



## FROM THE PARISH PRIEST

The fourth Sunday of Easter is commonly referred to as “Good Shepherd” Sunday. It is a Sunday in which the entire Church is invited to pray in a special way for vocations to the priesthood.

But why pray for priests?

Well the truth is that without priests, there is no Eucharist. And without the Eucharist, there is no Church. The priesthood exists to make Christ truly present to His Church and to help us all become saints through the sacramental life of His Church.

God continues to call men to serve Him as His priests but this call can often go unanswered due to fear of loneliness, of sacrifice, of being unworthy. But the reality is that God doesn't call the perfect but rather makes perfect those whom He calls.

Let us continue to pray for good and holy priests!

*oremus pro invicem!*

## SAINT OF THE WEEK

Saint George was an early Christian Martyr of the third century.

According to tradition, he was a soldier in the Roman Army of Greek origin. He became a member of the elite Praetorian Guard during the reign of Diocletian but was sentenced to death for refusing to recant his faith.

He is one of most venerated saints and he has been especially venerated as a military saint since the Crusades.

He became the patron saint of England in 1415.

*St George -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*

*frbrendan.seery@northamptondiocese.org*

## Parish Administrator

*Charlotte Seery*

*parish.ourladyhelpofchristiansluton@northamptondiocese.org*

*01582 723254*

## Parish Safeguarding Representatives (PSR)

*Kate Brooks*

*07921 778507*

*Rob Simpson*

*07760763529*

*safeguarding.ourladyhelpofchristiansluton@northamptondiocese.org*

[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)

## REQUIESCAT IN PACE

Please pray for all those who have died and entrust them to God's love and His mercy.

In a special way, please pray for Diana Margaret Lidstone whose Funeral Mass will take place on Friday 26th April at 10 am.

For Diana and for all of our loved ones who have died we pray,

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

## PUBLIC ROSARY

There is an opportunity to pray the Rosary outside of the church (Castle Street side) from 4 pm.

## FRASSATI GROUP

Beginning in May, there will be a monthly gathering for young adults aged between 18 - 30 to learn more about the faith and engage with other young Catholics.

## LIFE TEEN

Beginning in May we will be launching a Life Teen Youth Group for young people aged between 11 - 16. Keep an eye out for more details in the next few weeks!

## ST GEORGE'S DAY

To mark the solemnity of St George, Mass on Tuesday 23rd of April will be at 7 pm. There will be refreshments in the Parish Centre afterwards.

## PARISH REGISTRATION

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

## 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 great need of tinned tomatoes, tinned fish, cereal, coffee, soaps, and cleaning products.

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

## OFFERTORY GIVING ENVELOPES

New Offertory Giving Envelopes have now been delivered to most of those in the programme. A small number still remain undelivered and can be collected from the Parish Office. If you would like to join the scheme, please contact the Parish Office.

## OPEN HOUSE

The next Open House will take place on Monday the 22nd April between 5.30 pm - 7.30 pm.

Open House is an opportunity to arrange Baptisms and Marriages, fill in forms and anything else without needing an appointment. Simply turn up at the Presbytery during those hours.

## BIBLE STUDY

The Bible Study group continues of Thursday 25th April at 7.30 pm. The theme for this session will be on "finding Christ in the Old Testament" - all are welcome.

## NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER AND FASTING

All Catholics are invited to take part in a day of prayer and fasting on Saturday 27th April. This is to pray for the end of abortion and euthanasia and the recognition of the dignity of all peoples as children of God.

## PILGRIMS OF HOPE

Bishop David invites all of us to join him on Friday 26th April at St Johns's Catholic Church in Luton.

The program for the evening is:

**7.00pm:** Prayer led by the host parish

**7.30pm:** Bishop David's talk on being 'Pilgrims of Hope'

**8.00pm:** Open questions and answers.

**8.30pm:** Social Time

## EMMAUS COURSE

Mission Northampton are running a course that helps open up the Scriptures. For more details please check out the website:

[www.northamptondiocese.org/courses/a-weekend-journey-to-emmaus-july-2024-luton/](http://www.northamptondiocese.org/courses/a-weekend-journey-to-emmaus-july-2024-luton/)

## PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK

There is an escorted pilgrimage to Westport, Knock & Co Mayo on the 26th May 2024.

The cost of the pilgrimage is £899.00 pps. and includes flight, 10kg hold luggage, 5 nights' in 4\* Castlecourt Hotel, Westport with Dinner, Bed & Breakfast. Lunch on three days. All entertainment, excursions and transport included.

Contact Patricia or Natali on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557

## PARISH FEAST DAY

Friday 24th May at 7 pm is this year's Parish Feast Day Mass.

This year, we will be celebrating the 140th anniversary of the establishment of the parish and the beginning of the Catholic Mission in Luton.

Confirmed guests for the Mass offered by Bishop David include, among others, the Lord Lieutenant and our two Members of Parliament.

This is our feast day and it would be great for as many of us as possible to be there to give witness to our faith and thank God for the last 140 years!

## VESPERS AND BENEDICTION

There will be an opportunity every Sunday to pray the Evening Prayer of the Church (Vespers) and receive benediction from the Blessed Sacrament at 4.30 pm.

The liturgy is short but, a beautiful way to make Sunday a day even dedicated to the Lord.

## PARISH PRAYERS

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

\*\*\*

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

## UNIVERSE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

We are delighted to announce that we will be selling the Universe Catholic Weekly once again in the parish.

The newspaper is priced at £3.50 and contains information and news from across the Catholic World.

## EUCCHARISTIC CONGRESS

This year's Eucharistic Congress will take place at St Mary's College, Oscott, on Saturday 14th September.

This is a beautiful opportunity to listen to inspiring talks and take part in seminars that are focused on understanding the gift of the Eucharist in a more profound way.

If you are interested in attending this event, please contact Fr Liam Castle on 01582 663706



## QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"The deeds you do may be the only sermon some people will hear today!"

-St Francis of Assisi

## CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE

To celebrate the beautiful vocation of Marriage, there will be a Mass on Saturday 1st June at 12 pm. During the Mass, there will be an opportunity to renew wedding vows and receive a special blessing asking the Lord to continue to bless the Marriage.

There will be a reception afterwards in the Parish Centre.

## SELF DEFENCE CLASSES

The self defence classes continue **THIS WEDNESDAY at 7 pm** in the Parish Centre.

This is a fantastic opportunity to keep fit, meet new friends, and learn some valuable skills.

All are welcome, regardless of ability!

## MASS READINGS AND PRAYERS

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



## PARISH OFFERTORY

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

**£1742.34**

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

# LITURGIES AND EVENTS THIS WEEK

<b>SUNDAY</b> 21st April  4th Sunday of Easter	9.30 am MASS  11.30 am MASS 4.30 pm Vespers and Benediction 5 pm MASS	Ann Halloran RIP, Vivien Panter RIP.  Pro Populo, Helen Dixon RIP.  Robert Kehol RIP, Luke Monaghan RIP.
<b>MONDAY</b> 22nd April	7.30 am MASS (LATIN) 12 pm ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS 12.45 pm MASS	Michael Curtin Int., Patrick Slater RIP, Thara Soul RIP.  Vocations to the Priesthood.
<b>TUESDAY</b> 23rd April  S. George	7.30 am MASS (LATIN)  7 pm MASS	Patrick McHolis Int., Walter Myers RIP.  Esther McDonnell RIP.
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> 24th April	7.30 am MASS (LATIN) 12 pm ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS 12.45 pm MASS	Sandra Dias Int., Maria Burrows Int., Michael Myers RIP.  Deacon Gerry McGrogan Int.
<b>THURSDAY</b> 25th April	NO PUBLIC MASS	Please check the Pastoral Area Website for Mass time in local Catholic Churches.
<b>FRIDAY</b> 26th April	10 am Funeral Mass 12 pm ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS 12.45 pm MASS	Diana Margaret Lidstone RIP.  Mary Martin RIP.
<b>SATURDAY</b> 27th April	9am ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS 9.30 am MASS 11 am - 12.30 pm FHC	Elizabeth Briars RIP.  Parish Centre