# Sacred Heart Flitwick

**3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**25 January 2026**

**Sunday of the Word of God**

**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: Jesus went throughout all Galilee, proclaiming the Gospel of the Kingdom

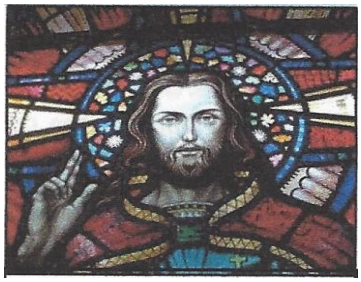
This Sunday is dedicated to the Word of God with the motto: 'The word of Christ dwells among you' (Col 3:16). Significantly, this year the celebration of the Sunday of the Word of God coincides with the celebration of the conversion of Saint Paul, the day that concludes the week of prayer for Christian unity. The Word that Christ addressed to Paul on the road to Damascus struck his heart so deeply that it made him the great evangeliser we know. The Sunday of the Word of God is a profoundly pastoral initiative to make it clear how important it is in the daily life of the Church and our communities to refer to the Word of God, a Word that is not confined to a book, but which remains ever alive and becomes a concrete and tangible sign.

The Gospel reading reminds us about the public ministry of Jesus Christ throughout all Galilee, teaching in the synagogues and proclaiming the Gospel of the Kingdom. The proclamation of the Gospel of the Kingdom is an important aspect of his public ministry. The Word of God as proclaimed in the sacred scriptures lies at the heart of our Christian life and is integral to all our liturgical celebrations (#Bishop Conference for England and Wales). In the Church, those who are rightly considered to exercise the ministry of readers or lectors also exercise the priestly office of Jesus Christ in the public worship. This special sharing in the priesthood of Christ by virtue of their baptism is confirmed in the document of the Vatican II council, the Decree on the Life and Ministry of Priests. It states clearly that 'since no one can be saved who has not first believed', priests as co-workers with their bishops have as their primary duty the proclamation of the Gospel of God to all. Therefore, the reader who has a special share in the preaching ministry of the priest must be commissioned for this noble task. The layperson must study the difference between what it is to be 'read' and what it is to 'proclaim'. To read can be to scan a text with eyes or use it for personal reflection. To proclaim is something quite different. To proclaim the scriptures in public worship requires understanding of what is being read, the voice in the text, and how to embrace the spirit of service of God and his people. This is because the one who proclaims the Word of God makes a huge impact on the people who hear it (#bible alive liturgical Diary). The Catechism forcefully and specially exhorts all the Christian faithful to learn the surpassing knowledge of Jesus Christ (Philippians 3:8) by frequent reading of the Divine Scripture. For the church says, prayer should accompany the reading of Sacred Scripture, so that a dialogue takes place between God and man. For we speak to him when we pray, we listen to him when we read the divine oracles (CCC#2653). May we always glory in the gift of the Word of God.

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

## MASS INTENTIONS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Saturday 24 January | 5.00 pm | Intentions of John, Stephanie, Terry and Alex Mathews |
| Sunday 25 January | 9.00 am | Intentions of Anne Rowntree |
| Sunday 25 January | 11.00 am | Margaret McKiernan, RIP |
| Tuesday 27 January | 7.00 pm | **No Mass**<br>*St Angela Merici, Virgin* |
| Wednesday 28 January | 9.30 am | **No Mass**<br>*St Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor of the Church* |
| Thursday 29 January | 9.30 am | **No Mass** |
| Friday 30 January | 10.00 am | Tom and Bernadette Smith, and Peter and Selina Houghton, 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

**MOTHERS' PRAYERS**

We shall be meeting on **Friday 23 January and 13 and 27 February after 10.00 am Mass**. Ring Sue Barley 01525 634186 for information.

**SEWING GROUP**

The sewing group will meet on **Monday 2 February from 2.00 pm.** For details, phone Hilary Brennan on 01525 717 919

**COME AND SEE**

We will gather on **Tuesday 17 February, after the 7.00 pm Mass in the Parish Room.** Please join us as we come together to pray and worship God.

**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 **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.

**WOMEN'S WEBINAR – DISCERNING LOVE: ENGAGED CATHOLIC WOMEN AND THE JOURNEY TO MARRIAGE**

Weronika Felcis has been a happily married for 15 year,s mother of four kids, sociologist activist for women's rights, as well as the first Eastern European co-president of Andante. Please join the webinar **on Tuesday 27 January from 7.00 pm till 8.00 pm.** To register, use the link **https://www.nbcw.co.uk/**

**THE WELL AT ST JOHN'S**

It will take place on **Tuesday 3 February at St John's Parish Centre, 296 Sundon Park Rd, Luton LU3 3AL**. Michael will lead worship at 7.30 pm. The speaker is Derek Williams. Everyone is welcome! Donations only.

**QUIET DAY**

We will have **Quiet Day on Saturday 14 February from 10.00 am till 3.00 pm.** All are welcome!

**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.

**CAFOD FAST DAY**

Cafod Fast Day will be on **Friday 27 February with the retiring collection on 28 February and 1 March**. More information to follow.

## 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

**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**

**FR. JERRY AWAY**

**Fr. Jerry will be away from 26 January till 13 February. In case of emergency please email Aggie on parish.sacredheartflitwick@northamptondiocese.org**

**MASS OFFERINGS**
**Standing orders are £860.00 weekly**
**The collection was £276.50**
**Thank you very much for your generosity**
**Finance Committee**