

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.



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Roman Catholic Diocese of Northampton

Pope Close, Flitwick, MK45 1JP

Contact: 01525 715 109, www.sacredheartflitwick.co.uk

Priest in Charge, **Father Jerry Manomey** priest@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk, 01525 715 109

Secretary, **Suzanne Yates** secretary@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk

Thank you for your contribution to the parish. For 17 April standing orders were £875.00 and the second collection for Fr. Jerry was £862.40. Thank you, the committee.

PARISH CATECHESIS BY FR. JERRY

Theme: For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven.

As we celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday, we reflect on the risen Lord and his encounter with disciples after eight days of Resurrection. Jesus Christ rose from the grave and showed himself to those who loved him and were intimately committed to him and his divine mission. Catechesis strives to awaken and nourish in the faithful, faith in the incomparable greatness of the risen Christ's gift to his Church. It is the mission and the power to forgive sins through the ministry of the Apostles and their successors (CCC#983).

In today's Gospel, the risen Christ conferred on his disciples his own power to forgive sins (CCC#976). In a personal way, Thomas wanted a physical encounter with the risen Lord to believe. He considered the verbal testimony and the witness of the other Apostles baseless. It was after his own personal encounter with the risen Jesus that Thomas came to faith, my Lord, and my God. In the encounter with the risen Jesus, this title 'Lord' becomes adoration: 'My Lord and my God' it thus takes on a connotation of love and affection that remains proper to the Christian tradition: 'It is the Lord' (CCC#448).

Thomas's personal encounter with the risen Lord is a model for all believers. We have the testimony for the believing community, that we continue to proclaim, 'We have seen the Lord'. We are invited to deepen our faith in the mercy of God and always be reminded that, there is no offence, however serious, that the Church cannot forgive. Christ, who died for all people desires that in his Church, the gates of forgiveness should always be open to anyone who turns away from sins (CCC#982).

Our personal encounter with the risen Lord brings us mercy and forgiveness in his name.

MASS TIMES

THIS WEEK

- † Tuesday at 9.30 am
- † Wednesday at 9.30 am
- † Thursday at 9.30 am
- † Friday at 10.00 am
- † Saturday at 5.00 pm
- † Sunday at 9.00 am and 11.00 am

CONFESSION

Confession is available before Mass on Friday and Saturday and on request.

Celebrating Divine Mercy Sunday

There will be a special service this afternoon, Sunday 24 April, at 2.45 pm to conclude our Divine Mercy Novena.

- † Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
- † Personal Confession
- † Recite Divine Mercy Chaplet
- † Prayers for Plenary Indulgence
- † Reflection (Matthew 9: 27-30)
- † Intercessions
- † Benediction
- † Veneration of the Divine Mercy Image
- † End of Service

Masses will be offered this week for ...

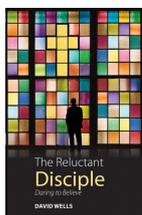
23 April	5.00 pm	Colm Sheehan, Recently Deceased, RIP
24 April	9.00 am	Margaret Gummery, Recently Deceased, RIP
24 April	11.00 am	The People of the Parish
26 April	9.30 am	Peace in Ukraine
27 April	9.30 am	Private Intentions
28 April	9.30 am	Private Intentions
29 April	10.00 am	Margaret Gummery, Recently Deceased, RIP

CIRCLE OF PRAYER FOR APRIL DIGNITY OF HUMAN WORK

Dear God, thank you for providing us with the gift to share our talents. Provide our community, our nation, our world the fortitude to provide work for all which is decent and fair. Make us faithful stewards of your creation to enhance the human dignity of our global family. Amen.

Book Club

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, 26 May at 7.30 pm in Pulloxhill. The next book to read is *The Reluctant Disciple* by David Wells.



In this book of his personal reflections, David helps us to see God in a range of situations that are often funny, sometimes painful, occasionally toe-curlingly embarrassing. Related with characteristically self-deprecating humour, the stories in this volume range from his moving account of visiting war graves in France to the hilarious account of his 'Mr Bean in a ballet moment in California'.

Most Reverend Malcolm McMahon, Archbishop of Liverpool: '... anyone who reads this book can get to know David, be spiritually uplifted, and feel happy being just as God made them'.

Second Collection

There will be a second collection next weekend, 23 and 24 April.

This collection is for the Priests' Training Fund.



This money is to cover the costs of training new priests for our diocese.

PLEASE BE AS GENEROUS AS YOU CAN.

Save the Date 2

We are going to *Walk for Water* on **Saturday 18 June**.



More information soon. We will have sponsorship cards available for all who are able to help in this very important cause.

Save the Date 3

CTA&F Big Brekkie for Christian Aid Week on 14 May in Canon Denis Room from 9.00 am. All Welcome



Mass Intentions

Suzanne is away until 14 May.

If you want a Mass said please complete an envelope that can be found on the counter in the foyer.

Give them to Fr. Jerry or put them in the presbytery's letter box.

Hugh Davies will arrange for the Masses to be said. Cards will be available also on the counter at the next weekend Mass after they are handed in.

Newsletter copy deadline

Thursday midday Contact: Suzanne Yates 01525 840 661 / 07919 263 147, smyat47@gmail.com

Save the Date

2022 is the 40th anniversary of Sacred Heart Catholic church in Flitwick and there will be several events over the next twelve months. Our church was opened in 1982 and consecrated in 1983. To start the celebrations, Bishop David will celebrate Mass on 24 June at 12 midday followed by lunch. Details to follow.



DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Divine Mercy Sunday is celebrated on the Octave of Easter. Celebrating the Divine Mercy of Jesus Christ, as revealed by Christ himself to St Maria Faustina Kowalska, this feast was extended to the entire Catholic Church by Pope John Paul II on 30 April 2000, the day that he canonised St Faustina.

The History of Divine Mercy Sunday

The Octave, or eighth day, of Easter has always been considered special by Christians. Christ, after his Resurrection, revealed himself to his disciples, but St Thomas wasn't with them. He declared that he would never believe that Christ had risen from the dead until he could see him in the flesh and probe Christ's wounds with his own hands. This earned him the name 'Doubting Thomas'.

A week after Christ rose from the dead, he appeared once again to his disciples, and this time Thomas was there. His doubt was vanquished, and he professed his belief in Christ.

Nineteen centuries later, Christ

appeared to a Polish nun, Sr Maria Faustina Kowalska, in a series of visions that took

place over almost eight years. Among those visions, Christ revealed

the Divine Mercy Novena, which he asked Sister Faustina to pray for nine days, beginning on Good Friday. That meant that the novena ended on the Saturday after Easter, the eve of the Octave of Easter. Thus, since novenas are commonly prayed in advance of a feast, the Feast of Divine Mercy, Divine Mercy Sunday was born.

We have been saying the novena since Good Friday

Indulgences for Divine Mercy Sunday

A plenary indulgence is granted on the Feast of Divine Mercy to all the faithful who go to confession, receive Holy Communion, pray for the intentions of the Holy Father.

A partial indulgence is granted to the faithful who pray to the merciful Lord Jesus a legitimately approved invocation.

<https://www.learnreligions.com/divine-mercy-sunday>



INFORMATION

CONFESSION

Confessions are available before Mass on Friday and Saturday and on request.

PRAYER LINE

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

SAFEGUARDING

For information contact Paula Bates
safeguarding@sacredheartflitwick.co.uk

CHURCH NEWSLETTER ONLINE

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

IN HOSPITAL OR HOUSEBOUND?

Please let us know of anyone who needs a visit.

HOSPITAL CONTACTS

Bedford Hospital – Deacon Tony Quinlan on 01234 950 453 or tonyquinlan15@gmail.com
Luton and Dunstable Hospital – Deacon Jim Hannigan on 07756 685 220 or deaconjimhannigan@northamptondiocese.org

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Members provide help, support and friendship to anyone in need. If you or someone you know needs help at this time, please talk to us by ringing 07770 499 239. We are here to help.

MASS INTENTIONS

For Mass Intentions, email Hugh Davies who will arrange for Fr. Jerry to say a Mass. There are special envelopes in the foyer that you can fill in and leave in the sacristy. Hugh will organise Mass cards will Suzanne is away

Tea and coffee available after 11.00 am Mass. Contact Suzanne if you can help after Easter. See contact details.

SEWING GROUP

The sewing group will meet on **9 May** from 2.00 pm till 4.00 pm. For details, phone Hilary Brennan on 01525 717 919



CHARISMATIC GROUP

Our next meeting is on **Wednesday 4 May**. Contact Debbie Lewis 07944792776 for information.



MOTHERS' PRAYERS will meet on

6 May after 10.00 am Mass. Join us for a welcoming cup of coffee before praying for your family. We aim to end by 11.45 am. Ring Sue Barley 01525 634186 for information.

