1 October 2023

Sacred Heart Flitwick 26 Sunday in Ordinary Time



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.

PARISH CATECHESIS FROM FR JERRY

Theme: 'He says to the sons, you go and work in the vineyard today' Jesus uses the Parable of the two sons to show how we respond to God's invitation for the readiness to do the will of the Father. This parable illustrates that it is not enough to give lip service to the importance of the will of God, rather his will must be carried out in our actions. It is plausible to say that the first son refers to the religious leaders while the second son refers to tax collectors, prostitutes, and the outcasts of society. Jesus indicates that the tax collectors, the prostitutes, and the outcasts who seem to be excluded from the Reign of God, are actually those who will find their way. While the religious leaders, who have accepted God's invitation, but have rejected it through their refusal to accept John's call to repentance and the authority of Jesus will miss the kingdom of heaven. Sometimes we know the Will of God but fail to do it. Jesus Christ accepted the Father's Will when he entered this world. He said, 'Lo, I have come to do your will, O God. Only Jesus can say: I always do what is pleasing to God the Father. In the prayer of his agony, he consents totally to his will, not my will, but yours, be done. For this reason, Jesus 'gave himself for our sins to deliver us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father. And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once and for all (CCC#2824).

This parable applies to anyone who has the purpose of amendment, especially in the sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation. Repentance is not only by confession and not really meaning it, like the first son, but true contrition is when we realise that we are wrong and want to change our choices for the better like the second son. Those who genuinely realise their mistakes and guilt will receive God's invitation to repentance. The Church teaches that only the spirit by whom we live can make 'our' spirit the same mind that was in Christ Jesus. Then the unity of forgiveness becomes possible, and we find ourselves 'forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave us (CCC#2842).' The call to repentance is always timeless. At every moment of our lives, we are invited to repent and accept what is good, what is better and even what is best. Although it may sound somewhat frustrating, we should never rest until our good is better and our best. We ask our Father to unite our will to His Son's, in order to fulfil his will, his plan of salvation for the life of the world.

PARISH FIRST AIDERS APPEAL

We would like to ask if there are any qualified first aiders in our parish who are willing to be a named first aider at the Mass they attend. If you are willing to make yourself known, could you please contact **Aggie Keeble on parish.sacredheartflitwick@northamptondiocese.org.** This is a new initiative by the diocese of Northampton. Thank you in advance for your help.

THIS WEEK'S MASSES		
Saturday, 30 September	5.00 pm	James Kehoe, 5th Anniversary, RIP St Jerome
Sunday, 1 October	9.00 am	Special Intentions
Sunday, 1 October	11.00 am	Martin and May Stynes, RIP
Tuesday, 3 October	9.30 am	People of the Parish
Wednesday, 4 October	9.30 am	Private Intentions, St Francis of Assisi
Wednesday, 4 October	2.00 pm	Funeral Service for Mary Vine
Thursday, 5 October	9.30 pm	Holy Souls, St Faustina Kowalska
Friday, 6 October	10.00 am	Special Intentions Eucharistic Adoration after Mass



PRIEST IN CHARGE Father Jerry Manomey frjerry.manomey@ northamptondiocese.org Contact: 01525 715 109

SECRETARY
Aggie Keeble
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@northamptondiocese.org

WEBSITE www.sacredheartflitwick. co.uk Follow us on Facebook.

SAFEGUARDING
Paula Bates
safeguarding.flitwick
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HOSPITAL CONTACTS
Bedford - Deacon Tony
Quinlan 01234 950 453
tonyquinlan15@gmail.com
Luton - Fr. Liam Castle
frliam.castle@
northamptondioces.org

PRAYER LINE Please ring 01525 643 186.

Members provide help to anyone in need. Tel. 01525 873 830

CONFESSIONS
Before Mass on Friday and
Saturday or on request.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE Wednesday afternoon Please contact Aggie Keeble.

MASS INTENTIONS
For Mass Intentions, call or
email Aggie who will arrange
for a Mass to be said. There
are special envelopes in the
foyer that you can fill in and
leave in the sacristy.

DIARY DATES

ROSARY

The month of October is dedicated to the holy rosary as the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary falls on **7 October**. The best way to celebrate the month is, of course, to pray the rosary. We will be praying a decade of the Rosary throughout October 15 minutes before each Mass.

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY APPEAL 7 AND 8 OCTOBER

Dr Nasha's mobile medical clinic gets life-saving help to where it's needed most, fast — so when her team arrived in Meera's village in Pakistan after it had been destroyed by flooding, Meera rushed to the clinic to get her children the treatment they needed. Donate to CAFOD today so that more families can get the expert help they need.

The envelopes for our parish collection will be available on 30 September and 1 October you can donate online at cafod.org.uk or use this QR code.

SAMARITAN'S PURSE OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD - SHOE BOX APPEAL

Operation Child Christmas is back. Shoe Boxes will be available after Mass on Saturday 30 September, Sunday 1 October and over the next few weeks. They need to be returned by 4 and 5 November. This year we are asking for a donation of £1 towards a box. Please speak to Harriet Olds if you have any questions or go to https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/ for more information.

SEASON OF CREATION - LAUDATO SI PLATFORM

You are invited to sign up to **Laudato Si Action Platform** where real people are gathering to share and support one another in the care of our common home so that our plans 'correspond with God our father's plan for peace, beauty and fullness.' (LS 53) You can sign up via **www.laudatosiactionplatform.org**. Cards with QR code are available in the porch.

ST JOHN'S WELL

You are invited to join us at **The Well on 3 October at 7.30 pm at St. John's Parish Centre,** Sundon Park Road Luton, LU3 3AL. Our speaker is Fr. Liam Castle. Tea and coffee served from 7.00 pm.

DIOCESAN MASS FOR THOSE WITH DISABILITIES, THEIR FAMILIES AND CARERS

Bishop David will be celebrating Mass for those with disabilities and additional needs, their families and their carers on **Sunday 8 October in the cathedral at 3.00** pm with refreshments in the Cathedral Centre afterwards.

NATIONAL BOARD OF CATHOLIC WOMEN— BOOK CLUB

The next meeting of the National Board of Catholic Women Book Group will be on Wednesday 18 October at 7.30pm on Zoom. Details from **helen.burgess@northamptondiocese.org.** We will be beginning a new book *Women: Icons of Christ* by Phyllis Zagano. All welcome.

COMMISSIONING OF NEW CHAPLAIN

Our parishioner, Helen Burgess, will be commissioned as a new Lead Chaplain at the University of Bedfordshire. The commissioning will take place on 24 October at 6.00 pm in St Mary's Parish Church in Luton, LU1 3JF. Bishop David will be in attendance. Everybody is welcome! RSVP helen.burgess@beds.ac.uk

SAFEGUARDING

As our diocese continues to respond to the call of Pope Francis to be a synodal Church, our diocesan safeguarding office would like to invite you to a morning reflecting on the impact of Church-related abuse, and how we, as a community, can respond. Join them at Holy Ghost Catholic Church Parish Centre in Luton, LU48JD on Saturday 14 October from 10.30 am till 1.00 pm. It is intended that opportunities for synodal listening will be offered in other locations throughout our diocese in 2024. Email safeguarding@northamptondiocese.org or call 07833 050628 for further details.

• INSPIRING WOMEN WEBINAR

The National Board of Catholic Women invites you to a webinar on **Saturday 25 November 2023 from 11.00 am till 12.45.** Please see the poster in the porch for more detail. We will be meeting in the Canon Denis Room.

OTHER NOTICES

FUNERAL OF MARY VINE

We are sad to announce the passing of our parishioner, Mary Vine. The funeral service will take place at Sacred Heart Flitwick on **Wednesday 4 October at 2.00 pm**. Our sympathy and prayers go to Mary's family.

SVP COLLECTION

The SVP raised £1,400. Thank you so much for your generosity!

BAPTISM OF LILIANA HUTCHISON

Liliana Hutchison, daughter of Monika and James, was baptised on Sunday 24 September at Sacred Heart Flitwick. We ask the parish to pray for Liliana and her family. We wish them all God's blessings on their journey of faith.

MASS OFFERINGS
Standing orders are £860.00 weekly
The collection was £218.20
Thank you very much for your generosity
Finance Committee



