

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

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

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FIFTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

11th July 2021



RETIRING COLLECTION

Today is Sea Sunday when the Church prays for all those who live and work at sea. Today's retiring collection is for the Apostleship of the Sea. This is the official maritime welfare agency of the Catholic Church. Visit:

www.stellamaris.org.uk/SeaSunday.

The collection is vital to enable AoS to continue its important work. If you wish to donate outside of the collection, please visit www.stellamaris.org.uk/donate or text SEA to 70460 to donate £5. Envelopes for the collection can be picked up from the porch. There is a Gift Aid slip attached. Thank you.

SVP KNOCK & DROP

Non-perishable food items are still needed for the SVP Knock & Drop initiative. You can place these items in the marked box at the back of the church. Thank you for your generous giving.

Mass Times – St Joseph's, Bedford

Sunday 8.15am Thomas Athiraka Langara
9.30am Peter Lewis, RIP
11.00am Irena Kauseiete
6.30pm Andrew Hinde

Monday *Feria*

10.45am Paddy Cusack, RIP

Tuesday *Feria*

10.45am Bob & Joe Zak; Katy Szczurko, RIP

Wednesday *Feria*

10.45am Maria & Teodor Bazylewicz, RIP

Thursday *St Bonaventure*

10.45am Dennis Gilbert, RIP

Friday *Our Lady of Mt Carmel*

10.45am Mary Cusack

Saturday *Votive Mass of Our Lady*

10.45am In Thanksgiving (Sloman)

Mass Times – Our Lady's, Kempston

Saturday 6.00pm Edmond & Mary Connolly, RIP

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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help.

ROSARY: Daily at 10.20am

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Thursday 11.30am-5.00pm

CLEANING: Daniels, Okonkwo

FLOWERS: Mrs Crow

NEXT SUNDAY: Sixteenth Sunday of the Year

Readers: Rota Week 3

Children's Liturgy: None for the present

MEDJUGORJE PILGRIMAGE

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

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.

DIOCESAN YOUTH MINISTRY

In The Studio will be live at 8pm on 15th July on our YouTube channel 'Luxnymo' - this online event is open to everyone of secondary school age and has great talks, prayer, Grill the Priest, a quiz and much more, all coming live from our studio!

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. 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 more. For information and to go to the bookings page visit www.nymo.org/summercamp

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.

REQUISCANT IN PACE

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Maria De Los Angeles Cox and Robert Randell. May they rest in the peace of Christ.

“Our goal must be the infinite, not the finite. The infinite is our homeland. Heaven has been waiting for us forever.”

Blessed Carlo Acutis

GOSPEL REFLECTION Mark 6:7-13

Jesus is clear and direct in the gospel today. There is no mistaking his instructions to the twelve apostles. In word and in action they are to communicate clearly the Good News of the one who sent them. Everything about them must proclaim exactly what they are about. An apostle is only able to obey and to endure the hardships which can follow from obedience, if he or she is committed to the one who commands, and believes the message which is to be proclaimed. It remains for us to be simple and direct in our witness to Jesus and his gospel. When it is thus lived, then the gospel message bears fruit. After Jesus left the apostles they would miss his guidance and instruction. For this reason he sent his Holy Spirit upon them so that his mission would continue. In this same Spirit we become apostles, apostles of his love, his mercy, his healing, his peace and joy. We may not always be understood or welcomed. We may be opposed and ridiculed. But no matter. We are called to live our faith and witness to it in season and out of season. As long as we turn up every day and work our patch, the gospel will bear fruit in our lives and the lives of those we touch. We plant, it is God who gives the growth. So let us not be discouraged by our efforts to be faithful and to do the good. We will reap the harvest when the time comes. Discouragement is another tool of the devil to knock us off course, to derail us. Again, don't let him in. Don't let disappointment with ourselves or with others undermine the confidence of faith which places all out-comes with God. Like the apostles, we are sent to bring the truth of Jesus into people's lives, not in any preachy way, but simply by living the good news of the gospel and to give an account of the joy and the hope that lights up our lives. Jesus is the good news, he is the reason for our hope. Don't be afraid to say so. This is how we share with others the gospel in a simple and direct way. So stay close to him in prayer and he will accompany us in all our endeavours and so become a source of grace for our brothers and sisters.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

Offertory

St Joseph's £1077.52

Our Lady's £274.30

Thank you.