Sacred Heart Flitwick

Easter Sunday

5 April 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.

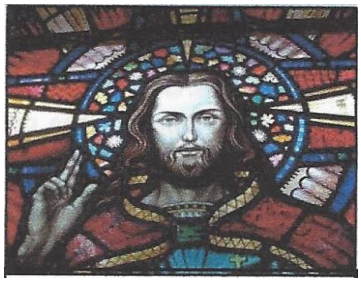
PARISH CATECHESIS FROM FR. JERRY

Theme: They saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb.
The Gospel reading begins with the first day of the week, when Mary Magdalene came to finish anointing the body of Jesus, which had been buried in haste because the Sabbath began on the evening of Good Friday, and discovered that the stone had been taken away from the tomb (CCC#641). The presence of the empty tomb is the first mystery of faith that we shall encounter on Easter Sunday. The empty tomb is the first element we encounter in the framework of Easter events. In itself, it is not direct proof of resurrection, because the absence of Christ's body from the tomb could be explained otherwise. Nonetheless, the empty tomb was still an essential sign for all (CCC#640). The empty tomb serves to gradually bring us to faith in the Lord's words that he will suffer, die and rise again. The resurrection of Jesus reminds us to celebrate Christ's victory over sin and death. We sing and even shout 'Alleluia' to the one who suffered, died on the cross, was buried, rose triumphantly and brought new life to creation. The discovery of the empty tomb by Peter invoked a different response than the response by the disciple 'whom Jesus loved'. Although he arrived first, he allowed Peter to enter before him and discovered 'the linen cloths lying there', and 'he saw and believed'. This suggests that he realised from the empty tomb's condition that the absence of Jesus' body could not have been of human doing that Jesus had not simply returned to earthly life as had been the case with Lazarus (CCC#640). Also, the positioning of the linen cloth and the head cloth cannot substantiate an action by grave robbers. The resurrection of Jesus is the crowning truth of our faith in Christ, a faith believed and lived as the central truth by the first Christian community, handed on as fundamental by tradition (CCC#638). Although the resurrection was a historical event, verified by the sign of the empty tomb and the reality of the Apostles' encounters with the risen Christ, it remains at the very heart of the mystery of faith, transcending and surpassing history. This is why the risen Christ does not reveal himself to the world, but to his disciples, to those who came up with him from Galilee to Jerusalem, who are now his witnesses to the people (CCC#647). Today, we are the new witnesses of the Risen Christ through our personal behaviour. Amid our confused world, just like the beloved disciple, the paradigm of faith for all believers, who 'sees and believes', may we daily undertake the journey of faith and believe in the risen Lord.

CYCLE OF PRAYER FOR APRIL — NEW MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 4 April	**8.30 pm**	**The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night** People of the Parish
Sunday 5 April	9.00 am	Thanksgiving for the Safe Birth of Baby Leo Thomas
Sunday 5 April	11.00 am	Michael Quinlan, RIP
Tuesday 7 April	**7.00 pm**	Thanksgiving and Private Intentions of the Lewis, Tong, and Yong families
Wednesday 8 April	9.30 am	Deceased Members of the Harmer Family
Thursday 9 April	9.30 am	Fr. John Tupou and Anthony and Falahola Mafi, RIP
Friday 10 April	10.00 am	Rita McManus, 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

EASTER OFFERING

This Easter season, we invite all parishioners to prayerfully support our priest through a special Easter Offering. Your generosity is a meaningful way to express gratitude for his spiritual guidance, dedication and Service throughout the year. Envelopes are available in the porch. May God bless you abundantly for your kindness and support. 'He is risen!' Alleluia!

We are now able to receive Gift Aid on your offering to Fr. Jerry so if you are eligible, please sign the declaration (available in the porch) and put it in the envelope with your donation. Thank you.

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**.

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/

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.

SOUP FOR SUDAN

Thanks to everyone who came to Soup for Sudan. It was a great success with many new faces -and the soup only just lasted out! Both SVP and guests had a splendid time and you donated £380 for the SVP in South Sudan which they will be very pleased to receive. We thank you on their behalf and we are grateful for your continuing support.

CAFOD THANK YOU

Thank you for your generous support this Family Fast Day – your kindness is helping families like Shorai's in Zimbabwe and Rejoice's in South Sudan grow food, even in the face of drought and floods. You have shown what it means to love your neighbour this Lent – fasting, praying and giving so families can put food on the table. We have raised £1,249.

We wish you
and your family
a happy and holy Easter.



MASS OFFERINGS
Standing orders are £860.00 weekly
The collection was £349.70
Thank you very much for your generosity
Finance Committee