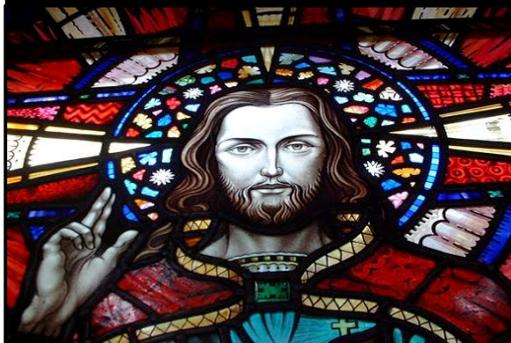


# newsletter



9 December 2018

Second Sunday of Advent, Year C



**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

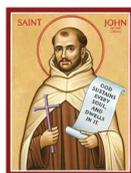
Parish Deacon, **Deacon Philip Pugh** [deaconphilip@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk](mailto:deaconphilip@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk), 07711 953 926

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

Thank you for your contribution to the parish. For 2 December the offertory was £373.70 and standing orders were £623.00. With thanks, the Finance Committee.

## FEAST OF ST JOHN OF THE CROSS – 14 DECEMBER

He was born in Fontiveros, in Spain, in about 1542. He was a Carmelite friar before, Saint Teresa of Ávila persuaded him to pioneer the reform of the Carmelite order in 1568. This was a difficult task and a dangerous one; he suffered imprisonment and severe punishment at the hands of the Church authorities. He died at the monastery of Ubeda in Andalusia on 14 December 1591. The monks there had initially treated him as the worst of sinners, but by the time he died they had recognised his sanctity and his funeral was the occasion of a great outburst of enthusiasm.



St John's works include two major mystical poems. He is considered one of the great poets of the Spanish language and detailed commentaries on them and the spiritual truths they convey. He was canonised in 1726 and declared a Doctor of the Church in 1926.

Adapted from Catholic Calendar app by Universalis Publishing



### Lessons and Carols Service

NEXT Sunday 16 December at 3.00 pm

Followed by Refreshments

All Welcome

### Readers and Eucharistic Ministers

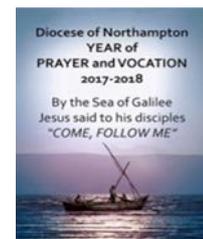
Mass	This Sunday, 9 December	Next Sunday, 16 December
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Pat Crowe	Kate Mansford
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Ann Leatherland	Suzanne Yates
Eucharistic	Nicky Paterson	Clare Bevan
Eucharistic	Don Perrett	Jane Crow
Driver	William Doyle	Ros Penn

## Close of the Year of Prayer and Vocation

Bishop Peter closed the year of prayer and vocation at the Mass for the Immaculate Conception in the cathedral yesterday, 8 December. The Apostolic Nuncio, Archbishop Adams presided over and preached at the Mass. We commend the close of the year to you and here is the prayer.

### Prayer of Richard of Chichester

Thanks be to you,  
our Lord Jesus Christ,  
for all the benefits which you have given us.  
For all the pains and insults  
which you have borne for us.  
Most merciful Redeemer, Friend and Brother,  
may we know you more clearly,  
love you more dearly,  
and follow you more nearly, day by day. Amen



### Lighting of the Advent Wreath – Candle Two

**Celebrant:** For God will guide Israel with joy, by the light of his glory with his mercy and integrity for escort.

**Deacon:** Come, Lord Jesus, to our rescue with the protection of your mercy.



### The Second Candle on the Wreath is lit.

**ALL:** PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD, THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD.

## Mass Times at Sacred Heart

Sunday	9 December	9.00 am	Bea O'Malley, RIP Kathleen and Philip Watson, Anniversary, RIP
Tuesday	11 December	9.30 am	Peggy Brennan, Recently Deceased, RIP
Wednesday	12 December	9.30 am	Service of the Word and Communion
Friday	14 December	10.00 am	Intentions of Susan Jeffreys, who is ill and Mary Ellen Brooker, Anniversary, RIP

## CIRCLE OF PRAYER FOR DECEMBER REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS

Lord God, no one is a stranger to you and no one is ever far from your loving care. In your kindness, watch over refugees, migrants and victims of war. Bring them safely to the place where they long to be and help us always to show your kindness to strangers and to all in need.

## CHRISTMAS MASSES 2018

### AT SACRED HEART

Monday, 24 December, Christmas Eve

6.00 pm Mass for Children and Families

9.00 pm Mass of Midnight

Tuesday, 25 December, Christmas Day

9.00 am Mass for Children and Families

### BOOK CLUB – NEXT MEETING

Thursday 13 December 2018

at 7.30 pm in the home of Mary Aylward

(please ask Suzanne Yates, Pastoral Administrator for the address)

New members are made very welcome and we will chat about this book. The next book we have for you to read is: *WALKING BACKWARDS TO CHRISTMAS* by Stephen Cottrell.

### ADVENT EXPOSITION

Our Advent period of Exposition will be on **Wednesday 12 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.



### ADVENT SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION MONDAY 17 DECEMBER AT 7.30 PM

Prepare for the season of Christmas by joining us for the reconciliation service. After a short liturgy of prayer, readings and preparation and there is the opportunity for a personal act of act of confession with our local priests.

### RED BOX FILM

A short film showing the work of the Missio Team who benefit from the RED BOX money can be found on <https://missio.org.uk/videos/>  
The annual review can be down loaded on [missio.org.uk/about-missio](https://missio.org.uk/about-missio)  
Thank you for all your support during 2018.

### RETIRING COLLECTION FOR HOME MISSION SUNDAY TODAY 9 DECEMBER



Today we pray for the spread of the Gospel, and in the second collection we can support it financially. The money you give to this collection does not go abroad. It's used to help Catholics throughout England and Wales become more confident in sharing their faith.

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

### THE GIVING TREE

As usual, the first Sunday in Advent sees the appearance of the SVP Giving Tree in our church. The stickers that cover it bear the name of an item needed at the Smart 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 Sunday 16 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.

Please leave your donations in the church porch.

The last collection for **NEED (Foodbank)** for Christmas will be on **Friday 14 December**. Thank you for your support.

We welcome Thomas, son of Melanie and Christopher Savvides, who was baptised into the Catholic community on 2 December. We ask the parish to pray for him and his family, and wish him and his family all God's blessings on their journey of faith.



### CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

We are having a Christmas raffle this year to raise funds for the St Francis Suite.

Tickets are on sale after Mass at a £1 a ticket. The raffle will be drawn at the Carol concert on 16 December.



### Global Healing

Inspired by Pope Francis' *Laudato Si'*, the bishops of England and Wales have commissioned a thought-provoking documentary programme to refresh our commitment to the call to action.

The DVD features contributions that explore the teaching of *Laudato Si'* and its implications for the world and all its inhabitants.

Our last reflection on the DVD takes place on this Tuesday 11 December.

Gather at 7.45 pm for a time of reflection and conversation.



## 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 HOUSE-BOUND?

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 next meet on **TUESDAY 8 January**. We

meet fortnightly to pray for our children and have had many answers to our prayers. Ring Sue Barley on 01525 634186 for details.



The sewing group will meet on **10 December** from 2.00 pm till 4.00 pm. For information contact Clare Bevan 01525 403 589.



### CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

This group will meet again on **19 December**. Please contact Nicky Paterson on 01525 750

