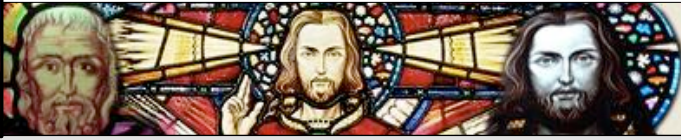




**Catholic Parish of The Sacred Heart – Our Mission**

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

Parish Deacon, **Deacon Philip Pugh** [deaconphilip@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk](mailto:deaconphilip@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk), 07711 953 926

Pastoral Administrator, **Suzanne Yates** [secretary@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk](mailto:secretary@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk)

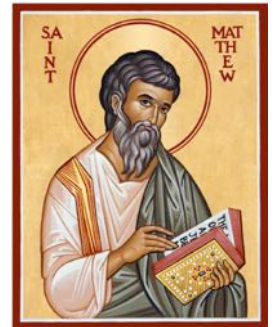
Thank you for your contribution to the parish. For 9 September the offertory was £365.23 and standing orders were £623.00. With thanks, the Finance Committee.

## Feast of St Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist – 21 September

St Matthew, one of the twelve Apostles, is the author of the first Gospel. This has been the constant tradition of the Church and is confirmed by the Gospel itself. He was the son of Alpheus and was called to be an Apostle while sitting in the tax collector's place at Capernaum. Before his conversion he was a 'publican', a tax collector by profession. He is to be identified with the 'Levi' of Mark and Luke.

His apostolic activity was at first restricted to the communities of Palestine. Nothing definite is known about his later life. There is a tradition that points to Ethiopia as his field of labour; other traditions mention Parthia and Persia. It is uncertain whether he died a natural death or received the crown of martyrdom.

St Matthew's Gospel was written to fill a need for his fellow countrymen, both believers and unbelievers. For the former, it served as a token of his regard and as an encouragement in the trial to come, especially the danger of falling back to Judaism. For the latter, it was designed to convince them that the Messiah had come in the person of Jesus, our Lord, in whom all the promises of the Messianic Kingdom embracing all people had been fulfilled in a spiritual rather than in a carnal way: 'My Kingdom is not of this world'.



Writing for the people of Palestine, St Matthew composed his Gospel in his native Aramaic, the 'Hebrew tongue' mentioned in the Gospel and the Acts of the Apostles. Soon afterwards, about the time of the persecution of Herod Agrippa I in AD 42, he took his departure for other lands. Another tradition places the composition of his Gospel either between the time of this departure and the Council of Jerusalem, i.e., between AD 42 and AD 50 or even later. The Gospel, depicting the Holy City with its altar and temple as still existing, and without any reference to the fulfilment of our Lord's prophecy, shows that it was written before the destruction of the city by the Romans in AD 70, and this internal evidence confirms the early traditions.

Adapted from <https://www.catholic.org>

### Readers and Eucharistic Ministers

Mass	This Sunday, 16 September	Next Sunday, 23 September
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Noelette Hanley	Martin Brennan
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Brendan Spillane	Alison Braniff
Eucharistic	Anne Gadsden	Carlos Rincon
Eucharistic	John Flanagan	Myriam Rincon
Driver	William Doyle	Ros Penn

### SUMMER PARISH BRUNCH

We are holding a late-summer brunch on Sunday **30 September** after 9.00 am Mass. Monies raised will go to our Just One House fundraising. Tickets available after Mass today. Family ticket £15 and a single ticket £8. Helpers are needed. There will be a short planning meeting on Friday 28 September at 7.00 pm at the church. Please come along if you can assist on the day or let Suzanne know on [secretary@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk](mailto:secretary@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk)



### Mass Times at Sacred Heart

Sunday	16 September	9.00 am	Ola Faye Hope, Recently Deceased, RIP
Monday	17 September	10.00 am	Service of the Word and Communion for the pilgrims going to Poland – all welcome
Tuesday	18 September	9.30 am	Service of the Word and Communion
Wednesday	19 September	7.30 pm	Service of the Word and Communion with Adoration
Friday	21 September	10.00 am	Service of the Word and Communion

### CIRCLE OF PRAYER FOR SEPTEMBER – PRAYER BEFORE THE EUCHARIST

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Eucharist. I love you and I desire to have you within my soul. When I am unable to receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as being already there, and unite myself wholly to you; never permit me to be separated from you.

## ADORAMUS

Thoughts from Debbie Lewis



Whilst in Liverpool, it struck me once again how diverse our catholic church is. We are made up of religious: priests, deacons, nuns, brothers, bishops, and laity; mums, dads, grandparents, married, single, children, youth, elderly. The Eucharistic meal we share brings us together as one big family.

This diversity is to be celebrated and nourished. Youth2000 showed us how our young are so open and courageous to receive and proclaim Jesus' love; we must particularly nurture them and help them to form. *I would like to make a plea for any of you who feel a calling to support our post-confirmation group to please step forward. This is an area of need in our parish.*

The Eucharist is the source and submit of our faith, this great gift is the food we need to sustain us in order that we live as Christ intended. We become what we receive.

At the congress we celebrated with the leader of our Church and the bishops of England and Wales, there was great ceremony, beautiful singing, incense procession and all the display that is so special in our Church. At the centre of all this, and in any Eucharist or Adoration in any church/chapel/home anywhere in the world, is the small white host that is Christ our Saviour. We are able to come, be still, talk, listen, and adore him, face to face, where we gaze upon him and he returns to us his pure love.

We welcome Reggie, the son of Lianne and Andrew Higgs, who was baptised into the Catholic community on 15 September.



We ask the parish to pray for him and his family, and we ask for all God's blessings on their journey of faith.

**MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING**  
Sacred Heart Church, Flitwick

TEA  
COFFEE



CAKE  
RAFFLE

**28 September**  
After 10.00 am Mass

PLEASE COME ALONG AND BRING A FRIEND  
If you would like to donate a raffle prize or volunteer to bake a cake please, contact Anne Gadsden on 07432 595 057.

Raffle Tickets on Sale next Sunday

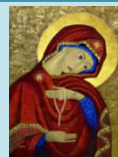
## SVP APPEAL

Today, our SVP members will be appealing for your support. As usual, they will present their annual report, sharing what has been done during the past twelve months and outlining future plans. There will be a retiring collection to support their work. On Monday 17 and Monday 24 there will be opportunities to meet members and talk about the work of the SVP. These meetings will be held at church at 8.00 pm – all are welcome and no pressure will be used! Please see the noticeboard *Beyond Boundaries* for the national SVP appeal.



### A DAY WITH MARY SATURDAY 6 OCTOBER

Our Pastoral Area Council is extending an invitation to all parishioners to join with people from our other parishes for a special day focused on Our Lady and the Rosary in today's busy world.



All aspects of the Rosary will be explored, its origins, how we use the rosary, its place and the derived benefits for us in 2018. There will also be opportunities for group discussion and reflection and we will finish with the collective saying of the Rosary. The day starts at 11.30 am in the Marian Hall at St Mary's in Dunstable. Refreshments will be provided but you are welcome to bring your lunch with you. We end the day with benediction at 3.30 pm. If you would like to attend this gathering, please speak to Deacon Philip or Peter Leatherland.

### Sacred Heart Flitwick 100 CLUB

The latest draw took place on 9 September and the lucky winners were  
1<sup>st</sup> – Emily Richardson  
2<sup>nd</sup> – Maria Curtin  
3<sup>rd</sup> – Anne Gadsden

## PILGRIMAGE TO POLAND

Please remember our forty-eight pilgrims from the combined parishes of Flitwick and Leighton Buzzard who leave tomorrow, 17 September, for five days in Poland. Keep in your thoughts and prayers Fr. John, Fr. Kris and Deacons Philip and Tony as we walk in the footsteps of St Pope John Paul II. Pray that we have a holy and blessed time together and return home safely to our parish and families. We shall carry your intentions with us.  
Ros Penn

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

## 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 at [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

meet in the church every Monday at 7.30 pm. Members provide help, support and friendship to anyone in need. They offer this support through befriending visits. Call Brendan Spillane, 01525 861 949 to find out more about their work.

### 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.

Everyone is welcome to come for tea and coffee after Sunday Mass.



Mothers' Prayers will meet on Monday **24 September**. We meet fortnightly to pray for our children and have had many answers to our prayers. Ring Sue Barley on 01525 634 186 for details.



The sewing group will meet on **24 September** from 2.00 pm till 4.00 pm. For information contact Clare Bevan 01525 403 589.



### CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

This group will meet on **19 September**. Please contact Nicky Paterson on 01525 750 654.

