



## FROM THE PARISH PRIEST

This week, the entire Church enters into the Season of Lent with Ash Wednesday.

Some people have remarked that it is a shame that the date falls on the 14th of February - known by many as "Valentine's Day". A day in which the secular world invites us to show our love to people who are very close to us.

But, if we think about it for a moment, what better way to celebrate a day dedicated to love than by remembering the greatest love story ever told. A love story that will take us through 40 days of prayer and fasting and culminate in the death and resurrection of Jesus. A death and resurrection that wins for each of us a place in eternal paradise and communion with love Himself.

## SAINT OF THE WEEK Seven Holy Servites

The Seven Holy Founders of the Servites were a group of young men who, in 1233, founded a community that served the poorest of the poor and cultivated the devotional life.

They were especially dedicated to fostering devotion to Our Lady and helping people grow in their love for Christ through her.

*Seven Holy Founders of the Servites!  
Pray for us!*



## PARISH OFFICE OPENING TIMES

**Monday - 10 am - 2 pm**

**Tuesday - 10 am - 2 pm**

**Wednesday - 10 am - 2 pm**

**Thursday - CLOSED**

**Friday - CLOSED**

**Saturday / Sunday - CLOSED**

### Pastor and Diocesan Chancellor

*Fr Brendan Seery*

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### Parish Administrator

*Charlotte Seery*

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### Parish Safeguarding Representatives (PSR)

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[www.ourladyhelpofchristians.co.uk](http://www.ourladyhelpofchristians.co.uk)

[www.lutonpastoralarea.org](http://www.lutonpastoralarea.org)

[www.northamptondiocese.org](http://www.northamptondiocese.org)

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION  
[WWW.OURLADYHELPOFCHRISTIANS.CO.UK](http://WWW.OURLADYHELPOFCHRISTIANS.CO.UK)

## PARISH PILGRIMAGE

Our Parish will be joining the Northampton Cathedral Hub Parish for a pilgrimage to Lourdes from the 23rd - 30th August 2024.

The total price for the pilgrimage will be £1100.

If you are interested in going, please fill in the application forms with your deposit by the 14th of February at the Parish Office.

## BETHANY GROUP MASS

The next Mass for our brothers and sisters with SEN will take place at St Joseph's Catholic Church on Sunday the 11th of February at 3 pm.

## PARISH FEAST DAY

It probably seems like an eternity away but, the 24th of May is our patronal feast day. This year is quite significant as it marks the 140th anniversary of the formal establishment of our parish and the Catholic Mission in Luton itself.

There will be an initial planning meeting **THIS** Tuesday the 13th of February at 6 pm in the Parish Centre!

## TEACHING ASSISTANT

Sacred Heart Primary School has a vacancy for a teaching assistant. For those interested please visit;

[www.mynewterm.com/jobs](http://www.mynewterm.com/jobs)

## PARISH REGISTRATION

Please use the following link to register as a member of the Parish (<https://www.caspar.church/me>)

## CHURCH OPENING TIMES

Please note that during the winter, the church will be open from 7.30 am until 4 pm every day (including Thursday).

On Sunday, the church will remain open until 6.30 pm.

## VINNY'S PANTRY

Vinny's Pantry will be open on Tuesdays between 6 pm - 8 pm.

The Pantry is open to anyone and everyone who may be in need of essential items as well as a place to have a cup of tea or coffee and speak with one of our incredible SVP Members.

The Pantry is currently in need of tinned fruits, tinned vegetables, tinned meats, tinned rice pudding, household cleaning items, and toiletries.

If you are able to provide any of these items, please leave them in the sacristy before or after Mass.

## DOMINICAN SISTERS OF NASHVILLE

It is great to be able to announce that we will be welcoming the Dominican Sisters of St Cecilia (also known as the Dominican Sisters of Nashville) to the Parish to lead a retreat for our young people.

The retreat will take place from Friday 6th September - Sunday 8th September.

More details to follow!

## CHURCH SECURITY

To ensure that our church is as safe as possible and to ensure that it is able to stay open throughout the day, the following will take place:

Altar rails will be added to the sanctuary so that it can be alarmed when not in use. This will ensure that the Blessed Sacrament is as safe as possible throughout the day.

Electric gates will be added to the entrance of the car park and the ramped entrance from the street. This will allow the site to be secure overnight. The gates will be open during the day and when the church is open.

If you are able to help towards these security measures, please speak with Fr Brendan or the Parish Office.

## SELF DEFENCE CLASSES

There is an opportunity to take part in self - defence classes in the Parish Centre on Wednesday at 7.30 pm. All are welcome!

The classes will continue this Wednesday 14th of February 2024.

## BIBLE STUDY

The next session of the Bible Study Class will take place on Thursday 15th February at 7.30 pm in the Parish Centre.

The focus will be on finding Christ in the Old Testament with audio input from Dr Scott Hahn.

## MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

Please pray for the following whose funerals will take place over the next few weeks

- Margaret “Christine” Smith whose Funeral Liturgy will take place at the Vale on Tuesday 20th February at 10.30 am .
- Terence “Terry” McGowan RIP whose Funeral Mass will take place on Friday 23rd February at 10 am.

*Eternal Rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.*



## PARISH PRAYERS

**Please pray for:** Seamus Wilhare, Sally Rhodes, Tommy Hannigan, Connor McFadden, Margaret Malone, Alexander El-Lamaa, Margaret Spring, Agnieszka Daniel, Christopher Parfitt, Jimmy, Tina, John McCormick, Jayne Matthews, and all who are sick.

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**Please pray for:** Maureen Friels, Jim Seery, Thomas O’Boyle, Francis Farrell, Augustine Abara and all our loved ones who have died.

## ASH WEDNESDAY

There is an opportunity to take part in an initiative to share our faith by praying with people and sharing the joys of our faith in Luton Town Centre.

For all those who are interested, we will be leaving the church at around 10 am and facilitating a stall until 1 pm.

Please note that due to the initiative, there will be no Adoration or Confessions on Wednesday.

## UNITY GROUP

All are welcome to join the Unity Group which meets in the Narthex at the back of the church every Sunday following the 5 pm Mass.

## HYMN BOOKS

When not being used, please leave the hymn books in the ledge in front of the pews. This will keep them looking amazing for longer!



## QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“Precisely due to the richness of the symbols and of the biblical and liturgical texts, Ash Wednesday is considered the “door” to Lent. In effect, today’s liturgy and the gestures that mark it, together form, in anticipation and in a synthetic way, the very physiognomy of the entire period of Lent.”

- Pope Benedict XVI

## OPEN HOUSE

The next Open House will take place at the Presbytery (the house next to the church) Monday the 4th of March between 6 pm - 7.30 pm.

Open House is an opportunity for anyone who would like forms to be signed, sacramental celebrations to be booked in, or to ask any question, to come along.

There is no need to book, simply turn up between 6 pm - 7.30 pm!

## ROTAS

The rotas for Extraordinary Ministers and Readers are available from the narthex.

## MASS READINGS AND PRAYERS

Please scan the QR code to access the daily Mass readings and prayers.

The QR code can also be used during the week to access the readings for the day.



## PARISH OFFERTORY

A huge thank you to all those who are able to support the mission of the parish through their financial offering.

**Collection - £1864.32**

*Please note that no monies are kept on site.*

# LITURGIES AND EVENTS THIS WEEK

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SUNDAY</b> 11th February</p> <p style="text-align: center;">6th Sunday in Ordinary Time</p>	<p>9.30 am MASS</p> <p>11.30 am MASS</p> <p>5 pm MASS</p>	<p>Jayne Matthews Int., William Brooks RIP, Gerald Earley RIP.</p> <p>Pro Populo, Jayne Matthews Int., Maura O'Rourke RIP, Mei San Bon RIP.</p> <p>John McCormick Int., Betty O'Donnell RIP.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>MONDAY</b> 12th February</p> <p style="text-align: center;">V.M. of the Blessed Trinity</p>	<p>7.30 am MASS (Latin)</p> <p>12 pm ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS</p> <p>12.45 pm MASS</p> <p>7 pm RCIA</p>	<p>Oliver Molloy RIP.</p> <p>Leonard Francis RIP.</p> <p>Parish Centre</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>TUESDAY</b> 13th February</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Precious Face of Jesus</p>	<p>7.30 am MASS (Latin)</p>	<p>Maisie Kearney Int.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Wednesday 14th February</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Ash Wednesday</p>	<p>7.30 am MASS (Latin)</p> <p>12.45 pm MASS</p> <p>6.30 pm MASS</p>	<p>Pro Populo.</p> <p>Patrick Contei Davies Int., Noreen O'Mahony Int.</p> <p>Pro Populo.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>THURSDAY</b> 15th February</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">No Public Mass today</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Please check the Pastoral Area Website for details on Masses in neighbouring churches</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>FRIDAY</b> 16th February</p>	<p>12 pm ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS</p> <p>12.45 pm MASS</p>	<p>Jayne Matthews Int.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SATURDAY</b> 17th February</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order</p>	<p>8.30 am Rosary</p> <p>9 am ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS</p> <p>9.30 am MASS</p>	<p>Madge Conway RIP.</p>