

# 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)

## THIRTY SECOND SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

8<sup>th</sup> November 2020



### LOCKDOWN

As part of the Government's strategy to combat the spread of the coronavirus, we are obliged to close our churches to collective worship whilst remaining open for private prayer. No scientific evidence has been produced for this particular edict, which displays a lack of understanding of the essential nature of public worship for the good and well-being of those who attend. This means that there will be no public Mass celebrated until the end of the lockdown on 2nd December. Mass, however, will be said in private during this time and St Joseph's church will be open for private prayer from 10.30am to 5.00pm each day. Our Lady's, Kempston, will be open from 11.00am to 1.00pm daily and for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Sundays from 11.00am-12.30pm and on Fridays from 2.30pm-3.30pm. Adoration on Thursdays in St Joseph's will continue as normal.

### Mass Times – St Joseph's, Bedford

Sunday

People of the Parish

Monday

*Dedication of the Lateran Basilica*

Holy Souls

Tuesday

*St Leo the Great*

Chris & Eric McNaughton, RIP

Wednesday

*St Martin of Tours*

Holy Souls

Thursday

*St Josaphat*

Mary Frost

Friday

*Feria*

Nick & Bridie Keisters, RIP

Saturday

*Votive Mass of Our Lady*

Holy Souls

### Mass Times – Our Lady's, Kempston

Saturday

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

### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM:**

**For you my soul is thirsting, O God, my God.**

**ROSARY:** Daily at 10.20am

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:** Thursday 11.30am–5.00pm

**CLEANING:** Ndoro, Kahari

**FLOWERS:** Mrs Price

**NEXT SUNDAY: Thirty Third Sunday of the Year**

**Readers & Ministers:** Rota Week 4

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

### CONTACT TRACING

We have been advised by the diocese and the Borough Council to acquire details of those who visit 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.

## **BLESSING OF GRAVES**

The blessing of graves has been postponed to Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> December at Norse Road and Kempston respectively.

## **CHRISTMAS DRAW**

Tickets for our Christmas Draw this year are now on sale and can be obtained from the presbytery at £2.50 a book. Prizes for the Draw gratefully received and can be delivered to the presbytery or church.

## **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 17<sup>th</sup> Nov, Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> Jan, and Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> Feb, 7.30pm – 8.30pm. See poster for full details. Please register in advance: [admin@nores.org.uk](mailto: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**

An informative little booklet on the founder of The Holy Child & St Joseph Parish, Fr John Priestley Warmoll, 1830-1855. Cost is £3 per booklet, which can be placed in 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.

## **REQUIESANT IN PACE**

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Jadwiga Kowzłowska, Sylvia Wawryn and Alick and Rita Hellmund. May they rest forever in the peace of the Lord.

## **STAND UP AND SMILE**

Sadly, abortion is currently available in the UK, right up to birth, for babies with cleft lip, cleft palate and club foot. All these conditions can be corrected. A cross party group of MPs from the three largest parties in the UK Parliament have come together to bring forward the Abortion (Cleft lip, cleft palate and club foot) Bill. The Bill will change the law to clarify that cleft palate, cleft lip and club foot are not grounds for abortion in the UK. Please visit [www.standupandsmile.org.uk](http://www.standupandsmile.org.uk) to email your MP asking to support the Bill.

## **GOSPEL REFLECTION Mt 25:1-13**

The readings and prayers of the liturgy at this time of the year begin to anticipate the end times, when Christ will return in glory to judge the living and the dead. The kingdom of heaven is often compared to a wedding or a banquet, where it is a pleasure and a privilege to be invited to attend. Five bridesmaids prepare well for the invitation but the other five were foolish and careless and found themselves excluded from the wedding feast. We need to exercise wisdom in our spiritual lives of faith, making sure that we live in such a way that the Lord will find us ready when he calls us to himself. We, therefore, need to be vigilant in prayer and good works, avoiding a complacency that can lull us into a false sense of security which is fatal to the soul. This is not to say that we have to be on edge all the time; we cannot live like that. Scripture tells us to be calm but vigilant. Calm in faith and trust in the Lord and vigilant in prayer. And we should not fear that day when we are ushered into the kingdom but be encouraged by the invitation we have already received by virtue of our baptism and the assurance that so many who have gone before us in faith, including our own loved ones, are already enjoying the wedding feast of the Lamb, the glorious life of heaven. Looking forward to such a beautiful future fills our hearts with a joyful anticipation as we journey together.

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

**Offertory**

**St Joseph's £1172.50**

**Our Lady's £252.00**

**Thank you.**