Sacred Heart Flitwick

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

18 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

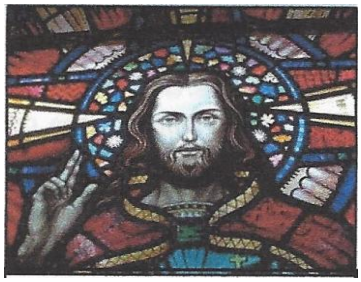
Theme: 'This is he who baptises with the Holy Spirit'

The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time is also to be observed as the Peace Sunday by the Church. The peace of the world is closely related to Jesus, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world. The Gospel reading reminds us of the baptism of Jesus by John. After agreeing to baptise him along with sinners, John the Baptist looked at Jesus and pointed him out as the 'Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world'. By doing so, he reveals that Jesus is at the same time the suffering servant who silently allows himself to be led to the slaughter and who bears the sin of the multitude, and the Paschal Lamb, symbol of Israel's redemption at the first Passover (CCC#608). By using this term, Lamb of God, to identify Christ, John the Baptist affirmed the redemptive sacrifice Christ would make for the salvation of all people. The lamb is an image associated with the Passover feast and the Exodus event, when God told the Israelites to sacrifice a spotless lamb and smear its blood on the doorposts of their houses to be spared from the tenth plague, the death of the firstborn of each household. The image of the Lamb of God also fulfils the suffering servant prophecies in the book of the Prophet Isaiah (Is. 52:13-53:12), who is led to the slaughter like a lamb bearing the sins of his people. The Church, following the Apostles, teaches that Christ died for all people without exception. There is not, never has been and never will be a single human being for whom Christ did not suffer (CCC#605). The Spirit of God descending and resting on Jesus illustrates the enduring relationship between the Father and the Son, as well as between the Son and believers. The Spirit will stay with Jesus, who will then dispense it and be empowered to complete his mission. From the first moment of his incarnation, the Son embraces the Father's plan of divine salvation in his redemptive mission: 'My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to accomplish his work'. The sacrifice of Jesus 'for the sins of the whole world' expresses his loving communion with the Father. 'The Father loves me, because I lay down my life, said the Lord, for I do as the Father has commanded me, so that the world may know that I love the Father' (CCC#606). Just as the Spirit was given to Jesus, the Servant of God, to fulfil his mission, so we should see ourselves as equipped by the Spirit to carry out our mission, our purpose and our plan on earth as Christians. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, we will be a renewed parish, deepening our knowledge and understanding of Jesus Christ's love, so that each of us may fulfil our Christian mission.

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

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 17 January	5.00 pm	Nora Brady, RIP
Sunday 18 January	9.00 am	Robin Brian Charles Forder, Anniversary, RIP
Sunday 18 January	11.00 am	Maureen Murphy, Recently Deceased, RIP
Tuesday 20 January	7.00 pm	Tom and Bernadette Smith, and Peter and Selina Houghton, RIP *St Sebastian, Martyr*
Wednesday 21 January	9.30 am	Intentions of Joey Hills and Yogi Cruz *St Agnes, Virgin and Martyr*
Thursday 22 January	9.30 am	People of the Parish *St Vincent, Deacon and Martyr*
Friday 23 January	10.00 am	Marie Kelly, 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.

CHURCHES TOGETHER OF AMPTHILL AND FLITWICK (CTAF)



CTAF would like to invite everyone to a service for the **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity on Sunday 18 January, at 6.30 pm at St Andrew's Church, Ampthill.** This will be a service in the Taizé style. All are welcome to attend.

MOTHERS' PRAYERS

We shall be meeting on **Friday 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.

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.

BAPTISM

Oakley Dicker, son of Ellie and Hayden, was baptised on Sunday 11 January at Sacred Heart Flitwick. We ask the parish to pray for him and his family. We wish Oakley and his family all God's blessings on his journey of faith.

RETROUVAILLE

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

COME AND SEE – DISCERNMENT DAY FOR MEN

The diocese warmly invites you to 'Come and See' — a day of prayer, reflection, and questions for men who are thinking about or discerning a vocation to the priesthood. Date: Saturday 28 March, 2026 Programme: A day including prayer, reflection, input on priestly vocation, and an open Q&A. Who is it for? Men who are exploring, questioning, or discerning a call to the priesthood Where? Our Lady of Christian and St Lawrence, Olney.
This day offers a relaxed and supportive opportunity to reflect on God's call, to learn more about priestly life, and to ask honest questions in a prayerful setting. To register your interest or for more information, please contact:
Fr. Pius **vocationsdirector@northamptondiocese.org tel: 01753 523147**

200 CLUB WINNERS

1st – Una McAlinden, 2nd – Fr. John Danford, 3rd – Carmen Brooker. Congratulations to the winners!
Our 200 Club fundraising activity starts a new year on 1 February, and all current members have been advised accordingly. This is an excellent way of supporting the parish, and only costs £12 per year for each number issued. We have over 140 numbers currently in our monthly draw which takes place on the second Sunday. Over the years we have successfully raised several thousands of pounds for the parish. New members are always welcome and if you are new to the parish or a current parishioner who would like to join or take out additional numbers, then full details are available from our parish secretary. Additionally, if you need any further details, please contact Peter Leatherland at **pjleatherland@google.com.** We look forward to hearing from you.

MASS OFFERINGS
Standing orders are £860.00 weekly
The collection was £277.30
Thank you very much for your generosity
Finance Committee