

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

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## PENTECOST

31<sup>st</sup> May 2020



# Pentecost

## NATIONAL ROSARY RALLY

On this feast of Pentecost, we are invited individually or as a family to pray the Rosary for an end to the coronavirus pandemic. Calling upon the Holy Spirit and the intercession of Our Lady, we also keep in prayer those who have been victims of the virus, those who care for them and for people's economic livelihoods. Try to join in this powerful prayer, seeking God's intervention for our country and our world. *'Mary, pray for us who have recourse to you.'*

## OPENING THE CHURCHES

July 4<sup>th</sup> still seems to be the date set by the Government for this to happen for public worship. Disappointingly no news about opening up earlier for private prayer.

## Mass Times – St Joseph's, Bedford

Sunday

Natalja Smirnova; Anna Andreozzi

Monday *Mary, Mother of the Church*

Dennis Gilbert, RIP

Tuesday *Feria*

Gerard & Margaret McDonagh

Wednesday *Ss Charles Lwanga & Companions*

Mary Willard, RIP

Thursday *Lord Jesus Christ, Eternal High Priest*

Petro Tickyj, RIP

Friday *St Boniface*

Dr Ian Baker, RIP

Saturday *St Norbet*

Evelyn Foy, RIP

## Mass Times – Our Lady's, Kempston

Saturday

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

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Send forth your Spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.**

**ROSARY:** None at present

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:** None at present

**CLEANING:** None at present

**FLOWERS:**

**NEXT SUNDAY: The Most Holy Trinity**

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

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

## PARISH FINANCES

Please continue 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. **Please see below an alternative for parish giving.** Thanks to all those continuing to give.

## 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 02072 197335.

## **CATHOLIC PAPERS**

At the moment you are unable to collect your paper at Mass, but you can have it delivered direct to your home every week Post Free. Please go to [www.thecatholicuniverse.com](http://www.thecatholicuniverse.com) or call 0161 820 5722 and they will arrange for you.

## **SPIRITUAL PILGRIMAGE**

As there will not be a diocesan pilgrimage to Walsingham this summer we are invited to follow a Spiritual Pilgrimage to Walsingham on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June by going to [www.walsingham.org.uk](http://www.walsingham.org.uk)

## **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.*

## **PENTECOST REFLECTION ACTS 2: 1-11**

It is speculated that the universe began with a big bang. On the spiritual level one could say that the Church began with a big bang with the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles at Pentecost. There was an explosion of energy and joy which the apostles could not contain! They rushed out of their self-imposed imprisonment in the upper room and started to tell all the people assembled for the feast about the good news of Jesus Christ. The new life of the Spirit had come to them when they were at their lowest ebb, shut away in a room, paralysed with fear, dispirited, confused and disillusioned. But now, all that Jesus taught them became vivid and clear and the beauty of it stirred them as it never had before. They wanted to shout it out to the whole world and tell all who would listen the good news of Jesus Christ and that is exactly what they did with strong and vibrant voice. Such was the effect of that Pentecost experience! Over and over again in the Acts of the Apostles we can read how the power of the Holy Spirit worked effectively in and through the apostles. And you know, that same Spirit is still working in the same way in our world today. We can see it in the lives of modern day missionaries. We can see it in the faith of every true Christian. So where do we get this Holy Spirit? Just ask! In prayer simply say, 'Come Holy Spirit.' There is nothing more to it and it is the one prayer that God always, always answers. He will never deny us this gift. And once the giver has been recognised, once the gift has been received, there will be an explosion of joy and hope and energy in our lives of faith that will rejuvenate us and move us to witness to the Lord with renewed courage and conviction in the gospel message. We need the warming and unifying presence of the Holy Spirit especially in this time of imposed isolation and distancing which is both disorientating and unnatural. The Spirit unites us and keeps us together as the family of God. Pray for a new Pentecost in our Church and in ourselves.

*'Light immortal, light divine, visit thou these hearts of thine, and our inmost being fill.'*

### **LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS**

**Offertory**

**St Joseph's £245.00**

**Our Lady's £420.00**

**Thank you.**