

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

Parish Priest: Canon Seamus Keenan. Assistant Priest: Fr John Conroy MHM

The Presbytery, 2 Brereton Road, Bedford MK40 1HU Tel: 352569

www.stjosephsbedford.org Email: parish.stjosephbedford@northamptondiocese.org

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

31st July 2022



PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM

There will be a coach going from Bedford to Walsingham for the annual Life Pilgrimage on Saturday 6th August costing £10 per person. Coach leaves from Our Lady's, Kempston at 7.45am and from St Joseph's at 8.00am. Please contact Mary Frost on 07708 264054 or 304014 if you would like to travel on this pilgrimage. Also, please fill in your details on the list at the back of the church. See poster on the noticeboard for further details of the pilgrimage.

GIFT AID

If you are a tax payer, please consider Gift Aiding your weekly donation to the parish as a simple and painless way of increasing our revenue, especially as prices are rising so rapidly. Gift Aid forms can be collected from the sacristy or presbytery.

Mass Times – St Joseph's, Bedford

Sunday	8.15am	Maureen Breslin, RIP
	9.30am	Eamon Caherty, RIP
	11.00am	Maria Gaitan, RIP
	6.30pm	People of the Parish
Monday	<i>St Alphonsus Liguori</i>	
	10.45am	Boleslaw Golarz Ward, RIP
Tuesday	<i>St Peter Julian Eymard</i>	
	10.45am	Requiem: Maria Gaitan
Wednesday	<i>Feria</i>	
	10.45am	Clement & Alex Francis, RIP
Thursday	<i>St John Vianney</i>	
	10.45am	Fr David Savoury
Friday	<i>Dedication of the Basilica of St Mary Major</i>	
	10.45am	Evelyn Foy, RIP
Saturday	<i>Transfiguration of the Lord</i>	
	10.45am	Mary Orr, RIP

Mass Times – Our Lady's, Kempston

Saturday	6.00pm	Celine D'Souza, RIP
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Confessions – St Joseph's:

Saturday 11.30am – 12.30pm (Exposition)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: O Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to the next.

ROSARY: Daily at 10.20am

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION: 11.30am – 7.00pm

CLEANING: Cummings, Bahoum, Johnson

FLOWERS: Mrs Price

NEXT SUNDAY: Nineteenth Sunday of the Year

Readers: Rota Week 2

Children's Liturgy: None until September

NEW OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

The new offertory envelopes for St Joseph's parish are now available for collection at the back of the church. If you wish to start using envelopes, please see Canon Seamus.

PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE

There will be a parish pilgrimage to Medjugorje from 20th to 27th September 2022. Please contact Mary Frost on 07708 264054 or 304014.

WEDDING

Keep in prayer John Ong and Carla Swift who will be celebrating their wedding this Saturday in Our Lady's church, Kempston.

YOUTH MINISTRY CONFERENCE

There will be a Youth Ministry Conference at the St Thomas Centre, Northampton Cathedral on Saturday 8th October, 10.30am – 4.00pm, for all those working with young people in the Church; youth ministers, catechists, chaplains, teachers and volunteers. The theme of the Conference is, Called to Love, exploring the Church's teaching on Sexuality and Identity. Cost of the day is £10. More information about the Conference and the booking form can be found on the website: www.nymo.org/conference

FATIMA DEVOTIONS

Fatima Devotions this Saturday after the 10.45am Mass to pray for the much needed peace in our world today.

UNIVERSE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

The Universe Catholic Weekly has launched a new online newspaper replacing the paper copy. You can order your digital 4-week Free trial supply by calling Michelle on 07436 617650 or email: michelle.jones@universecatholicweekly.co.uk

BEDFORD FOODBANK

Items needed for the Foodbank: tinned vegetables, breakfast cereal (but not porridge), UHT milk, cup-a-soup, tinned meat in sauce (e.g. chilli, curry), long-life fruit juice, tinned spaghetti hoops, coffee (100g), teabags (40/80), jars of curry sauce, jars of pasta sauce, tinned fruit, tinned tomatoes, tinned tuna, washing up liquid, anti-bac spray. Thanks to all who have and continue to donate.

REQUIESCANT IN PACE

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Maria Gaitan and Dick Gardner. May they rest in the peace of the Lord. Maria's funeral Mass is this Tuesday at 10.45am and Dick's funeral Mass is 24th August at 10.45am, both in St Joseph's church.

'You are children of eternity. Your immortal crown awaits you, and the best of Fathers waits there to reward your duty and love. You may indeed sow here in tears, but you may be sure to reap there in joy.'

St Elizabeth Ann Seton

REFLECTION

Having just returned from a second pilgrimage this year with a third one pending, it has been a salutary reminder that I am fundamentally a pilgrim, one who is making his way to a destination that lies beyond the confines of this world. So familiar and homely though it be, it is not what I have been made for, it is not my final end. I am made for something more, something that evades my grasp at the moment but I know awaits me. That something is my rightful inheritance laid up for me on the shores of eternity. This is our ultimate destiny which can easily be forgotten in the midst of this life, caught up as we are with the concerns of the world and our daily struggles and responsibilities. That is why going on pilgrimage helps to re-calibrate our lives and make those necessary course corrections if we are to keep before us our destination, that far distant shore to which we are being called. From the perspective of time it seems far off but really our lives are short, and the moment will come when we shall have to let go and say goodbye to this world we love and are so attached to. That's difficult and indeed sad, as we know, especially when we experience the mystery of death with the loss of a loved one. But that parting is brief and we shall surely follow. So we are a pilgrim people made for eternal life and glory. Keeping that truth before us is essential if we are to make much sense of life itself and our own lives in particular. This truth of our faith will assuage the sadness of death and we will see it as our journey's end, giving sense and meaning to our sojourn here, however long or short it may be. Faith is, therefore, the key to understanding our existence and our purpose. We must think big, expanding our imagination and drink in the thought of what God has prepared for all those who love him. Prayer is a great help to this. It lifts us up to see the horizon that beckons us to keep moving onwards and upwards, the upward call of grace which leads to a land of wonder, of light and high beauty, of reunited loved ones who are waiting for us, who have ended their pilgrimage and now enjoy what no eye has seen, no ear has heard nor has it entered into the heart of man what God has in store for those who love him and keep faith. In joyful hope, then, let us keep before us this vision of faith and keep on walking until we enter our rest.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

Offertory

St Joseph's £1124.00

Our Lady's £143.25

Thank you