

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

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

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**SIXTH SUNDAY  
OF THE YEAR**  
13<sup>th</sup> February 2022



## CONFIRMATION ENROLMENT

We welcome to our 11am Mass today our Confirmation candidates who will be enrolled in the Confirmation programme in preparation for this sacrament in the summer.

## PARISH QUIZ

Our next fundraising event for our parish project is a Parish Quiz this Friday 18th February at 7.30pm in the Guild Room. Tickets on sale today after the Masses at £3. Come along and exercise those little grey cells.

## TEA & TALK

You are warmly invited to enjoy a cup of tea and a chat with fellow parishioners on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February in Our Lady's Meeting Room, Kempston, at 2.30pm.

## CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

Meets this Wednesday in the Reconciliation Chapel at 7.30pm. All welcome.

## Mass Times – St Joseph's, Bedford

Sunday	8.15am	Melvin Bino
	9.30am	Pam Scott-Crossley, RIP
	11.00am	People of the Parish
	6.30pm	Nenita Corpuz
Monday	<i>SS Cyril &amp; Methodius</i>	
	10.45am	Bob & Joe Zak; Katy Szczurko, RIP
Tuesday	<i>Feria</i>	
	10.45am	Angelo Brunetti, RIP
Wednesday	<i>Feria</i>	
	10.45am	Jose Paul
Thursday	<i>Feria</i>	
	10.45am	Vickery, De-Maine & Pollard families
Friday	<i>Feria</i>	
	10.45am	Maureen Wright, RIP
Saturday	<i>Votive Mass of Our Lady</i>	
	10.45am	Gregoria Castillo, RIP

## Mass Times – Our Lady's, Kempston

Saturday	6.00pm	Joanne Connolly, RIP
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## Confessions – St Joseph's:

**Saturday 11.30am – 12.30pm (Exposition)**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

**Happy the man who has placed his trust in the Lord.**

**ROSARY:** Daily at 10.20am

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:** Thursday 11.30am-7.00pm

**CLEANING:** Bahoum, Thomas, Cummings

**FLOWERS:** Mrs Crow

**NEXT SUNDAY: Seventh Sunday of the Year**

**Readers:** Rota Week 2

**Children's Liturgy:** Molly Orme & Nicole

## EASING OF RESTRICTIONS

Since the easing of Covid restrictions by the Government, the advice from the Bishops' Conference is that face coverings are now optional when attending Mass. The sign of peace has been restored. It need not be a handshake, if people are uncomfortable with that, but any other sign will suffice, e.g. a bow. We can now bless ourselves with holy water as we enter and leave the church. The reception of Holy Communion remains under one kind for the present, i.e. the host only.

## **FIRST AID COURSE**

A First Aid Course (Emergency First Aid at Work) will be held on Saturday 19th February in the Guild Room (access from Church Street), from 9am to 4pm. There will be no charge but a contribution towards costs will be welcome. Please contact Chris Field on 07840 878455 to book a place. A short session on Basic Life Support and how to use a defibrillator lasting about 40 mins will be held after each Mass on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> February. Just turn up. No charge but a small donation towards our parish project would be welcome.

## **BEDFORD FOODBANK**

The following items are needed for the Bedford Foodbank: long life sponge pudding, long life fruit juice, 100g jars of coffee, jars of curry sauce, large tins of potatoes, cup-a-soup, tinned meat in sauce (curry/chilli), tinned baked beans, shampoo, multi-purpose spray, washing up liquid. These items can be placed in the green bin at the back of St Joseph's church and the cardboard box in Our Lady's church porch.

## **THE GOD WHO SPEAKS**

A series of online Zoom sessions is being offered by the Liturgical Formation Team exploring the upcoming Lectionary Readings and Seasons of the Liturgical Year. A valuable opportunity to develop our engagement with the scriptures that we hear proclaimed at Mass. The dates are: Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February, Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April and Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> April, all beginning at 7.30pm. To register, please email [admin@nores.org.uk](mailto:admin@nores.org.uk) or phone: 01582 723312 (ext 1). Once your booking is received you will be sent details of how to join the sessions.

## **REQIESCANT IN PACE**

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Joe Grady, Filippa Hill, Terry Mullins and Mary Roche. May they rest in the peace of Christ.

*“Kind words are very short and easy to speak but their echoes are truly endless.”*

*St Teresa of Calcutta*

## **REFLECTION**

*‘There’s always something!’* How many times have we said that in the face of life’s little difficulties and frustrations? Things may be going well for us and then something happens, often unforeseen, to frustrate our plans and our lives. It points to the imperfection and uncertainty of this world, where things are not as we want them to be, where things are not always under our control. It can be frightening as well as frustrating. The ability to transcend them does not come naturally, which is why, what may seem outwardly trivial, dominates our waking and even sleeping hours, robbing us of peace. Before it gets to that we just need to take time out and put it into perspective and, as men and women of faith, place whatever is troubling us before the Lord in prayer. You may think that he is not interested in our little problems, but how wrong that would be. He is interested in the minutiae of our lives because it is there that, very often, our unhappiness resides, and he wants to put it right for us. Hand it all over to him and allow him to find a way, a solution or at least the peace and serenity to bear it patiently. Acknowledging that we do not live in a perfect world (that awaits us), is a good start. Then invite the Lord to live the experience with you so that you do not become overwhelmed or driven to distraction. We have a tendency to close in on ourselves in such moments. This is not good. We need to open out, open out to Jesus in prayer and allow him to restore peace and equilibrium to our troubled hearts. This is my habit when things crowd in on me or disappointment looms. Sharing it with the Lord in prayer is a great safety valve and a comfort, bringing peace and healing and proportion to our lives. Remember the invitation of Jesus in the gospel: *“Come to me all you who labour and are overburdened and I will give you rest.”* Let us take him at his word and allow him to make that promise real. It won’t happen if we don’t come to him, if we withdraw in times of difficulty. *‘There’s always something’* will be the constant refrain of our lives lived in this passing and imperfect world, but there is always someone to share it with, someone who understands, who cares and who will be that constant who accompanies us through the vagaries of life to the perfect life for which we are made.

### **LAST WEEK’S COLLECTIONS**

**Offertory**

**St Joseph’s £1326.21**

**Our Lady’s £259.29**

**Thank you**