

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

Parish Priest: Canon Seamus Keenan. Assistant Priest: Fr Pius Duke MSP

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

www.stjosephsbedford.org Email:stjosephsbedford@yahoo.co.uk

**SECOND SUNDAY  
OF EASTER**  
11<sup>th</sup> April 2021



## DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Today is the feast of Divine Mercy when we recall and celebrate the great mercy of God revealed in Christ. There will be an afternoon of prayer and devotion in St Joseph's starting at 2.45pm with the blessing of the Divine Mercy image followed by the 3 o'clock prayer and Divine Mercy Chaplet, Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament and the Consecration Prayer. Confessions will be available afterwards. All are invited to pray, invoking God's mercy, especially at this time of pandemic.

## CAFOD WALK FOR WATER

Mary Frost and Rosemary Mitchell have completed their CAFOD Walk for Water. Those who kindly sponsored them are asked to hand in their promised donations as soon as possible, please. Thanks to all who sponsored the Walk.

## Mass Times – St Joseph's, Bedford

Sunday	8.15am	People of the Parish
	9.30am	Pat Hyland, RIP
	11.00am	Arthur Micallef, RIP
	6.30pm	Michael Kinsella, RIP
Monday	<i>Feria</i>	
	10.45am	Bridie & Harry Downs, RIP
Tuesday	<i>Feria</i>	
	10.45am	Sylvia Blackburn
Wednesday	<i>Feria</i>	
	10.45am	Sandy Grove, RIP
Thursday	<i>Feria</i>	
	10.45am	Elisabetta Andreozzi, RIP
Friday	<i>Feria</i>	
	10.45am	John Maund, RIP
Saturday	<i>Feria</i>	
	10.45am	Dympna Mabb, RIP

## Mass Times – Our Lady's, Kempston

Saturday 6.00pm Private Int.

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

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.**

**ROSARY:** Daily at 10.20am

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

**CLEANING:** Ndoro, Kahari

**FLOWERS:** Mrs Redmond

**NEXT SUNDAY: Third Sunday of Easter**

**Readers:** Rota Week 2

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

## 40 PENCE FOR 40 DAYS

Those who took up this challenge for the Bedford Foodbank are asked to hand the money saved into the church or presbytery as soon as you can, please. Again thanks to all who participated in this giving during Lent.

## REQUEST

Please do not place items of clothing in the Bedford Foodbank bin at the back of the church. We do not collect clothing. Thank you.

## THANKS

Thank you for your generous Easter offerings.

## **MASS FOR THE SICK**

The diocese of Northampton will be live-streaming a Mass for the sick on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> April 3.00pm - 4.00pm.

[www.pastoralministryoffice.org/event/live-streamed-mass-for-the-sick](http://www.pastoralministryoffice.org/event/live-streamed-mass-for-the-sick)

## **RED MISSIO BOX 2020**

In 2020 our parishes of St Joseph & Our Lady raised £2,311.20 from the Red Boxes and monies donated directly via online, cheques or direct debit. Missio is grateful for the generous donations in this difficult time. If you have a full Red Box, please hand into the church and collect a new one.

## **SVP KNOCK & DROP**

Please continue to donate non-perishable food items to the SVP Knock & Drop initiative. You can place items in the marked box at the back of the church in St Joseph's and in the church porch at Our Lady's. Thank you.

## **SAFEGUARDING UPDATE**

Parishioners volunteering within the parish may require a DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) check. This requires an update every three years. Those volunteers who already have a DBS certificate which requires renewal will be contacted shortly, by letter, explaining how this can be undertaken. The two new safeguarding representatives for the parish are Margaret Begley and Geraldine Byrne. Contact phone numbers on the notice board. We thank Mary O'Sullivan for the many years she has been our parish rep as she steps down from this role.

## **MEDJUGORJE PILGRIMAGE**

This parish pilgrimage is from 14<sup>th</sup> to 21st September 2021. Contact Mary Frost on 304014 or 07708 264054.

## **REQUIESCAT IN PACE**

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Lilly Battiloro. May she rest in the peace of Christ.

## **DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**

*"Jesus Christ is the face of the Father's mercy."* (Pope Francis). God's mercy meets man's misery in Jesus, the Risen One. He is the bridge that connects God and man, opening our hearts to a hope of being loved forever despite our sinfulness. Mercy is born of this great love God has for us, a love that accepts us as we are and, at the same time, calls us to become what we are made to be, what God wants us to be. God's grace and mercy are always available to us and we are invited to enter this opening in his heart. Let us not stay outside in the cold of sin and pride. Let us enter the open door of God's mercy and be warmed and healed by his love. And we enter it through the sacrament of Confession and our heartfelt prayer which beats upon the door of his merciful love. In the Eucharist, too, we see and experience this same merciful love in the heart of Jesus who gives himself to us as our food and drink to sustain us on our journey so as not to give up or despair of reaching our true home because of our sins and sometimes destructive ways. That mercy we have received must then extend to others by being merciful ourselves. We must find it in our hearts to forgive those who sin against us. This is a grace we need to pray for as it does not come easily to us. Also, we need to carry out, whenever the opportunity presents itself, works of mercy through acts of kindness and generosity. In this way we, too, reveal the face of the merciful Father. Our lives as Christians are authentic and credible only when we become convincing heralds of mercy. This is possible when we truly fall in love with Christ and not just believe in him as a matter of faith. When you fall in love with someone you want to imitate all that is good in that person, and so it is with Jesus. We want to imitate him in his love and mercy and compassionate, understanding heart. Appeal, then, to that same heart, an oasis from which we can drink from the deep well of his mercy and so become ourselves channels of his mercy in a hurting world. *'Lord, let me feel the caress of your mercy upon the wounds of my humanity. Amen.'*

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

Offertory            St Joseph's £1721.76  
Good Friday        St Joseph's £407.40

Our Lady's £312.00  
Our Lady's £154.04

Thank you.