

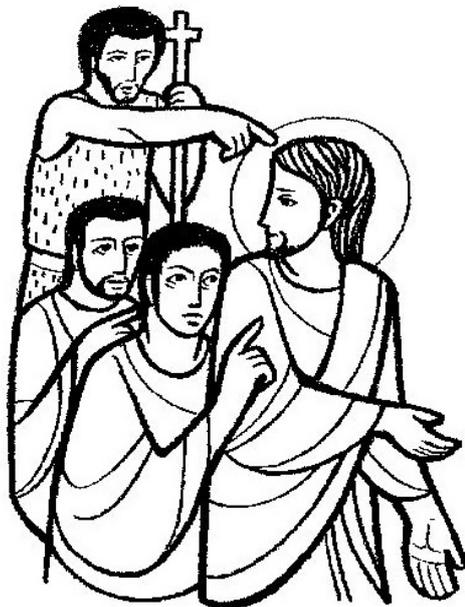
# St Joseph's, Bedford & Our Lady's, Kempston

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)

**SECOND SUNDAY  
OF THE YEAR**  
17<sup>th</sup> January 2021



## VIGILANCE

Thankfully our churches have been allowed to remain open for collective worship (Mass) and private prayer. We must remain vigilant, however, regarding the rules already in place for places of worship, especially to avoid mingling with anyone outside of your household or support bubble when attending church, both inside the building and outside. Thank you and keep praying for an end to the pandemic.

## CHRISTMAS DRAW

The list of prize winners is on the noticeboard. Please check the list and if you are a prize winner you can collect prizes from the presbytery.

## CHRISTIAN UNITY WEEK

This Monday begins the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Details of the online church services in Bedford are on the noticeboard.

## Mass Times – St Joseph's, Bedford

Sunday	8.15am	V.T. Mathai
	9.30am	People of the Parish
	11.00am	Michael Micallef Ints.
	6.30pm	Terezija Dernulc, RIP
Monday	<i>Feria</i>	
	10.45am	Bob & Joe Zak; Katy Szczurko, RIP
Tuesday	<i>Feria</i>	
	10.45am	Peter Renwick, RIP
Wednesday	<i>Feria</i>	
	10.45am	James Foy, RIP
Thursday	<i>St Agnes</i>	
	10.45am	Margaret Quigley, RIP
Friday	<i>St Vincent</i>	
	10.45am	John Podesta, RIP
Saturday	<i>Votive Mass of Our Lady</i>	
	10.45am	Maria & Teodor Bazylewicz, RIP

## Mass Times – Our Lady's, Kempston

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

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

**Here I am Lord! I come to do your will.**

**ROSARY:** Daily at 10.20am

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

**CLEANING:** Daniels, Okonkwo, Ngere

**FLOWERS:** None for the present

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

**Readers & Ministers:** Rota Week 2

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

## CONTACT TRACING

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 and on the noticeboard in Our Lady's.

## PEACE SUNDAY

Today is the World Day of Prayer for Peace. We pray for this gift for our world and in our own hearts.

## **THE GOD WHO SPEAKS**

Online Zoom sessions exploring the upcoming lectionary readings and seasons of the liturgical year begin this Tuesday from 7.30pm to 8.30pm. The importance of God's word for Christian identity and everyday living led by Mgr Kevin McGinnell, Alex Heath and Liz Clark. Please register in advance to secure a place by email: [admin@nores.org.uk](mailto:admin@nores.org.uk) or phone: 01582 723312 (Ext 1). Once the booking is received you will be sent details of how to join the online Zoom sessions.

## **ONLINE LUX WEEKEND**

This is an online weekend for 11 – 18 year olds organised by the youth ministry of the Northampton diocese from Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2021. For more information, please go to [www.nymo.org/lux-valour](http://www.nymo.org/lux-valour)

## **MEDJUGORJE PILGRIMAGE**

This parish pilgrimage has now been postponed to 14<sup>th</sup> – 21st September 2021. Anyone interested in going, please contact Mary Frost on 304014 or 07708 264054.

## **SVP – KNOCK & DROP APPEAL**

The Bedford District of the SVP continues to provide food parcels and support for vulnerable people during the Covid pandemic. A box marked Knock & Drop is at the back of the church to place donations of non-perishable food. Thank you.

## **CRIB OFFERINGS**

A total of £324.12 was donated to the Christmas Crib appeal in aid of poor Christian families in the Holy Land. Thank you.

## **SURPLUS GIFT SALE**

We hope to go ahead with our annual Surplus Gift Sale at the end of February. Donations appreciated and can be left at the presbytery or the church.

## **REQUIESCANT IN PACE**

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Mary Hansen and Thomas & Kathleen Mellon. May they rest forever in the peace of Christ.

## **GOSPEL REFLECTION John 1:35-42**

“Come and see.” The words of Jesus to the men who were to become his first disciples when they inquired where he lives. And they go and stay with him the rest of the day and indeed the rest of their lives! It was a simple straight forward invitation. He took them to his home; he made room for them and they felt at home with him. Jesus came to give us community, the community of the Church, God's family on earth. We belong to that family; our home is with the Lord. We thrive when we are together which is why that sense of isolation because of these lockdowns diminishes the human spirit, but when we are together in community that's when the human spirit will grow and really flourish. This is how we are made, this is how we flourish. We look forward to the day when we can come together as before and no longer have to dance around each other! Group hug coming up!! In the meantime, keep close to him who knows nothing about social distancing, and in prayer allow him to hug you and press you to his heart. This will lessen that sense of isolation and loneliness. In these testing times we can easily become depressed and disorientated, losing our sense of belonging and identity. Our Christian faith will support us and give us hope. You see, our ultimate identity is not to be found in extraneous things but in our relationship with Jesus Christ. Focus on that relationship. Don't let prayer slip and, if you are able, come to Mass where Jesus is present in a unique way. Those first disciples wanted to know where Jesus lived. Well, he lives in the believing heart if we let him in. So, invite him in, open the door to him every day in prayer. He lives in a special way in the Eucharist, so again, if you are able, come and see. Whatever you decide, make room for him in your daily life. Don't isolate from him. *“Behold I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to share his meal, side by side with him.”* (Rev 3:20). The promise of one who is always close and who seeks a home in our hearts.

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

Offertory

St Joseph's £1004.49

Our Lady's £132.10

Thank you.

SPUC

St Joseph's £232.79

Our Lady's £17.84