

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

Parish Priest: Canon Seamus Keenan

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**THIRTIETH SUNDAY
OF THE YEAR**
25th October 2020



PLEASE NOTE

There will be no Adoration this Thursday and no Confessions and Exposition this Saturday.

MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

If you wish to include the names of your deceased loved ones in the daily Masses during the month of November, then please list them and place the list in the envelopes provided at the back of the church and return these to the presbytery or the church.

BLESSING OF GRAVES

The blessing of graves during the month of November: Foster Hill Road Sunday 1st Nov. Norse Road Sunday 8th Nov. Kempston Sunday 15th Nov. Each service will begin with prayers near the entrance to the cemetery at 2.30pm followed by the blessing of individual graves. Please let me know if there is a request to bless any graves in Wootton.

Mass Times – St Joseph's, Bedford

Sunday	8.15am	People of the Parish
	9.30am	Alex & Celina Godinho
	11.00am	Fr Terry Fellows, RIP
	6.30pm	Alekutty
Monday	St Alfred the Great	
	10.45am	Maria & Teodor Bazylewicz, RIP
Tuesday	Feria	
	10.45am	John Orr, RIP
Wednesday	Ss Simon & Jude	
	10.45am	Barbara Bittenbender
Thursday	Feria	
	10.45am	Kathleen Keenan, RIP
Friday	Feria	
	10.45am	Eric Macdonald
Saturday	Votive Mass of Our Lady	
	10.45am	In Thanksgiving

Mass Times – Our Lady's, Kempston

Saturday	6.00pm	Bologaita & Chaston Families
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Confessions: Saturday None today
St Joseph's:

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: I love you, Lord, my strength.

ROSARY: Daily at 10.20am

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: None this week.

CLEANING: Daniels, Nwankwo, Okonkwo.

FLOWERS: Mrs Bino

NEXT SUNDAY: All Saints

Readers & Ministers: Rota Week 2

Children's Liturgy: None for the present

CONTACT TRACING

We have been strongly advised by the diocese and the Borough Council to acquire details of those who attend Sunday and weekday Masses in our churches. To this end, you are encouraged to volunteer your contact details (name and phone number or email address) as you enter the church on the sheet provided at the entrance. **Alternatively**, if you have downloaded the NHS COVID-19 app you can scan the QR Code which you will find on the blue poster as you enter St Joseph's or the noticeboard in the porch and on the noticeboard in Our Lady's.

STEWARDS NEEDED

Stewards are still needed in St Joseph's between the hours of 12noon and 5.00pm each day. If you can donate your time for an hour or two, please let me know.

THE GOD WHO SPEAKS

A series of online Zoom Sessions exploring the upcoming Lectionary Readings and Seasons of the Liturgical Year. Led by Mgr Kevin McGinnell and Alex Heath. Tuesday 17th Nov, Tuesday 19th Jan, and Tuesday 16th Feb, 7.30pm – 8.30pm. See poster for full details. Please register in advance: admin@nores.org.uk or 01582 723312 (ext 1). Once your booking is received you will be sent details of how to join the online Zoom sessions.

FATHER WARMOLL BOOKLET

We have a new print of this informative little booklet on the founder of The Holy Child & St Joseph parish, Fr John Priestley Warmoll, 1830-1855. A good read. Cost is £3, which can be placed on the wall-box marked Books.

SVP – KNOCK & DROP

The Bedford District of the SVP have been providing food parcels and support for vulnerable people during the COVID-19 pandemic. A box marked Knock & Drop is at the back of the church to place donations of non-perishable food. Please also let us know if you need any help or know of anyone who does. Call us 07399 507218.

ONLINE WEBINARS

The diocesan Pastoral Ministry Office is hosting a series of online webinars on Monday evenings through the autumn. Topics include reaching out to the needy, building community, prayer and spirituality, and catechesis.

For more information and to register go to:

www.postlockdownchurch.eventbrite.co.uk

REQUIESCAT IN PACE

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Sylvia Warren. May she rest in the peace of the Lord.

GOSPEL REFLECTION MT 22:34-40

Jesus captures in one pithy sentence the very heart of the Jewish Law and the Prophets: Love of God and love of neighbour. Simple! Or is it? If we try to put it into practice we know it is far from simple or easy. Love, as self-sacrifice, is difficult to live. It's a struggle to imitate Christ. Even the saints found it so. It's especially difficult after hurt and suffering. Love may necessitate a word of forgiveness, an act of generosity, a gesture of inclusion. It may be making amends to end the damage of a feud in the family. No one can do this alone; it requires God's grace. We gather at Mass to recognise our need and our shortcomings. We always stand in need of repentance and conversion. We stand in need of God's love. If we get that right then the struggle will become less so because we have allowed God's heart to beat in us; we begin to love with his great heart. We cannot live the demands of love without this, which is why the first commandment is to love the Lord our God with all our hearts, and then we can love our neighbour as ourselves because we are convinced of God's love for ourselves. That conviction of his love for us makes all the difference. Therefore, we must bath in that love in prayer every day and feel its regenerative power. Strengthened by it we can, perhaps to our surprise, exercise love in a remarkable way, finding it easier to forgive, to have compassion, to have patience with the faults and weaknesses of others, to empathise, to have pity on poor, suffering humanity. There is another force working in us then, the power and presence of the Holy Spirit, who transforms our thinking and behaviour to conform to the mind of Christ. We become channels of his peace, his healing, his mercy, his love. This is our great calling, our vocation; *'to be nothing else than love, deep down in the heart of mother Church.'* (St Therese). And, in the evening of our lives, we shall be judged on these twin commandments and these alone.

'Give me your heart to love, O Lord, and your hands to bless.'

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

Offertory St Joseph's £1143.59
Mission Sunday St Joseph's £394.36

Our Lady's £327.52 Thank you.
Our Lady's £67.40 (CAFOD £72.75)