



The next meeting of the Sewing Group will be on **11 December**

from 2.00 pm till 4.00 pm. For information contact Clare Bevan 01525 403 589.



Mothers' Prayers will meet on Monday, **11 December** at 7.30 pm

at 80 George Street, Maulden. You are very welcome to join us to pray for your family Intentions in full confidentiality. Ring Sue Barley on 01525 634186. We meet fortnightly.



## Lighting of the Advent Wreath – Candle One

**Celebrant:** Stand erect, hold your heads up high, because your liberation is near at hand.

**Deacon:** Lord, we wait the coming of our Saviour born to set us free, free from fear and sin.



***The First Candle on the Wreath is lit.***

**ALL: COME LORD JESUS, LIGHT OF THE WORLD.**

**There will be a second collection for Home Mission Sunday on 9 and 10 December**

*Supporting the work of evangelisation in England and Wales*



More information next week

Tea and coffee will be available after 9.00 am Mass. All welcome



There is an opportunity for **prayer ministry** straight after 9.00 am Mass this weekend. Please come forward to bring to the Lord your needs, and the team will pray with you – this is always confidential.

'Before they finish praying to me I will answer their prayers'  
Isaiah 65:24

Thank you for your weekly contribution to the parish. For 24 and 25 November the total was £491.23. With thanks, Finance Committee.

## CIRCLE OF PRAYER FOR DECEMBER – OUR DIOCESE

God our Father, in all the churches scattered throughout the world you show forth the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church. Through the Gospel and the Eucharist bring your people of the Diocese of Northampton together in the Holy Spirit and guide us in your love. We acknowledge with deep gratitude your abundant blessings bestowed on this Diocese and its people.



## INFORMATION

### CONFESSION

Confession will be on Saturday evening at 5.30 pm and Wednesday at 7.15 pm.

### PRAYER LINE

Please ring for intercessory prayer on 01525 634 186. We have some wonderful answers to prayers. Be assured of full confidentiality.

### CARDS, GIFTS, etc.

Are available for sale in Sacred Heart church after Mass. All are priced. Please put money in the repository box at the back of the church.

### SAFEGUARDING

For information contact Paula Bates on 07834 715 978 or [safeguarding@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk](mailto:safeguarding@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk)

### CHURCH NEWSLETTER ONLINE

at <http://www.sacredheartflitwick.co.uk>

### IN HOSPITAL, SICK OR HOUSE-BOUND?

Please let us know of anyone who needs a visit or requires Holy Communion at home.

**THE ST VINCENT DE PAUL GROUP** meets every Monday at 7.30 pm. If you would like to join us or want more details or if you know of anyone who needs a visit, help with transport or any other need, contact John Flanagan on 01525 406 810.

### LITTLE 'UNS

Meet every Friday 10.30 am to 11.45 am in term time, in the church hall. This is a group for babies and pre-schoolers. For further information please contact Deacon Philip on [deaconphilip@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk](mailto:deaconphilip@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk).

### MASS INTENTIONS

For Mass intentions contact Deacon Philip who will arrange for Fr. John or Fr. Nathaniel or another local priest to say a Mass.

## Mass Times at Sacred Heart

Saturday	2 December	6.00 pm	Hilda and Lionel Nimerovsky, Anniversary, RIP
Sunday	3 December	9.00 am	For all have suffered miscarriage, still birth or the lose of an unborn child
Monday	4 December	9.30 am	Deceased of the McGrath and Campbell Families
Tuesday	5 December		No Service
Wednesday	6 December	7.30 pm	Deceased of the Spillane and Ellis Families
Thursday	7 December	9.30 am	Deceased of the Brady and McGuigan Families
Friday	8 December	9.30 am	Deceased of the Basquie and Freeman Families

**Newsletter copy deadline** – Tuesday midday. Newsletter contact: Suzanne Yates; 01525 840 661; [suz\\_yates@btinternet.com](mailto:suz_yates@btinternet.com)

### Readers, Eucharistic Ministers and Drivers for this week, 2 and 3 December

Mass	6.00 pm	9.00 am
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Frederick Werrett	Brendan Spillane
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Noreen Weighell	Ann Leatherland
Eucharistic Minister	Deacon Philip Pugh	Myriam Rincon
Eucharistic Minister	John Flanagan	Carlos Rincon
Driver		Ros Penn

### Readers, Eucharistic Ministers and Drivers for next week 9 and 10 December

Mass	6.00 pm	9.00 am
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Dee Brady	Una McAlinden
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Pat Crowe	Kate Mansford
Eucharistic Minister	Deacon Philip Pugh	Catherine Davies
Eucharistic Minister	Adrian Hamilton	Ros Penn
Driver		David Toland