Sacred Heart Flitwick

12 April 2026

Divine Mercy Sunday

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

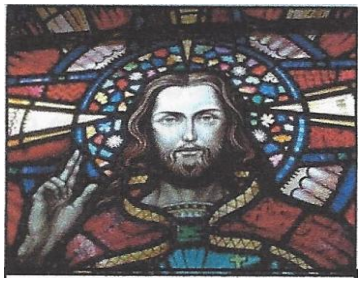
Theme: Jesus said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven.'

The Gospel reading describes one of the appearances of the risen Jesus among the disciples in a locked room. Jesus revealed himself to his disciples to remind them that he was alive. Since he was no longer constrained by space and time, he was able to stand among his disciples, although they had closed the doors of the house in which they stayed. He gave them the promised gift of peace, the kind of peace that the world cannot give. This peace simply means total well-being or wholeness. The resurrection of Jesus is the ultimate sign of victory over sin and death. Immediately after his resurrection, Christ instituted the sacrament of penance and reconciliation by giving the Apostles and their successors the power to forgive sins in his name. Jesus said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit.' If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven. The power to forgive sins is one of the fruits or benefits of the Easter celebration and reminds us of how this power plays an important role in sanctifying the people of God. As Christ sends forth his disciples into the world, he charges them to carry on his mission of spiritual healing through the sacraments of baptism and penance (CCC#730). One potent way of experiencing the fountain of Christ's mercy is through the sacrament of reconciliation. Through this sacrament, Christ restores us to his friendship and to the life of grace. Belief in the forgiveness of sins is an essential statement of the Apostles' Creed and the Nicene Creed, which are prayed in Catholic worship. Nonetheless, there is always the reality of doubt within the disciple when some announce the resurrection. Even among the disciples, some doubted, so impossible did the resurrection seem. They thought they were seeing a ghost. In their joy, they were still disbelieving and wondering. Thomas will also experience the test of doubt and even wanted to put his finger into the holes of Christ's side. Therefore, the hypothesis that the Apostles' faith produced the resurrection will not hold up. On the contrary, their faith in the resurrection was born, under the action of divine grace, from their direct experience of the risen Jesus (CCC #644). We are encouraged to approach the story of the resurrection like we would approach the sacrament of reconciliation with affection and love, as exclaimed in the words of Thomas, 'My Lord and my God'.

CYCLE OF PRAYER FOR APRIL — NEW MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 11 April	5.00 pm	Rick Frank and Doreen Goodman, RIP
Sunday 12 April	9.00 am	Intentions of Mark, Alison and Ronnie Coveley
Sunday 12 April	11.00 am	Sid Lawrence Wilding, Recently Deceased, RIP; In Thanksgiving for His Life
Tuesday 14 April	7.00 pm	**No Mass**
Wednesday 15 April	9.30 am	**No Mass**
Thursday 16 April	9.30 am	**No Mass**
Friday 17 April	10.00 am	**Service of the Word with Communnion**



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HOSPITAL CONTACTS
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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 **Friday 10 and 24 April after 10.00 am Mass.** Ring Sue Barley 01525 634186 for information.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

We will have a Eucharistic Adoration **on 12 April at 2.45 pm followed by Divine Mercy**.

TEA, COFFEE AND CHAT

You are welcome to join us for tea, coffee and chat after on **17 April after 10.00 am Service of the Word with Communion.**

NORTHAMPTON MEN'S GROUP

If anyone from our parish would like to join us, you would be very welcome.

https://northamptondiocese.org/courses/preparing-for-pentecost/

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINARS

The Life in the Spirit seminars are returning in April, with sessions being held online to allow as many people as possible from the diocese to attend. The online sessions will be on **28 April, 5, 12, 19 and 26 of May, and 2 June**. There will be an in-person baptism in The Holy Spirit retreat day, which will be held at Our Lady, Help of Christians, in Chapel Langley, Luton on **23 May.** Here is the link **https://northamptondiocese.org/life-in-the-spirit-seminars-2026/**

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OTHER NOTICES

LIVE SIMPLY APRIL – READING MORE

I promise to find more about the lives of other children around the world. Reflection: Lack of education is as serious as a lack of food. Pope Paul VI, Populorum Progressio.

EASTER MORNING CHURCHES TOGETHER



Around 50 people gathered for Sunrise Service on Easter morning.

EASTER RAFFLE WINNERS

Congratulations to the winners of Easter Raffle: Eamonn Diver, Adrian Hamilton, Noreen Weighell, Dee Brady, Siobhan Lees and Noreen Cousins. Thank you to everyone who took part. The raffle raised £204 which covers the cost of sending our youth to the diocesan Blaze festival in Milton Keynes. Thank you for your generosity.

THANK YOU

A big thank you to everyone who helped at Easter Services. We thank altar servers, sacristans, readers, Eucharistic ministers, musicians, singers, those who arranged the flowers and cleaned and prepared the church, MCs, gardeners, welcomers and catechists who organised the Good Friday Service for children and the Family Easter Mass.

Fr. Jerry would like to thank everyone for their very generous Easter offering. Many thanks to the people who took the time to complete and return the Gift Aid slips.

DIVINE MERCY



Divine Mercy Sunday is a significant feast in the Catholic Church that takes place on the Second Sunday of Easter. The devotion to Divine Mercy is closely tied to the life and writings of St Faustina Kowalska, a Polish nun who lived in the early 20th century. Between 1931 and 1938, she recorded messages she received from Jesus in a spiritual diary, later published as Divine Mercy in My Soul. According to her diary, Jesus specifically requested that the Church establish a feast dedicated to Divine Mercy. The journey from private revelation to universal feast day reached its fulfillment when Pope John Paul II officially established the feast on 30 April 2000 — the same day he canonised St Faustina. At the heart of the Divine Mercy devotion is a profound message about God's endless love and forgiveness. Jesus revealed to St Faustina that his mercy is limitless and available to everyone who seeks it with a sincere heart. *Adapted from* ***https://stpatricksguild.com/blog/divine-mercy-sunday-origins-significance-and-practices/***

MASS OFFERINGS
Standing orders are £860.00 weekly
The collection for Holy Places of Palestine was £259.90
Thank you very much for your generosity
Finance Committee