Sacred Heart Flitwick

15 February 2026

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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 said, whoever obeys the Law and teaches it will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

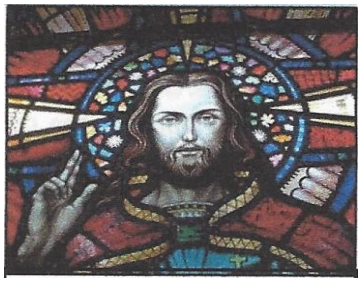
The Gospel reading highlights some challenges related to creating and enforcing laws in any human society. However, the arrival of Jesus as the Messiah of Israel and the greatest in the kingdom shows that he alone fulfils the Law by observing it fully and in detail. According to his words, he came not to abolish the Law but to fulfil it, including the 'least of these commandments'. He is, in fact, the only one who could keep it perfectly. On their own admission, the Jews were never able to follow the Law completely without breaking even its smallest commandments. This is why, every year on the Day of Atonement, the children of Israel ask for God's forgiveness for their transgressions against the Law (CCC §578).

In the Gospel reading, Jesus Christ affirms the importance of the Law and the prophets in our relationships with one another and with God. The Law and the prophets find their fulfilment and completion in Jesus Christ. Our relationship with Jesus will enable us to keep the laws and the words of the prophets. The Catechism teaches that Jesus fulfils the Law to the point of taking upon himself 'the curse of the Law' incurred by those who do not 'abide by the things written in the book of the Law, and do them', for death took place to redeem them 'from the transgressions under the first covenant' (CCC §580). Unlike human laws, which are always tainted with selfishness and oppression, the laws of Christ contain the hidden wisdom of God. They are laws motivated by love and can only be fulfilled and kept by genuine personal love and true concern for others. Hence Christ stresses that 'if your virtue goes no deeper than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven'. The motivation behind fulfilling the laws must always be love of God and love of neighbour, and not slavish obedience. Jesus Christ, therefore, draws our attention to examine the intentions and motivations behind the violation of some of the laws or the Ten Commandments, such as murder, adultery, divorce and the breaking of oaths. In fact, the commandments bring humanity's religious and social life into unity (CCC §2069). May the celebration of the Word of God give us grace to fulfil the demands of the Law as we aspire for greatness in the kingdom of heaven.

CIRCLE OF PRAYER FOR FEBRUARY — RACIAL JUSTICE, CONSECRATED LIFE, VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING, THE UNEMPLOYED

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 14 February	5.00 pm	Tom, Bernadette, Noreen, Dave and Helen Smith, RIP
Sunday 15 February	9.00 am	Paul Adams, Anniversary, RIP
Sunday 15 February	11.00 am	Arthur Brooker, 5th Anniversary, RIP
Tuesday 17 February	7.00 pm	Intentions of John, Stephanie, Terry and Alex Mathews *The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order*
LENT		
Wednesday 18 February	9.30 am	Intentions of Ron and Nancy Ashpoole **Ash Wednesday**
Wednesday 18 February	7.00 pm	People of the Parish **Ash Wednesday**
Thursday 19 February	9.30 am	Intentions of Christy Smith-Pearson, Adam Fitzhugh and Family Members
Friday 20 February	10.00 am	Special Intentions *Stations of the Cross at 9.30 am*



PRIEST IN CHARGE
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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 **20 February after 10.00 am Mass**. Ring Sue Barley 01525 634186 for information.

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.**

JOURNEY WITH JESUS THROUGH LENT

During Lent, the Pastoral Development Vicariate is offering you the opportunity for weekly online small-group sessions (various days and times are available) to help individuals deepen their relationship with Jesus through Scripture. Using St Beuno's Outreach Prego resources, each 45-minute session invites you to pray and reflect on Scripture for the coming Sunday. The programme runs once a week for six weeks, starting the week of **16 February.** To register:
https://northamptondiocese.org/lenten-journey/

WALKING IN THE HOLY SPIRIT – FANNING INTO FLAMES

Northampton CDSC invites parishioners to a four-part monthly Zoom series on how the Holy Spirit forms and sends us as disciples. Each session offers practical teaching to deepen faith and confidence in daily Christian life. It starts at 7.00 and finishes at 8.30 pm on Tuesdays: 17 Feb – Growth (Fr. Emmanuel Okami); 17 Mar – Bonding (TBC); 16 Jun – Empowerment (Charles Whitehead); 14 Jul – Mission (Maria Heath). More info: **https://northamptondiocese.org/courses/walking-in-the-holy-spirit/**

CAFOD FAST DAY

This Lent, live out the Gospel call to love your neighbour. By fasting and giving what you save, you join in Christ's compassion and help another family put food on the table. Your donation can help families around the world grow food in difficult conditions – such as on flood-resistant floating gardens or using solar-powered water pumps in times of drought. Collect a CAFOD envelope to bless others with your support, donate online at **cafod.org.uk/envelope or call 0303 303 3030. Text CAFODLENT to 70085 to donate £10.** Cafod Fast Day will be on **Friday 27 February with the retiring collection on 28 February and 1 March**. Envelopes will be available on **21 and 22 February**.

CTAF RECONCILIATION SERVICE AT SACRED HEART FLITWICK

You are warmly invited to an ecumenical service to reflect on life's journey with opportunity for individual prayer and **the sacrament of reconciliation on Tuesday 24 March 2026 at 7.30 pm** at Sacred Heart Flitwick.

MISSIO DIRECT DEBIT AND RED BOX HOLDERS

I will be collecting the contents of your Red Boxes at the beginning of each Mass on 20, 21, 22, 27, 28 February and 1 March. This will be the **last time** I shall be collecting from the Red Boxes as I shall retire at the end of the year**. I am looking for someone to take over from me.** If you feel you can do this please contact Father Jerry or myself. **Thank you for all your support over the last 22 years when together we have sent over £50,000 to the Missions. Pat King**

OTHER NOTICES

LIVE SIMPLY FEBRUARY – RECYCLING

I promise to find out more about recycling in my local area and to encourage my family to recycle more. **The Mini Vinnies in our Parish will be recycling soft plastics. What are soft plastics?** Soft plastics are lightweight plastics that often cannot be placed in recycling bins at home. Think plastic film lids on yoghurt pots, soft fruit punnets and ready meals, as well as plastic crisp packets, pasta bags and chocolate or biscuit wrappers. Soft plastics recycling is easy. Just follow these three steps: **Clean it** – rinse your packaging out; **Scrunch it** – scrunch it up tight - if it pings back, it's a useful indicator it's soft plastic; **Pop it into our soft plastics recycling bin** which can be found behind the gate on the left-hand side of the church. **Reflection:** Be the change you wish to see in the world. *Gandhi.*

200 CLUB FEBRUARY

1st- Chris Yates, 2nd - Grace McKenna, 3rd - Anne Gadsden. Congratulations to the winners! Thank you to all members who have renewed their 200 Club membership for a further year. Your continued support to the parish is very much appreciated.
If anyone wants to join the club or indeed take out additional numbers, then they would be very welcome. Just contact me via the Parish Secretary.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR FEBRUARY 2026

For children with incurable diseases. Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.

MURIEL FRENCH, RIP

We are sad to announce the passing of our parishioner, Muriel French. Please remember Muriel in your prayers. Our sympathy goes to her family and friends.

MASS OFFERINGS
Standing orders are £860.00 weekly
The collection was £333.70
Thank you very much for your generosity
Finance Committee