



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: 'For to everyone who has will be given more'

Pope Francis has declared this weekend as the seventh World Day of the Poor, with the theme of 'Do not turn your face away from anyone who is poor (Tobit 4:7). For this reason, on the Sunday before the Solemnity of Jesus Christ King of the Universe, we gather around his Table to receive from him once more the gift and strength to live lives of poverty and to serve the poor.' The weekend coincides with the day that the diocese has dedicated to praying for all those involved in safeguarding and their victims as well within the context of parish pastoral life.

Though this parable is wide in scope in its application, it certainly applies to growth in charity through personal effort for charity to increase. The Parable of the Talents refers to Jesus Christ who will come again to assess how resourceful we have been with all the talents and graces he has endowed us. This parable reminds us that even though we do not each receive the same number of gifts we must make good use of what we have been given by God. The Church teaches that on coming into the world man is not equipped with everything he needs for developing his bodily and spiritual life. He needs other people. Differences appear tied to age, physical abilities, intellectual or moral aptitudes, or the benefits derived from commercial activities. The 'talents' are not distributed equally (CCC#1936).

As the parable indicated, two servants took risks with the money they were given; they invested it and earned a good return. However, the third servant was afraid to take any risk, and so he hid the money and returned it to his master at the first opportunity. Like the first two servants, we are also called to take risks for the Kingdom of God and to ensure its growth. God does not give us gifts so that we will hide them or turn them to selfish ends.

With regard to God, there is no strict right to any merit on the part of man. Between God and us there is an immeasurable inequality, for we have received everything from him, our creator. Every one of us has been uniquely created by the Lord to play a role in the advancement of his kingdom, using all the resources he has given us. This could be money, abilities, time, energy, training or background, nothing is irrelevant. We have all been endowed with something good or talents towards the growth of God's Kingdom on earth.

Just as an industrious spouse takes initiative in caring for the household (Prov. 31:10-31), so Christ expects us to manage the resources he has given us wisely and prudently. We have many opportunities to use the gifts God has given to us. May the celebration of the Sacred Mass bring us growth in Charity.

MEMORIAL MASS 24 NOVEMBER AT 10.00 AM

On Friday 24 November, at 10.00 am there will be a memorial Mass for those who passed away last year and whose funerals took place at Sacred Heart. We would like to invite the families, friends and all the parishioners to this Mass.

THIS WEEK'S MASSES

Saturday 18 November	5.00 pm	Deceased Murray and Goodwin Family and Friends; Deceased Fahey, Gardener, Appleford, Ginty and Goggins Families
Sunday 19 November	9.00 am	Deceased Aylward, Herlihy and Barnett Families; Hetty Flitton, Recently Deceased, RIP; John McDonnell, RIP Deceased Leatherland, Turner, Hobbs and Clerkin Families, RIP
Sunday 19 November	11.00 am	Deceased Bevan and Petersen Families; Deceased Eddleman, McGrath and Hall Family; Deceased Murphy, Kavanagh and Jackman Families
Tuesday 21 November	9.30 am	Deceased Harold, Dorothy and Stephanie Browne; Deceased Rees and Orchard Families and Friends; Deceased Stynes and Lynch Families
Wednesday 22 November	9.30 am	Deceased Scanlon, Duke and Newman Family and Friends Deceased O'Rourke, Crow and Vooght Families and Friends
Thursday 23 November	9.30 pm	Deceased Flynn Family; Deceased Zamudio, Sanchez, Rangel and Melo families; Deceased Callaghan, Martin, Duggan and Collieran Families and Friends.
Friday 24 November	10.00 am	Deceased Smith Family and Friends; Deceased Tom and Ada Chadwick; Deceased Fitzgerald Family



PRIEST IN CHARGE

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SECRETARY

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WEBSITE

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Follow us on Facebook.

SAFEGUARDING

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HOSPITAL CONTACTS

Bedford - Deacon Tony Quinlan 01234 950 453
tonyquinlan15@gmail.com
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

- **CHRISTMAS CARDS**

Christmas cards will be available for purchase after each Mass for three weekends: **18/19 November, 25/26 November and 2/3 December**; After these dates, the cards will be left for those who still wish to purchase them until Wednesday 20 December. Cash and card will be accepted.

- **DIVINE MERCY**

Divine Mercy will be prayed **every Friday at 3.00 pm at Sacred Heart Flitwick starting on 17 November**. We would like to invite all the parishioners and we are planning to extend our invitation to other parishes.

- **SVP GIVING TREE**

The SVP Advent Giving Tree returns. The Tree is invisible but the people we seek to support are very real— even if we all sometimes pretend they are invisible too. They are the Homeless & Rootless and this year we are adding women and children fleeing domestic abuse. We will send your gifts to SMART in Bedford and NOAH in Luton again who work with the Homeless & Rootless and Bedford Women's Refuge (for women and Children fleeing domestic abuse). The items we are seeking are much the same as usual: socks, gloves and hats, men's pants, ladies knickers, shower gel, liquid soap, soap, shampoo, disposable razors and foam, deodorant for men and women, toothbrushes and toothpaste, small bars of chocolate and sweets. Basic items rather than expensive are appreciated just as much and small quantities rather than large are more useful to the users. There will be collection boxes for your gifts at the church on the weekends of **2 and 3 December and 9 and 10 December**. We thank you for your past generosity and hope for more this year for our neighbours on the edges of our society.

- **SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY 18/19 NOVEMBER**

Sunday 19 November is a **Safeguarding Sunday**. Safeguarding in our community is the responsibility of us all. If you are concerned about the welfare of a child or adult at risk, do not delay in contacting the police, using 999 if a child or adult is believed to be in immediate danger. You can also contact our representative Paula Bates at safeguarding.flitwick@northamptondiocese.org. Please check RC Diocese of Northampton website with a message from Bishop David <https://northamptondiocese.org/safeguarding/>. There is more information on the board in the porch as well as the leaflets at the back of the church.

- **MASS AND HEALING SERVICE**

On **Saturday 25 November after 5.00 pm** Mass there will be a Healing Service lead by Fr Jerry. Everyone is welcome.

- **BEDFORDSHIRE PASTORAL AREA MEETING**

On **Wednesday 29 November at 7.30 pm** there will be a Bedford Pastoral Area Annual General Meeting at **Sacred Heart in Leighton Buzzard**. It is open to everyone.

- **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 pm**. Please see the poster in the porch for more detail. We will be meeting in the Canon Denis Room.

- **MEN'S BREAKFAST**

Join us for our men's breakfast event on **Saturday, 25 November from 9.30 am till 11.00 am**. The theme of the meeting is **Men and the Word of God Now and Then**. Donation only £1.

- **ADVENT CONVERSATIONS 2023**

'Set the World on Fire', a personal four-week retreat with the Female Doctors of the Church

I am looking forward to seeing you on **Friday 24 November at 4.30 pm** for the first meeting.

For our conversation you will need to have completed Prayer Week 1 St Theresa of Lisieux. Information on how to use the book is on page 4. We will end our session with the Friday evening prayer. Catherine Davies.

- **NEW FACEBOOK PAGE**

Please follow us on our new Facebook page which can be found at [flitwick.sacred.heart](https://www.facebook.com/flitwick.sacred.heart). We will post all the updates regarding Masses, services and events.

- **24-HOUR EUCHARISTIC ADORATION**

On **Thursday 7 December there will be twenty-four-hour Advent Eucharistic Adoration for Peace in the Family starting with Mass at 9.30 am and finishing with Mass at 10.00 am the following day**. Please sign the sheet in the porch if you would like to register for a particular slot.

OTHER NOTICES

- **CARITAS NORTHAMPTONSHIRE**

I know we have a lot being asked of us at the moment, but the diocese is looking for some new items to give to disadvantaged children in the diocese. If you have anything to give please leave them at the church in the box from **next week throughout November**. I will pack them in the bags and the diocese will collect them. **Suggested gift ideas:** chocolates, shortbread, luxury biscuits, selection boxes, games and toys, puzzles, dolls, craft sets, action toys, fidget toys, balls, playing cards, family games, activities, board games, winter clothing (scarves, gloves, socks and blankets). Nail varnish, hand cream, toiletries, colouring books, crayons, pens, notebooks, stationery set, books, playing cards, make-up, hair accessories, hairbrush, crayons, pens, notebooks, stationery set, Christmas crackers, Christmas lights, Christmas activities games, toiletry gift packs, Play Doh. **Thank you for your generosity.**

- **CAFOD WORLD GIFT -WORLD DAY OF THE POOR**

In the porch there are CAFOD leaflets with information and ideas for giving a World Gift' at Christmas time. They must be ordered by Thursday 14 December. Thank you for your generosity.

- **200 CLUB NOVEMBER DRAW**

1st - Myriam Rincon, 2nd - Kate Milligan, 3rd - Lyn Roberts. Congratulations!

MASS OFFERINGS
Standing orders are £860.00 weekly
The collection was £228.00
The collection for sick and retired priests was £297.70
Thank you very much for your generosity
Finance Committee