

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

Parish Priest: Canon Seamus Keenan. Assistant Priest: Fr Galeji Mulupuri, MC

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

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

**TWENTY NINTH
SUNDAY OF THE YEAR**
16th October 2022



WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

Next Sunday is World Mission Sunday, when the Holy Father invites us to contribute to a special collection for Missio, his charity for world mission. Please support Missio in helping missionaries to work alongside communities throughout the world that are poor or in need, regardless of their background or belief. Please take an envelope for the second collection next Sunday from the porch and fill in the Gift Aid slip along with your donation if you are able. Thank you.

PARISH QUIZ

There will be a Parish Quiz on Friday 21st October at 7.30pm in the Guild Room in aid of our parish project which, for a second year, is the Bedford MS Centre and the International Refugee Trust. Tickets on sale today at £3.

CHRISTMAS DRAW

Yes, it's that time of year again when we are selling Christmas Draw tickets from this Sunday onwards at £2.50 a book. Prizes for the Draw can be left at the presbytery. In aid of our parish project.

Mass Times – St Joseph's, Bedford

Sunday	8.15am	Anne Simmonds, RIP
	9.30am	People of the Parish
	11.00am	Joan Summers
	6.30pm	Varkey Joseph, RIP
Monday	St Ignatius of Antioch	
	10.45am	Ellen & Richard Family
Tuesday	St Luke	
	10.45am	Daniel Reddy, RIP
Wednesday	Feria	
	10.45am	Thomas Joseph, RIP
Thursday	Feria	
	10.45am	James Foy, RIP
Friday	Feria	
	10.45am	Bessie & Denis Murphy, RIP
Saturday	Pope St John Paul II	
	10.45am	Myles McCann, RIP
Mass Times – Our Lady's, Kempston		
Saturday	6.00pm	Charles Glackin, RIP

Confessions – St Joseph's:

Saturday 11.30am – 12.30pm (Exposition)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Our help is in the name of the Lord who made heaven and earth.

ROSARY: Daily at 10.20am

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Thursday 11.30am – 7.00pm

CLEANING: Daniels, Okonkwo, Masih

FLOWERS: Mrs Crow

NEXT SUNDAY: Thirtieth Sunday of the Year

Readers: Rota Week 1

Children's Liturgy: Raoul & Jo Bull

PILGRIMAGE TO ROME & ASSISI

We hope to run a parish pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi, if there is sufficient interest, from 1st to 7th May 2023. Price £1,290 per person sharing on a half-board basis. Single room supplement of £50. Flying from Stansted Airport. A deposit of £350 is required by 31st October. Please let me know if interested in this proposed pilgrimage as soon as possible.

TEA & TALK GROUP

The Tea & Talk Group will meet this Monday at 2.30pm in Our Lady's Meeting Room, Kempston. All are most welcome to come along.

CAFOD CAMPAIGN

CAFOD is running a campaign “Fix the Food System” which aims to highlight the problems in global food production and distribution that mean millions of people are hungry or starving every day. We can all do something to help. We will be distributing Action Cards in the next week or two that will give information and ideas on how to make our voices heard on this.

BEDFORD FOODBANK

Many thanks for your continued support of the Bedford Foodbank. In September it fed 1,901 people. The following are food items that are needed: Tins of meat, tuna vegetables, tomatoes and rice pudding. Jars of curry sauce, pasta sauce and jam. UHT fruit juice, 500g bags of rice, packets of biscuits. These can be placed in the green bin in St Joseph’s church and the box inside the porch at Our Lady’s church.

CERTIFICATE IN RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Would you like to learn more about your Catholic faith? Consider joining online to follow the Catholic Certificate of Religious Studies or Diocesan Certificate in Religious Studies? Both courses offer the same modules in Scripture and Catholic Theology with the CCRS leading to a nationally recognised qualification. To find out more about the course, contact Ann Collon. Email: educationserviceadmin@northamptondiocese.org or visit www.northamptondioceseschools.org.

HAPPIER RELATIONSHIPS

Husbands and wives obviously desire a happy relationship with their spouse. Most start with good intentions and optimism but disappointment sometimes begins to take over. It does not have to be like this. We cannot achieve perfection but we can craft a relationship that increasingly meets our hopes. James Jandu, a Relationship Coach, will speak to us briefly at each Mass in St Joseph’s next Sunday on this matter.

EVC UGANDA GIFT AID SECRETARY

EVC Uganda is looking for a volunteer Gift Aid Secretary. For further information please contact Ted Fawcett on 838134 or 07561 424486.

REFLECTION

How often have we heard people complain that the ‘Mass is boring and I don’t feel anything.’ If we do feel moved at Mass and our emotions are engaged, then that is a good thing. Other times, though, we don’t feel anything. Perhaps we are tired or distracted by personal concerns or we are ill or upset. We acknowledge that, but we stay with it because feelings change from moment to moment and, therefore, should not dictate our attitude to, in this example, the Mass or our faith in general. Faith and feelings are two different things. Nowhere in the word of God does it say, ‘By your feelings you will be saved’ or ‘by your feelings you will be healed.’ In essence, what matters is our faith and the quality of our faith. Faith is believing in what we don’t see. Jesus said, “*Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe.*” We are here at Mass because we believe in the mystery we are celebrating and it’s an awesome thing that is happening, even though we don’t see it or feel it. Heaven comes to earth on the altar. Jesus comes to be with us in this unique way. He gives himself to us in his body and blood. Time encounters eternity. Awesome!! But we don’t feel anything on the whole. It is faith that recognises what is taking place, faith that penetrates the mystery of this liturgical act we call the Mass. The letter to the Hebrews expresses faith in this way: ‘*Only faith can guarantee the blessings that we hope for, or prove the existence of the realities that at present remain unseen.*’ Heb. 11:1-2. Faith is not wishful thinking on our part or a vain hope. It is rather the guarantee of those things not yet seen but are promised. Faith is a living encounter with the living God. It’s a living reality but goes beyond and transcends our so earthly concepts of joy and happiness. Again, Hebrews: ‘*What you have come to is nothing known to the senses.*’ Heb. 12:18. It happens at times, that we do get a sense of the divine, a taste of what is now hidden. This is a gift and grace to encourage us in our journey which can be testing at times. The important thing is that we keep journeying, that we continue to walk the dark path of faith and not rely on our feelings. Jesus did not commend anyone for their feelings but for their faith. Remember, faith is the guarantee of those things hoped for and what can be if we let God in. The more we do so, the more our faith will come alive, a foretaste of what is guaranteed.

LAST WEEK’S COLLECTIONS

Offertory	St Joseph’s £1257.90	Our Lady’s £295.95	Thank you
Second Collection	CAFOD St Joseph’s £772.00	Our Lady’s £173.15	