

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

**TWENTY FIFTH
SUNDAY OF THE YEAR**
19th September 2021



MASS FOR MARRIED LIFE

Bishop David Oakley invites married couples to the Diocesan Mass for Married Life at the Cathedral, Kingsthorpe Road, Northampton NN2 6AG on Saturday 16th October, gathering from 11.30am followed by Mass at 12noon. The Bishop will give his blessing to those couples celebrating significant milestones in their marriage, i.e. 1, 10, 20, 25, 30, 40, 50 years or longer. If you are celebrating such an anniversary, please contact Eamon & Paola McMorrow on 07412 151517 or at mass.mfl@northamptondiocese.org.

Also, if you do have a particular anniversary to mark, please see me for a personal invitation card. All are welcome to attend. Refreshments afterwards in the new Cathedral Centre.

RETIRING COLLECTION

There is a retiring collection today at all Masses for Home Mission Sunday in aid of the work of the Church in this country. Apologies for the short notice.

Mass Times – St Joseph's, Bedford

Sunday	8.15am	Joseph Thoppil & Aleyamma, RIP
	9.30am	Dilys Willis, RIP
	11.00am	Juliya, Silvestras & Eugenijus, RIP
	6.30pm	Vincente M Ojeda, RIP
Monday	St Andrew Kim Tae-gon & Companions	
	10.45am	James Foy, RIP
Tuesday	St Matthew	
	10.45am	Maria & Teodor Bazylewicz, RIP
Wednesday	Feria	
	10.45am	Annamma Thomas, RIP
Thursday	St Pio of Pietrelcina	
	10.45am	Henry, RIP
Friday	Our Lady of Walsingham	
	10.45am	Ma Millicent, RIP
Saturday	Votive Mass of Our lady	
	10.45am	Simon & Anne O'Toole

Mass Times – Our Lady's, Kempston

Saturday	6.00pm	Fr Francis Moran, RIP
----------	--------	-----------------------

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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: The Lord upholds my life.

ROSARY: Daily at 10.20am

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Thursday 11.30am-7.00pm

CLEANING: Cummings, Petts, George

FLOWERS: Mrs Bino

NEXT SUNDAY: Twenty Sixth Sunday of the Year

Readers: Rota Week 1

Children's Liturgy: None for the present

BEDFORD PRAYER LINE

Do you have worries or problems that are getting you down? Bedford Prayer Line is a phone line for anyone who feels overburdened or in need of prayer and would like our local Catholic communities to pray for them. Simply call the number 07835 571333 and leave a message. A church volunteer will check the messages and our local Catholic Church communities will pray for those leaving messages and their requests.

THANK YOU

The Holy Family Sisters would like to thank you for your generous giving to their Appeal last Sunday at St Joseph's which raised £928.60 for their work among the poorest in our world.

FIRST COMMUNION 2022

Enrolment forms for First Communion classes, beginning this autumn, are now available from the sacristy. Numbers, again, will be limited, so please do not delay in enrolling.

NEW PARISH PROJECT

Our parish is adopting a new project divided between two charities, namely the Multiple Sclerosis Centre in Barkers Lane, Bedford and the International Refugee Trust which helps with the needs of refugees in different parts of the world principally in the Middle East, Far East and parts of Africa. Various fundraising events have been planned, the first of these next Sunday with a barbecue in the grounds of Our Lady's church, Kempston at 2.30pm. Cost: £5 adult, £3 child.

SVP-KNOCK & DROP

Knock & Drop needs contributions more than ever. It has been a great success but demand, rather than reducing, has grown, and we urgently need donations of non-perishable food. You can leave these items in the marked box at the back of both churches. Thank you for your generosity.

READERS & MINISTERS

A series of Zoom sessions is planned for Readers & Ministers of Holy Communion led by the Diocesan Liturgical Formation Team. Readers: Wednesdays 22, 29 September & 6 October 7.30pm-8.30pm. Ministers: Wednesdays 3, 10 & 17 November 7.30pm-8.30pm. Please register in advance to secure a place by email or phone: admin@nores.org.uk or 01582 723312 (ext.1). Once booking is received you will be sent details of how to join the Zoom sessions.

HOSPITAL VISITS

Deacon Tony Quinlan has resumed his weekly visits to the hospital as Chaplain every Friday. If a visit is required, please contact him on 950453.

REFLECTION: SEASON OF CREATION

This new liturgical Season of Creation, introduced by Pope Francis last year, runs from September to 4th October. In it we are encouraged to reflect on all that the earth provides for us as a gift from God and our duty to care for creation now and for future generations. Having just returned from a week on the north coast of Ireland and the Sperrin mountain region, I can appreciate even more the beauty of creation and how restorative it is when one is close to it. Even more so when living most of my time in the town centre with its noise, pollution and the detritus of human activity. It was good to breathe a lungful of fresh air and take in the expanse and beauty of the natural world. Such moments also remind us of the Creator himself who gave us this world as our home and our responsibility for it. We lift our eyes to heaven in thanksgiving. The following is a prayer composed by Pope Francis for our earth.

A Prayer for Our Earth

'All powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures. You embrace with your tenderness all that exists. Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty. Fill us with peace that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one. O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes. Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it, that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction. Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain at the expense of the poor of the earth. Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognise that we are profoundly united with each creature as we journey towards your infinite light. We thank you for being with us each day. Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle for justice, love and peace.'

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

Offertory **St Joseph's £844.39**
Mission Appeal **St Joseph's £928.60**

Our Lady's £224.15

Thank you.