

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

Parish Priest: Canon Seamus Keenan

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**FIRST SUNDAY  
OF LENT**  
6<sup>th</sup> March 2022



## Mass Times – St Joseph's, Bedford

Sunday	8.15am	Margaret Herbert, RIP
	9.30am	People of the Parish
	11.00am	Michael & Catherine Micallef, RIP
	6.30pm	Evelyn Foy, RIP
Monday	<b>SS Perpetua &amp; Felicity</b>	
	10.45am	Dennis Gilbert, RIP
Tuesday	<b>Feria</b>	
	10.45am	Oliver Rennie, RIP
Wednesday	<b>Feria</b>	
	10.45am	Bob & Joe Zak; Katy Szczurko, RIP
Thursday	<b>Feria</b>	
	10.45am	Jennifer Podesta
Friday	<b>Feria</b>	
	10.45am	Nora O'Niell, RIP
Saturday	<b>Feria</b>	
	10.45am	Neil Scott

## Mass Times – Our Lady's, Kempston

Saturday	6.00pm	Paddy Herrernan, RIP
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**Confessions – St Joseph's:  
Saturday 11.30am – 12.30pm (Exposition)**

## CAFOD APPEAL

There will be an appeal and retiring collection for the work of CAFOD at all Masses next Sunday. Please use the envelopes provided for this and fill in the Gift Aid slip if you can. Thank you.

## CAFOD LENTEN LUNCH

On Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March we are invited to a delicious Soup Lunch and good company in aid of CAFOD in Our Lady's Meeting Room, Kempston. All are welcome.

## CONFIRMATION CLASS

The next Confirmation Class for candidates is this Saturday at 2.30pm in the Guild Room. All must attend, please.

*'O God, merciful and strong, be pleased to banish violence swiftly from Ukraine and return peace to that land and people. Dry the tears of those who weep. Through Christ our Lord and the prayers of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Queen of Peace.'*

## **RESPONSORIAL PSALM:**

**Be with me, O Lord, in my distress.**

**ROSARY:** Daily at 10.20am

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

**CLEANING:** Cummings, Bahoum

**FLOWERS:** No flowers

**NEXT SUNDAY: Second Sunday of Lent**

**Readers:** Rota Week 1

**Children's Liturgy:** Lyn Bull & Melissa Vaz

## **STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

The Stations of the Cross today and every Sunday during Lent at 4.00pm in St Joseph's and Our Lady's. In this prayerful devotion we meditate on the passion and death of Jesus Christ.

## **LENT TALKS**

United Lent Services at Bunyan Meeting, Mill Street on Wednesdays during Lent from 9<sup>th</sup> March to 6<sup>th</sup> April 1.10pm-1.50pm. Five services in Lent celebrating songs of our faith.

## **INDIAN MEAL EVENING**

Another Indian Meal Evening is booked for Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March in aid of our parish project, the Multiple Sclerosis Centre, Barkers Lane, Bedford and the International Refugee Trust. Meeting at Indiya Restaurant, The Broadway, Bedford at 7.00pm. Cost: £16 for two course meal of which the restaurant will donate £2.50 for each diner attending. A list will be available to sign next Sunday indicating your attendance.

## **40 PENCE FOR 40 DAYS**

The Bedford Foodbank is asking us to take part in a 40 for 40 challenge this Lent. By giving up 40 pence a day for the 40 days of Lent you can help raise enough to support local people in crisis this Easter. All you have to do is find an old jam jar or similar container and start collecting. See poster.

## **BEDFORD FOODBANK**

The following items are needed for the Bedford Foodbank: UHT fruit juice, 100g jars of coffee, tinned spaghetti, fruit, vegetables, tomatoes, large tins of potatoes, cup-a-soup, tinned meat in sauce, toilet rolls. 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 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.

## **REQUIESCAT IN PACE**

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Bryan Walker. His funeral Mass will be on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March at 10.30am in St Frances Cabrini Italian church.

## **SVP KNOCK & DROP**

When lock-down was announced, Knock and Drop was set up by the SVP to support families and individuals in need by providing food parcels, shopping, collecting prescriptions and helping those shielding. Your help through food donations and financial support has allowed us to provide 772 food parcels to families and individuals. We are very proud of what we have been able to achieve over the last two years and would not have been able to do it without your help. Thank you so much. We have now made the difficult decision to bring the scheme to an end. We are entering a new phase where our SVP support will be needed across a wide spectrum of needs in the current environment. The date set to finish Knock and Drop is 31<sup>st</sup> March. Although Knock and Drop will be finishing, we will still be supporting the families who are in need and each SVP Conference has agreed to be a point of contact should our families find that they are struggling and we will be doing our best to support them. We would like to take this opportunity to extend a heartfelt thank you to our steadfast volunteers and all of you who have helped us to keep going through a very difficult time. God bless you.

## **REFLECTION**

Again we come face to face with the mystery of iniquity with the tragedy unfolding in Ukraine. It is almost despairing to witness such inhumanity. But Christians are not a people who despair. We are a people of hope, though sorely tried at times! We have the power of heartfelt and trusting prayer as our weapon against evil, against what appears to be hopeless. I urge you, then, to pray every day for a swift end to this conflict, especially the Rosary which Our Lady has often exhorted us to pray for peace. *'More things are wrought by prayer than the world dreams of.'* (Tennyson). Pray that the hearts of those responsible for this suffering may be changed, that the dead may enter the land of eternal peace, and the drums of war may be silenced. *"When I despair, I remember that all through history, the way of truth and love has always won. There have been murderers and tyrants and, for a time, they seem invincible. But in the end they always fall. Think of it... always."* Mahatma Gandhi

### **LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS**

**Offertory**

**St Joseph's £1427.54**

**Our Lady's £396.82**

**Thank you**