# Sacred Heart Flitwick

**The Baptism of the Lord**

**11 January 2026**

**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: 'When Jesus was baptised, the heavens were opened to him …'

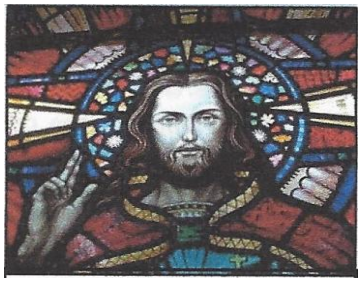
The Gospel reading on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord describes another 'Epiphany'of Jesus as Messiah of Israel and Son of God. We reflect on how Jesus appears to be baptised. During his baptism, the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him. The Holy Spirit, which comes in the form of a dove upon Jesus alongside a voice from heaven proclaiming, 'This is my beloved Son', manifested the Trinity (CCC#535; CCC#444). It must be noted that Jesus, being the sinless Son of God, did not need baptism. What then is the purpose of his baptism? The baptism of Jesus is, on his part, the acceptance and inauguration of his mission as God's suffering servant. He allowed himself to be numbered among sinners, the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world (CCC#536). Also, by going to John for baptism, Jesus set an example for us to imitate. Jesus' baptism, therefore, becomes a paradigm for us who will need baptism. Furthermore, by submitting himself to baptism, Jesus fulfilled God's eternal plan. Jesus comes to 'fulfil all righteousness', out of love he consents to this baptism of death for the remission of our sins (CCC#536).

The Spirit of God, which descended on Jesus and the voice from heaven confirmed Jesus' unique mission on earth, that is, the task of bringing justice to the nations. Our heartfelt prayer is Lord Jesus Christ; your baptism reiterates our need for baptism by which we are cleansed and recreated anew. May we consecrate our lives to God as children of God, who believe in the divine promises, the divine plan and the divine purpose of our baptism.

## CIRCLE OF PRAYER FOR JANUARY — CHRISTIAN UNITY, RACIAL JUSTICE AND PEACE

## MASS INTENTIONS

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| Saturday 10 January | 5.00 pm | Intentions of Joseph, Hanna and Ela |
| Sunday 11 January | 9.00 am | Intentions of Michelle Smiley, Alistair, Zac, Eloise and Jacob Body |
| Sunday 11 January | 11.00 am | Thanksgiving Mass for Noreen and Ian Cousins on Their Wedding Anniversary |
| Tuesday 13 January | 7.00 pm | Marie Kelly, RIP<br>*St Hilary of Poitiers, Bishop and Doctor of the Church* |
| Wednesday 14 January | 9.30 am | Maureen Murphy, Recently Deceased, RIP |
| Thursday 15 January | 9.30 am | People of the Parish |
| Friday 16 January | 10.00 am | Christina Traynor, Birthday Anniversary, RIP |



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

**SECRETARY**
**Aggie Keeble**
**parish.sacredheartflitwick@northamptondiocese.org**

**WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK**
**www.sacredheartflitwick.co.uk**
**flitwick.sacred.heart**

**SAFEGUARDING**
**Paula Bates**
**safeguarding.sacredheartflitwick@northamptondiocese.org**

**HOSPITAL CONTACTS**
**Bedford - Deacon Tony Quinlan 01234 950 453**
**tonyquinlan15@gmail.com**
**Luton – Fr. Ugo Nnaji**
**frugo.nnaji@northamptondiocese.org**

**PRAYER LINE**
**Please ring 01525 643 186.**

**SVP**
**Members provide help to anyone in need. Please call Ann on 01462 239 268**

**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

**PEACE SUNDAY**

It will be celebrated on 18 January. Pope Leo has announced the theme – 'Peace be with you all: Towards an unarmed and disarming peace. He has continued the exhortation of Pope Francis that the call to live nonviolent 'disarmed' lives is core to Catholic social teaching and the key to peace in a world scarred by violent conflict. Please visit the website for more information and to donate **https://paxchristi.org.uk/peace-sunday-2026/**

**COME AND SEE**

We will gather on **Tuesday 20 January, after the 7.00 pm Mass in the parish room.** Please join us as we come together to pray and worship God.

**MOTHERS' PRAYERS**

We shall be meeting on **Friday 9 and 23 January after 10.00 am Mass**. Ring Sue Barley 01525 634186 for information.

**TEA, COFFEE AND CHAT**

As part of our welcoming church, we are having tea and **coffee after Friday Mass, once a month**. We would love to see you. Perhaps invite a friend? So please join us on **16 January, 20 February and 20 March**. **For those who like a little company and chat, and the cake is back! All welcome**

**READERS' RETREAT**

All parish readers are warmly invited to a readers' retreat on **Saturday 24 January, from 10.00 am to 12.00 noon.** This will be a time of reflection, prayer, and practical guidance to deepen our ministry of proclaiming the Word of God. If you would like to become a reader, please let Aggie know by emailing **parish.sacredheartflitwick@northamptondiocese.org** and she will forward your information to Beatrice and Luke.

**PPC MEETING**

The Pastoral Parish Council will meet on **27 January at 6.30 pm**. If you have any questions or suggestions, please write them down and post them through the box situated on the table in the porch.

**LUX BELONG**

**It will take place from 13 to 15 February 2026 at Kings Park Centre, Northampton, for children in Year 7 to 13. It costs £110.** If you've not heard about it before, LUX is our diocesan residential weekend for teens that happens in February every year. It's for those in school Years 7 to 13 and is a weekend packed with activity. Every year we explore a theme through workshops, dramas, music, worship, Mass, prayer times, games, inputs and time with friends. This year's theme is Belong. Visit **https://nymo.org/lux-belong-2026/** or email **NYMO.admin@northamptondiocese.com** to find out more.

## OTHER NOTICES

**LIVE SIMPLY JANUARY – SAVING ENERGY**

I promise to turn the lights out when I leave my room and not leave things on 'standby'.

Reflection - God calls us to work together to look after our world and share what we have so that everyone has what they need. Building a better world is not just about having more money, it is about respecting yourself and others and becoming the best person you can be.

**RETROUVAILLE**

It helps marriages by bringing hope and healing to relationships. **Next date is 12 February 2026,** www.retrouvaille.org.uk Tel: 07887 296983

**MASS OFFERINGS**
**Standing orders are £860.00 weekly**
**The collection was £272.90**
**Thank you very much for your generosity**
**Finance Committee**