

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

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

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**THIRD SUNDAY
OF EASTER**
18th April 2021



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.

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.

Mass Times – St Joseph's, Bedford

Sunday 8.15am Andrew Hinde
9.30am Mary McGee, RIP
11.00am Bridget Kaziow, RIP
6.30pm Sister Bertha Nsoyuni

Monday *Feria*

10.45am James Foy, RIP

Tuesday *Feria*

10.45am Franciska Rozman, RIP

Wednesday *St Anselm*

10.45am Bud Flanagan

Thursday *Feria*

10.45am John Crow, RIP

Friday *St George*

10.45am Marie Grezie Rossett

Saturday *Feria*

10.45am Bianca Metie Zonte

Mass Times – Our Lady's, Kempston

Saturday 6.00pm Ken Geoghan, RIP

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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Lift up the light of your face on us, O Lord.

ROSARY: Daily at 10.20am

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Thursday 11.30am-5.00pm

CLEANING: Daniels, Okonkwo

FLOWERS: Mrs Bino

NEXT SUNDAY: Fourth Sunday of Easter

Readers: Rota Week 3

Children's Liturgy: None for the present

MASS FOR THE SICK

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

SECOND COLLECTION

There will be a second collection for the Diocesan Priests' Training Fund next Sunday at all Masses, which is Vocations Sunday, when we are invited to pray for more priestly and religious vocations especially for our own diocese.

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.

MEDJUGORJE PILGRIMAGE

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

SS PHILIP & JAMES GOLF DAY

The 30th SS Philip & James Golf Society Charity Golf Day is scheduled to take place on Friday 4th June 2021 at Pavenham Park Golf Club. This year we are supporting CHUMS and LIVING IT UP EVENTS CIC. As usual, we are looking for sponsorship (our main source of income), so if you can help, please contact us. Any donations will be greatly appreciated and these can be cash or a prize for the raffle or auction. We are not able to hold our usual dinner in the evening because of Covid restrictions. Entry forms now available for golfers. Please contact Mike Chappell on 07973 703340 or mikechappell43@btinternet.com

REQUIESCANT IN PACE

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Pauline McGettigan, David Price, Lilly Caruso and Prince Philip. May they rest in the peace of the Lord.

'It is easy to love people far away. It is not always easy to love those close to us. Bring love into your home for this is where our love for each other must start.'

St Teresa of Calcutta

GOSPEL REFLECTION Luke 24:35-48

Many of you will recall the popular tv comedy, One Foot in the Grave, where Victor Meldrew's catchphrase was an exasperated, "I don't believe it!" This was the apostles' reaction to the appearances of the risen Christ in the gospels; complete disbelief! This man whom they saw die the terrible death of the cross and was buried was now standing before them! They thought they were seeing a ghost, and to prove to them he was real flesh and blood, he invited them to see the wounds in his hands and feet and then asked them for something to eat. He becomes, with the taking of food, the person they knew and loved. Then he begins to explain that all that happened to him was to fulfil the prophecies told about him as the suffering servant of God. Now they were to proclaim this good news to the world. However, they were not yet ready for that great mission. Only after the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost would they have the boldness and conviction to proclaim Jesus as the only Saviour who would lead us from death to life. He tells them that they are witnesses to this. We are also witnesses to this truth and like any good news we don't keep it to ourselves. We are to be joyful witnesses to the risen Christ as we bring our faith to bear on the situations we meet in our daily lives. Telling the truth in love, being honest, standing up for the weak, not hiding our Christianity. This takes courage at times, which is why we need to stay close to the risen Lord in prayer and in celebrating the Eucharist as a believing community. This strengthens our faith and rejuvenates us and keeps alive that sense of joy and wonder in what Jesus has done for us. To some, the whole Easter story is just a fanciful tale and no more, hence the, 'I don't believe it' response. How sad! We must keep the flame of faith alive in us. Let it not be extinguished by the chill winds of cynicism and indifference. Let it not be snuffed out by our own neglect but cherish and celebrate this wonderful news; Christ is risen! Alleluia!

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

Offertory

St Joseph's £1636.68

Our Lady's £555.00

Thank you.