

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

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

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TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

21st August 2022



Mass Times – St Joseph's, Bedford

Sunday	8.15am	Marian Devaney
	9.30am	Harry Smith, RIP
	11.00am	Thanksgiving: Braganza Family
	6.30pm	People of the Parish
Monday	<i>The Queenship of Mary</i>	
	10.45am	Bob & Joe Zak; Katy Szczurko, RIP
Tuesday	<i>St Rose of Lima</i>	
	10.45am	Siza Mazibuko
Wednesday	<i>St Bartholomew</i>	
	10.45am	Requiem: Dick Gardner
Thursday	<i>Feria</i>	
	10.45am	Mary Crompton
Friday	<i>Blessed Dominic Barbarie</i>	
	10.45am	Mrs Mariammal
Saturday	<i>St Monica</i>	
	10.45am	Vargese Parakadan, RIP

Mass Times – Our Lady's, Kempston

Saturday	6.00pm	Chaston & Bolongaita Families, RIP
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Confessions – St Joseph's:

Saturday 11.30am – 12.30pm (Exposition)

FAREWELL

We say farewell to Fr John this Tuesday as he enters his retirement. We thank him for his time with us and wish him well with promise of prayers. He thanks you for making him so welcome in our parish community.

CONFESSIONS & EXPOSITION

Confessions this Saturday only will conclude at 12noon and there will be no exposition of the Blessed Sacrament during that time.

PARISH BBQ

There will be a Parish BBQ on Saturday 3rd September at 2.30pm in the grounds of Our Lady's church, Kempston, at 2.30pm in aid of our parish project. Tickets on sale next Sunday at £5 adults and £3 children.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News.

ROSARY: Daily at 10.20am

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: 11.30am – 7.00pm

CLEANING: Cummings, Bahoum, Johnson

FLOWERS: Mrs Redmond

NEXT SUNDAY: Twenty-Second Sunday of the Year

Readers: Rota Week 1

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.

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.

THANKS

We thank John and Gillian Moore for opening their home for Brunch last month in aid of our parish project, which raised a total of £66. Thanks to all who came along on the day.

CHURCH CLEANING

We are very much in need of more church cleaners to go on the rota in St Joseph's. Cleaning usually takes place after the 10.45am Mass on a Friday but this can be adjusted. Keeping the church clean is vital but we need volunteers to assist with this. Please consider this appeal and let me know if you can offer your time.

HEALING SERVICE

There will be a short eucharistic healing service after the 6.30pm Mass next Sunday. We pray for ourselves and those who need healing.

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.

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

REQUIESCANT IN PACE

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Dick Gardner and Anne Simmonds. May they rest in the peace of the Lord.

REFLECTION

I have just returned from a five day retreat for clergy in Leeds, suitably refreshed. Retreats and pilgrimages are very popular, even with those who have no particular religious adherence. There is a recognised need for time spent away from the demands and concerns of life which, at times, can be overwhelming. We are not machines and need to rest from our labours. Holidays are one way of doing this. The word holiday comes from holy day when certain feasts of the Church were celebrated with a whole day off. In my school days we used to have the day off on such important feast days: Holy Days of Obligation. Jesus understood this need to withdraw, which he did himself in his busy ministry and encouraged the apostles to do the same: "*Come apart and rest a while,*" he told them, for there was so much coming and going! Imagine going on retreat with Jesus! Well we can! Not necessarily going somewhere but we can create a kind of mini retreat in finding a quiet time for prayer each day and invite the Lord to be our retreat-giver. Just invite him in to share his peace and comfort and strength with you. Listen to his words of encouragement and be aware of his abiding presence. This human desire to withdraw from time to time is a good instinct for the Lord waits for us there in the secret of our hearts to give us his promised rest and peace. The distractions of life can so easily crowd him out. His voice will not be heard, his presence will not be felt if we do not retreat from our over-sensitised world which we inhabit. This will take discipline on our part but it is worth the effort, of forming a personal inner life, a life of prayer which God alone sees in secret and there he creates peace. Avoid approaches to this inner peace that are man-centred. We must centre on God, not self. '*Sadness is the gaze turned towards oneself. Happiness is the gaze turned towards God*' (Bl Carlo Acutis). It is only in going out of ourselves that we will find our true selves in God. He is our centre. Retreat to him; he awaits our presence, our attention; he awaits to pour his gifts into our often troubled souls; he awaits to heal our aching wounds, our sense of loss, our sadness of heart. He waits for you. If you do find the opportunity to go on an actual retreat, avail yourself of it and return with less worry lines!

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

Offertory

St Joseph's £1376.98

Our Lady's £161.00

Thank you