

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

Parish Priest: Canon Seamus Keenan. Assistant: Deacon Kevin Ryan

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**FIFTH SUNDAY  
OF EASTER**  
10<sup>th</sup> May 2020



## MONTH OF MARY

The month of May is traditionally devoted to Our Lady and Pope Francis is encouraging us to pray the Rosary that by doing so we will be united with the Catholic community throughout the world seeking Mary's intercession in stopping the coronavirus pandemic: "Contemplating the face of Christ with the heart of Mary, our mother, will make us even more united as a spiritual family and will help us overcome this time of trial." (Pope Francis). *'We fly to your protection, O Holy Mother of God; despise not our petitions in our necessities, but deliver us always from every danger, O Glorious and Blessed Virgin.'* Keep praying with faith and trust, for the Lord will not allow the storm to overwhelm us.

## Mass Times – St Joseph's, Bedford

Sunday

David Herbert, RIP

Monday *Feria*

Bob & Joe Zak; Katy Szczurko, RIP

Tuesday *Feria*

Christina Del Greco, RIP

Wednesday *Our Lady of Fatima*

Bill King

Thursday *St Matthias*

Tom McGee, RIP

Friday *Feria*

Margaret McDonagh

Saturday *Feria*

Maria & Teodor Bazylewicz, RIP

## Mass Times – Our Lady's, Kempston

Saturday

**Confessions: Saturday None for the present  
St Joseph's:**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.

**ROSARY:** None at present

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:** None at present

**CLEANING:** None at present

**FLOWERS:**

**NEXT SUNDAY: Sixth Sunday of Easter**

**Readers & Ministers:** None for the present

**Children's Liturgy:** None for the present

## PARISH FINANCES

Please consider continuing your financial support for our two parishes by posting cheques **to the above address** made payable to St Joseph's Parish, Bedford and Our Lady of Ransom, Kempston. **Address:** Our Lady's Church, 307 Bedford Rd, Kempston MK42 8QB. BACS transfer is also a possibility. Please contact Canon Seamus for account details. Thank you.

## CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE

The Bishops' Conference has a website you might like to view to keep up with Church news at this particular time: [www.cbcew.org.uk](http://www.cbcew.org.uk)

## **GIVING TUESDAY**

This is another means of keeping up your weekly donations to the parish during the period of lockdown. Every Tuesday between 10.00am and 4.00pm you can call the Northampton Diocese on 01604 712065 and donate by debit or credit card to the parish of St Joseph, Bedford or Our Lady, Kempston. You can make a one-off donation to cover your missed Sunday offerings or call each week on a Tuesday. If the line is engaged please call back later or leave your contact details on the answer machine and someone will return your call.

## **APPEAL TO OPEN PLACES OF WORSHIP**

Bishop David is encouraging us to contact Robert Jenrick MP, Secretary of State for Communities to open our churches for at least private prayer in the next phase of the lockdown as we wait for a full lifting of the restrictions. Contact details:

House of Commons, London SW1 0AA or [robert.jenrick.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:robert.jenrick.mp@parliament.uk) or tel: 02072 197335.

## **CAFOD APPEAL**

CAFOD has launched a coronavirus emergency appeal for the developing countries of our world. Families without enough to eat and without access to clean water and healthcare are particularly vulnerable to coronavirus. This will push them into further poverty so our help is needed to protect their lives. While we are unable to hold a physical collection, we can donate as individuals at [www.cafod.org.uk/coronavirusappeal](http://www.cafod.org.uk/coronavirusappeal) or by sending a cheque to CAFOD, Romero House, 55 Westminster Bridge Road, London, SE1 7JB

## **ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION**

*My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as being already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.*

## **GOSPEL REFLECTION John 14:1-12**

*“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still, and trust in me.”* Our hearts are often troubled especially, perhaps, at this time. We may be anxious about what has happened to us in the past. We may have worries about what the future is going to bring and whether we will be able to cope. We live in a tension between our fears and doubts and the promises and hopes held out to us by Jesus. He describes himself as the Way, the Truth and the Life. With him, who is the Way, we meet head-on what makes us anxious and we are no longer overwhelmed because in Christ we begin to see things differently. We can share our concerns with him who makes our load lighter. He is the Truth who leads us to the fullness of truth and the truth will make us free. And what is this truth? It is the sure knowledge that we are not left alone in our pain and our troubles. And that makes us free, no longer imprisoned by our fears of aloneness; we have someone to share the experience with. He is the Life, who imparts his life to us and makes our lives full of meaning as the light of eternity shines upon us. He says that he goes to prepare a place for us so that where he is we may be too. The image of the Father’s house with rooms prepared for each of us and a welcome awaiting us is a powerful one and a homely one. We go to the house of a friend and to a welcome the likes of which we have never seen. Heaven is a place of welcome where a place has already been prepared, so do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid for, in the words of Jesus, “it has pleased the Father to give you the kingdom.” This truth gives us a clear perspective on life. Compared to eternity our lives in this world are like the blink of an eye. What we need, then, is patient endurance and joyful hope and that spirit of service which is the mark of the true believer. So as we receive the comfort of the Lord through our faith in him and his promises, we reach out to others in need of comfort and hope especially now, united as we are in our common humanity. *May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.*

### **LAST WEEK’S COLLECTIONS**

**Offertory**

**St Joseph’s £498.00**

**Our Lady’s £172.00**

**Thank you.**