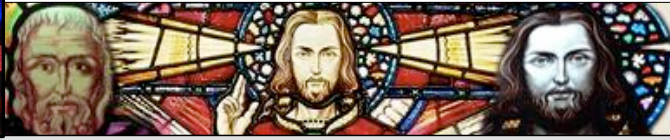




## Catholic Parish of The Sacred Heart – *Our Mission*

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



 Follow us on Facebook

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)

Parish Priest, **Father John Danford**

Parish Deacon, **Deacon Philip Pugh**

Pastoral Administrator, **Suzanne Yates**

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

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

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

Thank you for your weekly contribution to the parish. For 11 February the total was £365.89. With thanks, Finance Committee.

## Feast of the Chair of St Peter – 22 February

This feast celebrates St Peter, the rock upon whom Jesus built the Church. 'You are Peter,' Jesus said, 'and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it' (Mt 16:18).

The early Church in Rome was in the custom of marking the date that Peter arrived to publicly lead their community. Each year on this date, they dedicated the empty chair Peter sat on when he presided over the community in prayer. He used to sit in the chair to receive newly converted Christians who had been baptised. Still dripping wet, they would come to him in this chair to be anointed and confirmed.



22 February was chosen to coincide with what was understood as the anniversary of the day on which Jesus entrusted the Church to Peter with the words from Matthew's Gospel, above. The actual chair of this feast was lost long ago in one of the several invasions and plundering of Rome.

On this feast of the Chair of St Peter, let us pray for the Pope and for the Church!

Adapted from <http://www.newmanconnection.com>

### Readers, Eucharistic Ministers and Drivers for

Mass	This Sunday, 18 February	Next Sunday, 25 February
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Fredrick Werrett	Suzanne Yates
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Una McAlinden	Kate Mansford
Eucharistic	Adrian Hamilton	Ros Penn
Eucharistic	Pat King	Catherine Davies
Driver	Louis Chadwick	Ros Penn

## 24 Hours for the Lord – 8 and 9 March

As part of our Lenten programme our parish is celebrating 24 Hours for the Lord.



It will begin on Friday 9 March at 11.00 am. There will be Exposition and a service of reconciliation and examination of conscience. Pope Francis invites us to take the sacrament of reconciliation at this time. This coincides with the month of March dedicated to repentance and forgiveness in our diocesan Year of Prayer and Vocation. This provides us with a deeper incentive to respond to the Pope's invitation to celebrate God's mercy and tenderness this coming Lent.

Fr. John will be available for the sacrament of reconciliation from 11.00 am till 12 midday on Friday.

The 24 hours of Adoration will close with prayers at 9.00 am on Saturday 9 March. Throughout the twenty-four hours there will be recitation of psalms on the hour, prayers of the Church and time to spend with the Lord in silent Adoration.

Please get involved by giving to an hour or more of your time to this celebration of the Year of Prayer and Vocation. A timetable for the day will be on display on the noticeboard in the coming weeks for you to commit to a specific time when you can be in church.

## Mass Times at Sacred Heart

Sunday	18 February	9.00 am Intentions of Isobel Rose
Tuesday	20 February	9.30 am Service of the Word and Communion
Wednesday	21 February	7.30 pm Service of the Word and Communion
Friday	23 February	10.00 am Service of the Word and Communion

## CIRCLE OF PRAYER FOR FEBRUARY – CONSECRATED LIFE

Inspire all of your disciples to mutual love and giving, for vocations blossom in the good soil of faithful people. Instill those in religious life, parish ministries, and families with the confidence and grace to invite others to embrace the bold and noble path of a life consecrated to you. Bless young people with the gift of courage to respond to your call. Open their hearts to great ideals, to great things. *Pope Francis*

CAFOD's Family Fast Day this Lent is an opportunity to support our brothers and sisters who don't have enough to eat. On Friday 23 February can you give up a meal, or eat a simple meal, in solidarity?



With malnutrition still killing almost three million children a year, your fasting, prayers and donations will ensure more of God's children have enough good food to eat.

And this Lent, your donation will make double the difference. For every pound you donate to CAFOD, the government will also donate a pound, up to a total of £5 million, meaning twice the number of lives can be transformed. Twice the number of children can have the opportunity to grow up healthy and strong.

Please collect your Fast Day envelope after Mass and give generously.



**RED BOX ANNUAL COLLECTION**  
Pat King will be collecting the contents of the Red Boxes before Mass this weekend **18 February** and again on **4 March**.

Those with boxes should have received their envelopes, but if not please phone 01525 402 598.



**CHURCHES TOGETHER**  
IN AMPHILL AND  
FLITWICK (CTA&F)

**Prayer Spaces for Lent 2018**  
**10.00 am to 12 midday**

These are based on titles that Jesus gave himself as recorded in the Gospel of John – the 'I am' sayings

Below are the churches and their dates.

Date	Church	Theme
24 February	St Peter and St Paul's	'I am the bread of life' John 6:35
3 March	Flitwick Methodist	'I am the way the truth and the life' John 14:6
10 March	Sacred Heart	'I am the vine' John 15
17 March	Ampthill Baptist	'I am the light of the world' John 8:12, 9:5
24 March	St Andrew's Ampthill	'I am the good shepherd' John 10:11, 14

You are welcome to attend all or some of these open churches.

**Newsletter copy deadline – Thursday midday.**  
Newsletter contact: Suzanne Yates; 01525 840 661;  
suz\_yates@btinternet.com

**THEME FOR LENT**  
**CONTEMPLATIVE – CENTRING PRAYER**

The Year of Prayer and Vocation calendar asks us to focus on the 'Consecrated Life' in February. Many orders of religious practise 'contemplative prayer' as part of their daily life, so we have taken as our Lenten theme their style of prayer. Often called Christian meditation or Centring Prayer this method of reflective prayer picks up the modern desire for mindfulness.



The method focuses on a universal spiritual wisdom and a practice found at the core of all the great religious traditions, leading from the mind to the heart. It is a way of simplicity, silence and stillness. It can be practised by anyone, wherever you are on your life's journey.

Deacon Philip will lead the first sessions, this **Tuesday 20 February** starting at 7.30 pm. Everyone welcome, no need to book.

Each session will include a talk from the series created by Laurence Freeman and an opportunity to take part in a fifteen-minute contemplation.

The following sessions will be 27 February then 6 and 13 March.

All children who have received their first reconciliation, the First Holy Communion sessions start on the 25 February. The first session will start after Mass with a brunch for children and their families. If children did not do their reconciliation with us they need to email [sacraments@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk](mailto:sacraments@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk).



**Soup for Sudan**

Once again Lent is with us and on **Tuesday 6 March (12 noon till 1.30 pm)** the SVP once again invite you to a meal of soup and bread as we remember the suffering people of Sudan and South Sudan. They have endured war and famine for many years while the local SVP do their best to help in whatever ways they can. Both countries are desperately poor and the local SVP Conferences rely on outside support for their work. Come along for a simple meal as part of your Lenten preparation. There is no charge for the meal or for the fellowship – and ALL donations are sent to the SVP in Sudan.



**Information**

**CONFESSION**

Confession will be at 8.40 am on Sunday and at 9.45 am on Friday.

**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**

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

**IN HOSPITAL, SICK OR HOUSEBOUND**

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 at [deaconphilip@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk](mailto:deaconphilip@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk)

**MASS INTENTIONS**

For Mass intentions contact Suzanne Yates who will arrange for Fr. John or another local priest to say a Mass.

Tea and coffee will be available after Mass on Sunday. All welcome.



Mothers' Prayers will meet on Monday, **26 February** 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.



The sewing group will start again after Easter. For information contact Clare Bevan 01525 403 589.



**CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP**

This group will be meet on **28 February**. Please contact Nicky Paterson on 01525 750 654.

