



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: The admonition to forgive not seven times, but seventy-seven times!

The life and example of Jesus Christ who died for us are always an inspiration for us to embrace life in a holistic perspective, especially when it demands that we forgive those who have offended us, neglected us or caused us injustice. Jesus invites us to forgive those who sin against us just as our heavenly Father forgives us our many sins. There is no denying the fact that forgiveness is one of the most difficult and painful virtues in Christianity.

The church teaches that there is no offence, however serious that the Church cannot forgive. There is no one, however wicked and guilty, who may not confidently hope for forgiveness, provided his or her repentance is honest. Christ who died for all men desires that in his church the gates of forgiveness should always be open to anyone who turns away from sin (CCC#982).

The basis of forgiveness is an appreciation of what God has done for humanity in his Son who died on the cross for our sins. In the story of the unforgiving servant, he failed to appreciate how much he had been forgiven by his master. He was rather bent on getting back the one pound his fellow servant owed him. While his attention should have been on the priceless forgiveness he had received from his master, he was absorbed and obsessed with the paltry sum of money his fellow servant owed him. 'He seized him by the throat and began to throttle him...., he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt'.

Also, the forgiveness of our sins is contingent on our willingness to forgive those who may have offended us. In praying the Lord's prayer, we are instructed to forgive those who trespass us even as we pray for forgiveness. Our petition will not be heard unless we meet a strict requirement. Our petition looks to the future, but our response must come first, for the two parts of the petition are joined by the single word 'as' (CCC#2838).

Jesus forgives seventy-seven times. In scripture, seven represents totality and completeness.

Therefore, 'seventy-seven' means that we must be willing to forgive others without limit. In refusing to forgive our brothers and sisters, our hearts are closed and their hardness makes them impervious to the Father's merciful love. But in confessing our sins our hearts are opened to his grace (CCC#2840).

May the crucified Lord grant us the courage to forgive those who sin against us so that we may also receive the Lord's forgiveness. 'And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother or sister from your heart'.

CIRCLE OF PRAYER FOR SEPTEMBER - THE WORK OF THE SVP

Lord, please bless the society and its members and all for whom they care. Protect and guide them in their work, grant them energy and wisdom in their dealings with those in need and inspire others to join the Society so that its membership will grow in the years ahead. Amen.

THIS WEEK'S MASSES

Saturday, 16 September	5.00 pm	Thomas and Mary Kerrigan, Anniversary, RIP
Sunday, 17 September	9.00 am	Ann Hamilton, Recently Deceased, RIP
Sunday, 17 September	11.00 am	Jeremiah Gallagher, RIP
Tuesday, 19 September	9.30 am	Brian Page, Recently Deceased, RIP
Wednesday, 20 September	9.30 am	Mary Vine, Recently Deceased, RIP
Thursday, 21 September	9.30 pm	Richard Cooper, RIP
Friday, 22 September	10.00 am	Thea Lee, Recently Deceased, RIP



PRIEST IN CHARGE

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SECRETARY

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Luton - Fr. Liam Castle
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PRAYER LINE

Please ring 01525 643 186.

SVP

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

- **SVP APPEAL**

The weekend of **Sunday 16 and 17 September** will see the annual parish SVP appeal. The SVP aims to help and befriend those in need. The money raised at this appeal is used to help those who come to the SVP for help with problems during the year and to support their work overseas, all of which is described in the report. **If you wish to make a donation please bring back your envelopes on 16 and 17 September. Please be as generous as you can to support the SVP, both in prayer and financial giving. Thanks in advance.**

We are always looking for new members. Please contact Maureen Graham on malcolmgraham1@ntlworld.com if you are interested.

- **COME AND SEE**

It will take place on Wednesday 20 September at 7.30 pm. For the details contact **Debbie Lewis on 07944 792 776.**

- **MOTHERS' PRAYERS**

Mothers' Prayers will meet on **Friday 22 September after the 10.00 am Mass.**

Now is a good time to join us after our summer break. You are very welcome to come and have a coffee with us and sit in for the meeting. We thank Our Lord for many answers to our prayers for our children and families.

- **PARISH RETREAT — TASTING FROM THE CARMELITE SPRING**

This will be held on **30 September at Buckden Towers**. The theme of the day is Tasting from the Carmelite Spring. It will be led by Deacon Philip. Flyers are available at the back of the church. To attend, fill out booking form on the back and return to Suzanne or leave in the sacristy. **Spaces are filling fast!**

- **MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING**

This will be held on **Friday 29 September straight after 10.00 am Mass.**

This year we have three wonderful prizes and tickets are now available after Mass this weekend. Tickets are £1 each and £5 for a strip.

Please see Suzanne if you can help on the day. If you have something we could add to a tombola table this will be much appreciated.



- **CAFOD APPEAL**

On **6 and 7 October** there will be a retiring collection for CAFOD - Harvest Day. More information to follow.

- **SCHOOL GOVERNORS - VACANCIES**

Would you like to help your local schools by becoming a school governor? Bishop David is looking for volunteers in this parish to join local schools. No experience is necessary, but if you are a retired teacher or currently teaching in a non-Catholic school and have time to spare we would love to hear from you. Contact Debbie on 01604 953369 or see the poster in church on the noticeboard for details.

OTHER NOTICES

- **FUNERAL OF BRIAN PAGE**

We are sad to announce the passing of our parishioner Brian Page. His funeral will take place at Sacred Heart Flitwick on **Tuesday 26 September at 1.00 pm**. Our sympathy and prayers go to Brian's family.

- **THE PASSING OF MARY VINE**

We are sad to announce the passing of our parishioner Mary Vine. Our sympathy and prayers go to Mary's family. May she rest in peace. Amen.

- **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2024**

If you have a child who will be in Year 3 or above this September, and whom you would like to prepare for their First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion, please email **Kath Greenwood**

catechist.sacredheartflitwick@northamptondiocese.org to register your interest and to be kept up to date with details about the application process.

- **CONFIRMATION 2024**

If you have a child who is in Year 8 or above whom you would like to register for confirmation, please contact **Kath Greenwood** at catechist.sacredheartflitwick@northamptondiocese.org.

- **BAPTISM OF ARIA TILLY TOMPKINS**

Aria Tilly Tompkins, daughter of Linda and Ross, was baptised on Sunday 10 September. We ask the parish to pray for her and family and we wish Aria and her family all God's blessings on her journey of faith.

MASS OFFERINGS

Standing orders are **£860.00 weekly**

The collection was **£227.40**

Thank you very much for your generosity
Finance Committee