

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

Parish Priest: Canon Seamus Keenan

The Presbytery, 2 Brereton Road, Bedford MK40 1HU Tel: 352569

[www.stjosephsbedford.org](http://www.stjosephsbedford.org) Email: [stjosephsbedford@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:stjosephsbedford@yahoo.co.uk)

**ASSUMPTION  
OF OUR LADY**  
16<sup>th</sup> August 2020



## FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION

We celebrate the feast of the Assumption of Our Lady today which commemorates the assumption of Mary, body and soul into the eternal life of heaven. From there she continues to pray for us and to look after us her children. Let us resolve to grow in faith and holiness in obedience to God and so, one day, join her in the glory of our true home in heaven. *'Mary, pray for us who have recourse to thee.'*

## HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE

The Holy Land pilgrimage scheduled for this October has been postponed to the 12<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> April next year. Anyone interested in joining this pilgrimage, please let me know.

## CLEANING AFTER MASS

Volunteers are needed to clean down the pews after each Mass, please. Materials are provided.

## Mass Times – St Joseph's, Bedford

Sunday	8.15am	May McKenna, RIP
	9.30am	John Voogd, RIP
	11.00am	Linda Richardson, RIP
	6.30pm	People of the Parish
Monday	<i>Feria</i>	
	10.45am	Edwin Hodgkiss, RIP & Family
Tuesday	<i>Feria</i>	
	10.45am	Mathew Philip, RIP
Wednesday	<i>Feria</i>	
	10.45am	Andrew Hinde
Thursday	<i>St Bernard</i>	
	10.45am	James Foy, RIP
Friday	<i>St Pius X</i>	
	10.45am	Mary Donaghy, RIP
Saturday	<i>The Queenship of Mary</i>	
	10.45am	Joseph Soune-Seyne, RIP

## Mass Times – Our Lady's, Kempston

Saturday	6.00pm	Ann Casey, RIP
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**Confessions: Saturday 11.30am – 12.30pm (Exposition)  
St Joseph's:**

## **RESPONSORIAL PSALM:**

**On your right stands the queen in garments of gold.**

**ROSARY:** Daily at 10.20am

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:** Thursday 10am – 5pm

**CLEANING:** Mukuze, Kahari, Ngoro

**FLOWERS:** Mrs Gil

**NEXT SUNDAY: Twenty first Sunday of the Year**

**Readers & Ministers:** Rota Week 4

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

## ENTERING AND EXITING THE CHURCH

Please enter St Joseph's through the Brereton Road entrance and exit through the Midland Road door at the very back of the church. If this is a problem for some, then use the Brereton Road door and ramp. In Our Lady's, Kempston, please enter the usual door and if possible exit the fire exit door by the altar or the door by the sacristy.

## CATHOLIC BEDFORD

Visit: [www.catholicbedford.wordpress.com](http://www.catholicbedford.wordpress.com) for news in the Bedford Pastoral Area.

## **NEW OFFERTORY ENVELOPES**

The new offertory envelopes for St Joseph's are now available for collection from the back of the church. If you Gift Aid your donation and have envelopes, then please continue to use them. Thank you.

## **OUR LADY'S KEMPSTON**

The opening times for Our Lady's, Kempston, are from 10.30am to 12.30pm each weekday for private prayer and 10.30am to 12noon on Sundays during which there will be exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Additionally, there will be exposition on a Friday between 2.30pm & 3.30pm.

## **SVP – KNOCK & DROP**

The Bedford District of the SVP have been providing food parcels and support for vulnerable people during the COVID-19 pandemic. This service does not compete with the Foodbank but differs from it in the following ways:

- We provide support on a regular basis, weekly if required
- We develop an ongoing relationship with recipients of the parcels
- We deliver to the recipient's home
- We also deliver to those self-isolating and have no one else to help
- We offer social distance support each time we deliver

A box marked Knock & Drop is at the back of the church to place donations of non-perishable food in the box. Please also let us know if you need any help or know of anyone who does. You can speak to Canon Seamus or call us 07399 507218.

## **REQUISCANT IN PACE**

Please pray for the souls of Kate Mitchell, Christine Johnson, Ivan Wawryn and Patrick O'Brien. May they rest in the peace of the Lord.

## **FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION: Luke 1:39-56**

A favourite gospel passage read at funeral Masses is Jesus words in John 14:3, *'I am going now to prepare a place for you, and after I have gone and prepared you a place, I shall return to take you with me; so that where I am you may be too.'* Our Lady is the fulfilment of this promise. Today's feast of the Assumption invites us to direct our gaze towards our true destiny which lies beyond the bounds of this world. Each of us needs new vision and we need the mystery of Mary's assumption to lift our eyes beyond earthly horizons. The grace of this feast is to make us more keenly aware that here we are in a world of shadows, that the great realities lie ahead; we live in a state of longing for our native air, the air of heaven. Mary, assumed into heaven, beckons us away and helps us to set our sights on the land of our dreams. And as we see her in glory, we know that she will help us as we struggle on, even though we often fall and fail and sin. Always does she look lovingly upon us. Always is she interceding with her Son for us. Today's feast directs our gaze, our minds to higher things, to the complete union with God that Mary now enjoys. It tells us where we are going. It reassures us that if we keep our attention directed to beyond our more immediate needs and desires we will not stumble. We ask Mary now to guide us. May our faith in her assumption give us renewed hope for the world and for ourselves that, in God's heavenly kingdom united with our Blessed Lady, we may enjoy the perfection of love and the fullness of life forever.

*'Today, earth has sent a priceless gift up to heaven. Blessed indeed is Mary, blessed in many ways, both in receiving the Saviour, and in being received by the Saviour.'*

St Bernard of Clairvaux

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

**Offertory**

**St Joseph's £1078.00**

**Our Lady's £136.20**

**Thank you.**