Sacred Heart Flitwick

19 April 2026

3rd Sunday of Easter

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: 'And their eyes were opened, and they recognised him.'
The Gospel reading reminds us of the inspirational story of Emmaus, the journey of the two disciples of Jesus Christ from Jerusalem after the resurrection. In the journey to Emmaus, Christ opened the minds of the disciples to the real meaning of the prophetic words of Scripture referring to him. The two disciples were reminded that the prophets foretold the events that they had recently witnessed. They recalled how Jesus was delivered up to be condemned to death and crucified. They were not sure whether the crucified Jesus would resurrect. On the road to Emmaus, the risen Lord appeared with his glory veiled from the disciples' eyes. Christ took the opportunity to explain why he had to suffer and die to be glorified (CCC #601). The catechism emphasises that by giving up his own Son for our sins, God manifests that his plan for us is one of benevolent love, prior to any merit on our part; in this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the expiation for sins. God shows his love for us in that while we were, yet sinners Christ died for us (CCC#604).

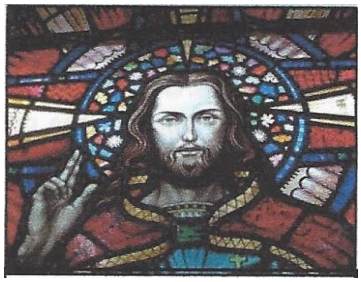
Also, the story of the Emmaus journey provides us with a model that explains the Catholic liturgy or the Eucharistic celebration. The catechism of the Catholic Church identifies the moment when the risen Christ was walking with the two disciples and explains the Scriptures to them as the liturgy of the Word. While Jesus was sitting with them at the table, 'he took bread, blessed and broke it and gave it to them,' as the liturgy of the Eucharist (CCC #1347). The liturgy of the Word and the liturgy of the Eucharist together form 'one single act of worship (CCC#1346)'.

As we journey through life with our expectations, Christ abundantly gives us evidence of his presence in our lives through life's events, the reading of the Scriptures, the celebration of the liturgy, the sacraments and works of charity. He says, 'I am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you with you, and you with me' (Rev. 3:21). May our participation in the eucharistic celebration enable us to become what we celebrate and always celebrate what we become.

CYCLE OF PRAYER FOR APRIL — NEW MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 18 April	5.00 pm	Male, Pipiena, Lusio and Vika Mafi, RIP *Sacred Heart Flitwick, Anniversary of the Dedication*
Sunday 19 April	9.00 am	In Thanksgiving for Life and Repose of the Souls of Philomena and Francis Tong
Sunday 19 April	11.00 am	Margaret Bourke, Recently Deceased, RIP
Tuesday 21 April	**9.30 am**	Fr. John Tupou and Anthony and Falahola Mafi, RIP *St Anselm, Bishop and Doctor of the Church*
Wednesday 22 April	9.30 am	Patrick Gee, RIP
Thursday 23 April	9.30 am	Peter and Tania Ratcliffe, RIP *St George, Martyr, Patron of England*
Friday 24 April	10.00 am	In Thanksgiving for Life and Repose of the Souls of Philomena and Francis Tong *St Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest and Martyr and St Adalbert, Bishop and Martyr*



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 24 April after 10.00 am Mass.** Ring Sue Barley 01525 634186 for information.

PPC MEETING

PPC will have a meeting **on Tuesday 21 April at 6.30 pm.** If you have any comments or suggestion please post them through the box situated on the table in the porch. On that day, **Mass will be t 9.30 am and there will be no Mass in the evening**.

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, 15 May, 19 June and 17 July.**

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/**

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Join us for our next Men's Breakfast to share his hospitality **on Saturday 9 May 2026 from 10.00 am to 12.00** noon at Sacred Heart Church, Flitwick. Please contact Suzanne Yates to book it on smyates47@gmail.com

.

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.*

200 CLUB WINNERS

1st – Roger Wilshaw, 2nd – Sandra Chadwick, 3rd – Marion Colleran. Congratulations to the winners!

MISSIO

Many thanks on behalf of MISSIO for raising £4,225.00 in 2025 through the Red Box and Direct Giving. Thank you for your continued support for the global Church.

CAFOD APPEAL

On the third anniversary of the war in Sudan, Kayode Akintola, CAFOD's Head of Region for Africa, asks for your help: 'So many of our sisters and brothers in Sudan are facing increasing violence, hunger and disease. That is why today, I'm asking you to consider setting up a regular gift to support families who are fleeing the violence – with food, safe water and other vital support. Monthly gifts are an act of steady love for our neighbours, a way of saying: 'We will not abandon you; we will stand with you until peace is restored.' Donate at https://cafod.org.uk/give/donate-to-emergencies/stand-with-sudan

ST GEORGE, MARTYR, PATRON OF ENGLAND

It is uncertain when Saint George was born and historians continue to debate to this day. However, his death date is estimated to be 23 April AD 303 George was born to a Gerontios and Polychronia, a Roman officer and a Greek native of Lydda. Both were Christians from noble families of the Anici and George, Georgios in the original Greek, was raised to follow their faith. When George was old enough, he was welcomed into Diocletian's army, he became a Tribunus and served as an imperial guard for the Emperor at Nicomedia. On 24 February AD 303, Diocletian, who hated Christians, announced that every Christian the army passed would be arrested and every other soldier should offer a sacrifice to the Roman gods. George refused to abide by the order and told Diocletian, who was angry but greatly valued his friendship with George's father. When George announced his beliefs before his peers, Diocletian was unable to keep the news to himself. In an effort to save George, Diocletian attempted to convert him to believe in the Roman gods, offered him land, money and slaves in exchange for offering a sacrifice to the Roman gods, and made several other offers that George refused. Finally, after exhausting all other options, Diocletian ordered George's execution. In preparation for his death, George gave his money to the poor and was sent for several torture sessions. He was lacerated on a wheel of swords and required resuscitation three times, but still George did not turn from God. On 23 April AD 303, George was decapitated before Nicomedia's outer wall. His body was sent to Lydda for burial, and other Christians went to honour George as a martyr.
Adapted from https://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint_id=280

MASS OFFERINGS
Standing orders are £860.00 weekly
The collection was £242.60
Thank you very much for your generosity
Finance Committee