

St Joseph's, Bedford & Our Lady's, Kempston

Parish Priest: Canon Seamus Keenan. Assistant Priest: Fr Nathaniel Onwuekwe

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THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

16th December 2018



PENITENTIAL SERVICE

There will be a Penitential Service with individual Confessions this Wednesday 19th December at 7.00pm in St Joseph's. In this way we prepare to receive the promised gift of Christ with pure hearts reconciled to him.

CONFESSIONS IN OUR LADY'S

The sacrament of Confession will be available after the 9.30am Mass next Sunday in Our Lady's, Kempston.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve: St Joseph's: 6.30pm Children's Mass. Midnight Mass preceded by carols at 11.30pm. **Christmas Day:** 8.15am, 9.30am & 11.00am. **Our Lady's: Christmas Eve:** 6.30pm Children's Mass. **Christmas Day:** 9.30am.

Mass Times – St Joseph's, Bedford

Sunday	8.15am	Canon Gerard Hart
	9.30am	Charlie Sterling, RIP
	11.00am	Mrs Boschmann
	6.30pm	Rene & Family
Monday	<i>O Wisdom</i>	
	10.45am	William Redpath, RIP
Tuesday	<i>O Adonai</i>	
	7.30am	Frances McFadden
	10.45am	Gerald Redpath, RIP
Wednesday	<i>O Root of Jesse</i>	
	7:30am	Tom Cusack
	10.45am	Helen Redpath
Thursday	<i>O Key of David</i>	
	10.45am	James Foy, RIP
Friday	<i>O Rising Sun</i>	
	10.45am	Ned & Maureen Flynn
Saturday	<i>O King</i>	
	10.45am	Pat Swallow, RIP

Mass Times – Our Lady's, Kempston

Sunday	9.30am	Bolongaita Chaston Families, RIP
Thursday	6.00pm	Sylvia Blackburn

Confessions: Saturday 11.30am – 12.30pm (Exposition)
St Joseph's: 5.00pm – 5.30pm

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Sing and shout for joy for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

ROSARY: Daily, 20 minutes before the 10.45am Mass

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Thursday 11.30am-7.00pm

ROSARY HOUR: Friday 2.30pm

CLEANING: Cummings, George, Bahoum

FLOWERS: No flowers

NEXT SUNDAY: Fourth Sunday of Advent

Readers & Ministers: Rota Week 2

Children's Liturgy: Bimla & Natalie Mathew

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Our annual Christmas Concert is on Friday 21st December at 7.30pm in the Guild Room at St Joseph's church. Enjoy a pre-Christmas jolly of light entertainment and refreshments. Tickets on sale after all Masses today at £5 Adults and £2 Children. All proceeds in aid of our parish project.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

Children's Christmas Party in Our Lady's Church, Kempston, today from 2.00pm to 3.30pm. Parents please sign list in the porch of Our Lady's church if your child wishes to attend.

CHRISTMAS DRAW

Tickets for our Christmas Draw should be handed in today as the Draw will take place this evening after the 6.30pm Mass. Thanks to all who bought tickets and donated prizes.

TAIZE ADVENT PRAYER EVENING

Today at 6.00pm in Christ the King Church, Harrowden Road. All welcome. Please see noticeboard for details.

PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE

Pilgrimage to Medjugorje 14th – 21st May 2019. Anyone interested in going please contact Mary Frost on 304014 as soon as possible.

RED MISSION BOXES

Please hand in your Red Mission collection boxes to be counted for 2018. If you have Gift Aided your donation, please be sure that your name is on the bottom of the box. Please take a new box home with you. Thank you for your continuing support.

CATHOLIC BASICS

Want to know more about your faith? Join us at the RE Centre, Luton for a basic introduction to the Catholic faith in four parts: God, The Church, The Moral Life, Prayer. Cost: £25 per person per day (£10 for the unwaged). Price includes a full lunch. Part 1 starts on Thursday 31st January 2019, 10am – 3.00pm (arr. 9.30am for refreshments) at the RE Centre, Holy Ghost Parish, 33 Westbourne Road, Luton LU4 8JD. To book, contact admin@nores.org.uk or phone Jackie on 01582 723312. Please see poster for full details.

PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA

Those who have expressed an interest in the parish pilgrimage to Fatima from 11th to 15th September 2019 are asked to pick up a booking form from Canon Seamus to be filled out with a deposit of £200 due this month. If anyone else is interested in going then please inform Canon Seamus as soon as possible.

CHRISTMAS CARD SALE

Last chance to buy your Christmas cards and other items from the stall at the back of the church today. There are still some 2019 diaries and church calendars for sale.

ADVENT WAITING

Jesus tells his disciples to be like those who await the return of their master with lamps alight (Lk 12:35-36). As Christians, therefore, we are always attentive, awaiting the Lord's return when God will be all in all (1Cor 15:28). Everyday is a new opportunity to be attentive to God, to welcome the day as his gift and to live that day by offering our good works to him. Such attentiveness requires patience, however, if we are not to lose sight of God's grace when our days are monotonous, or our difficulties many. For no night is so long as to make us forget the joy that comes with dawn. As Christians, we know that Christ will return, that no matter what we may suffer, life has its purpose and deeper meaning and that the merciful Lord will greet us at its end. Thus we can look upon history and our own lives with confidence and hope, knowing that the future is not guided solely by the work of our hands but by God's providence. May we repeat everyday the words of the first disciples: "Come, Lord Jesus!" (Rev. 22:20). And in our most difficult moments, may we hear the consoling response of Jesus: "Behold, I am coming soon" (Rev. 22:7).

Pope Francis

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

Offertory

St Joseph's £1196.80

Our Lady's £342.16

Thank you.