

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

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

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THIRTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR 27th June 2021



PRIESTLY ORDINATION

This Friday, Deacon Liam Castle will be ordained to the priesthood at Northampton Cathedral at 12noon. Please pray for him as he receives the gift of ordination and that he may be blessed in his ministry of service in the Church. Some of you may know Liam, as he is a parishioner of SS Philip & James, Bedford and a cousin of Fr Daniel Rooke, who was ordained here last year. Liam's first Mass will be celebrated in SS Philip & James this Saturday.

SS PETER & PAUL

This feast of SS Peter & Paul is normally a Holy Day of Obligation. For the moment the obligation remains suspended but it would be good to attend Mass that day, even so, in celebration of these two great saints and pillars of the Church and to pray especially for St Peter's successor, Pope Francis, in his ministry of leading the Church of God today.

Mass Times – St Joseph's, Bedford

Sunday 8.15am Ronald Madtha, RIP
9.30am People of the Parish
11.00am Elias Haddad, RIP
6.30pm Fr Owen O'Neil, RIP

Monday *St Irenaeus*

10.45am Bob & Joe Zak; Katy Szczurko, RIP

Tuesday *SS Peter & Paul*

10.45am Maria & Teodor Bazylewicz, RIP
7.30pm People of the Parish

Wednesday *First Martyrs of the Church of Rome*

10.45am Flossy D'Souza

Thursday *St Oliver Blunkett*

10.45am Fr Roy

Friday *Feria*

10.45am Rosalie R Janoyog, RIP

Saturday *St Thomas*

10.45am Emma Wallace

Mass Times – Our Lady's, Kempston

Saturday 6.00pm Karl Ressler

Tuesday 7.30pm Debbie Brown, RIP

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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me.

ROSARY: Daily at 10.20am

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Thursday 11.30am-5.00pm

CLEANING: Cummings, Petts

FLOWERS: Mrs Redmond

NEXT SUNDAY: Fourteenth Sunday of the Year

Readers: Rota Week 1

Children's Liturgy: None for the present

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

The new offertory envelopes for St Joseph's parish are now available for collection at the back of the church. Please take your box-set for continued use. Anyone who wishes to start using envelopes, please let me know. Also, if you wish to Gift Aid your donations to the parish, again please let me know.

RETIRING COLLECTION

There is a retiring collection today at all Masses for Peter's Pence in aid of the poorer churches in our world. Please place your donation in the basket as you leave Mass.

BISHOP DAVID: THE CHURCH

Bishop David has produced a series of short talks focused on 'The Church'. These videos can be viewed on the Northampton Diocese YouTube channel. Simply type 'Northampton Diocese' into the search bar on YouTube and click on 'The Church' playlist.

SAFEGUARDING AWARENESS

The Catholic Trust for England and Wales has purchased a package of e-learning programmes available to all members of the Catholic community free of charge as part of the Church's on-going commitment to safeguarding. Details and how to register your interest are on the noticeboard.

MEDJUGORJE PILGRIMAGE

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

LIFETEEN SUMMER CAMP 2021

This is for 12-18 year olds at Alton Castle, Staffs. Five days of fun and activities where young Catholics gain formation and friendships. Wednesday 28th July from 3pm to Sunday 1st August until 2pm. Cost: £225 for camping (provide your own tent). £275 for dormitory. £50 for online camp. A non-refundable deposit when booking. Included in the price are accommodation, all food, daily Mass and Reconciliation, all activities including trekking, climbing, a day at Alton Towers Theme Park, biking, archery, camp-fires and much more. For information and to go to the bookings page visit www.nymo.org/summercamp

“Sadness is the gaze turned towards oneself. Happiness is the gaze turned towards God.”

Blessed Carlo Acutis (1991-2006)

GOSPEL REFLECTION Mark 5:21-43

‘Death was never God’s doing, he takes no pleasure in the extinction of the living.’ (Wis. 1:13). And yet death is very much part of our experience of life! The two incidents in today’s gospel on the one hand reflect the evil we find in the world and, on the other hand, offer the promise of wholeness and life. They illustrate the reality of sickness and death in our lives and they also show just how effectively and completely Jesus deals with these evils. Death, illness and evil are not intrinsic to creation but were introduced through human disobedience, what is referred to as The Fall. In scripture, sin is always portrayed as shattering peace and bringing death. Creation has been scarred by sin and the human race experiences the consequences of that sin as death, illness, decay, hopelessness. Our two gospel stories stress our human inability to rectify our plight. The poor woman has tried every cure available, to no avail and makes her ritually unclean, unable to stay in the company of others. It puts her beyond human compassion. And once the young girl has died, people don’t want to trouble Jesus further. Death is viewed as being final, the last word. She too is beyond help. Yet in both these hopeless situations the power of God at work in Jesus is able to put right the damage: he restores to wholeness that which is wounded and brings back to life that which has died. Both the woman and the child’s father exhibit great faith and this is what enables Christ to heal and raise from the dead. He alone can heal and bring us to new life but we need to have a real, lively faith in him. Christ can restore us to wholeness too. Whatever our own particular wound, he can heal and raise us to new life. When we feel dead inside, when we feel completely unable to help ourselves, then, through faith, he is able to enter and bring new life and hope. Our fears of sickness, of loneliness, of death can be taken away if we have faith in him. Jesus is our life and our peace. Let him in, let him do his job of healing, restoring, mending us, touching the deepest wounds of our humanity and there create wholeness and peace.

LAST WEEK’S COLLECTIONS

Offertory

St Joseph’s £1393.00

Our Lady’s £195.63

Thank you.