

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

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

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TWELFTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

21st June 2020



DEACON KEVIN

Deacon Kevin has decided not to continue towards ordination to the priesthood at this time and he will be leaving us at the end of this month. We thank him for his time with us and accompany him with our prayers as he continues with his vocational discernment.

RE-OPENING OF CHURCHES

The church is now open for private prayer. The hours of opening are 10am – 5pm in St Joseph's and 10.30am – 2.30pm in Our Lady's every day except for Sundays in St Joseph's when it will be from 12noon – 5pm. Confessions will be available in St Joseph's on Saturdays from 11.30am – 12.30pm, during which there will be exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. There will also be Exposition on Thursdays in the Reconciliation Chapel during the opening hours.

Mass Times – St Joseph's, Bedford

Sunday

People of the Parish

Monday

Ss John Fisher & Thomas More

Patricia McDaid, RIP

Tuesday

Feria

Bill Elford, RIP

Wednesday

Birth of St John the Baptist

Mary & Alan Wright, RIP

Thursday

Feria

Bob & Joe Zak; Katy Szczurko, RIP

Friday

Feria

Maria & Teodor Bazylewicz, RIP

Saturday

St Cyril of Alexandria

Mary Clydesdale-Cotter, RIP

Mass Times – Our Lady's, Kempston

Saturday

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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

In your great love, answer me, O God.

ROSARY: None at present

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Thursday 10am – 5pm

CLEANING: None at present

FLOWERS:

NEXT SUNDAY: SS Peter & Paul

Readers & Ministers: None for the present

Children's Liturgy: None for the present

NEW OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

The new offertory envelopes for St Joseph's are now available for collection from the presbytery. A gentle reminder to continue your financial support of the parish, please. See below for the different ways in which you can do this. If you gift aid your donations and have envelopes, then please continue to use them. Thank you.

ORDINATION DANIEL ROOKE

As many of you know, Deacon Daniel Rooke was to be ordained to the priesthood on 2nd July in The Holy Child and St Joseph, Bedford. Unfortunately, because of the impact of Covid-19, it has been decided that his ordination will now be on Saturday 26th September at 12noon in St Joseph's. As yet we do not know what restrictions there may be in terms of how many will be able to attend, but as soon as this is known we will give an update. In the meantime, Daniel would like to thank everyone for their continued support and prayers.

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.

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.

CATHOLIC PAPERS

These are now on sale again in the porch. Please place money in the wall-box marked 'Papers'.

REQUIESCANT IN PACE

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Maureen Huxley, Patricia McDaid and Vivian Atem Acha. May they rest in the peace of the Lord.

GOSPEL REFLECTION Mt: 10:26-33

When we are absorbed in creating something, a painting or writing or sewing or baking a cake for the parish priest (!), we are full of concentration and we invest that creation with a part of ourselves and so it becomes precious and of great value. It is the same with God. When he creates he invests himself, and all that he has created, including you and me, in our spiritual component, has the divine imprint. We are made in his image, in that we have a spiritual and transcendent character. It is because we are the work of his hands that we are of such value to God. A sparrow - small and insignificant - yet made by God, is so precious to him that its death does not go unnoticed by the Father. The very hairs on our head are numbered, Jesus tells us, and yet sometimes we behave as if God were distant and judgmental. He has, in fact, more care for us than we can have for ourselves and he will never lose concentration or take away the safety of his love. Therefore he says, *'do not be afraid! You are worth more than many sparrows.'* There are many imponderable things in life that can make us fearful. We ask, why wars, why sickness, why deaths of children, why natural disasters, why coronavirus? We beat our heads against a wall of unknowing and try to grasp a mystery. In the maelstrom we simply have to let go into God and allow him to carry us through. We may not get all the answers we want but peace will be restored in the knowledge that we have someone to share the experience with and he is our Father. This requires deep, trusting faith, a faith that is convinced of the Father's love for what he has created and dear to him. So whatever may happen to us in this uncertain world, we can entrust our ultimate well-being to him. *"Do not be afraid...everything now hidden will be made clear."* God will always care for us and will one day answer all our questions: *'And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad; even my body shall rest in safety... You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in your presence, at your right hand happiness forever.'* Psalm 15.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

Offertory

St Joseph's £575.00

Our Lady's £35.00

Thank you.