

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

**THIRTIETH SUNDAY
OF THE YEAR**
23rd October 2022



WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

Today 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 use an envelope from the porch for the second collection today and fill in the Gift Aid slip along with your donation if you are able. Thank you.

MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

If you wish to include the names of your deceased loved ones in the daily Masses during the month of November, then please list them and place the list in the envelopes provided at the back of the church and return these to the presbytery or the church.

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 Rolphy Madtha, RIP
9.30am People of the Parish
11.00am Vladmir Gmajner, RIP
6.30pm Aleyamma Varkey, RIP

Monday *Feria*
10.45am Veronique Chanpda

Tuesday *Feria*
10.45am Luka T. I. RIP

Wednesday *Feria*
10.45am Antoinette El-Rif, RIP

Thursday *Feria*
10.45am John Orr, RIP

Friday *SS Simon & Jude*
10.45am David & Edith Guerin, RIP

Saturday *Votive Mass of Our Lady*
10.45am Kenneth & Elsie Petts, 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:

This poor man called; the Lord heard him.

ROSARY: Daily at 10.20am

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Thursday 11.30am – 7.00pm

CLEANING: Cummings, Bahoum, Masih

FLOWERS: Mrs Crow

NEXT SUNDAY: Thirty First Sunday of the Year

Readers: Rota Week 2

Children's Liturgy: Edward & Geraldine Byrne

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. Please let me know if interested in this proposed pilgrimage as soon as possible.

CHRISTMAS CARD SALE

Our Christmas card stall will open next Sunday at all Masses, selling cards and other seasonal items. Profits towards the parish project.

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.

SPUC PETITION

The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children is organising a petition to be sent to the Home Secretary to ask that peaceful pro-life vigils outside abortion clinics should not be banned. Please pick up a petition card from the back of the church to fill out and post the card to SPUC who will deliver them to the Home Secretary. Thank you.

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 today on this matter and the possibility a faith-based relationship event for couples in the town.

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.

REQUIESCANT IN PACE

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Mary Coblenz and Miles McCann. May they rest in the peace of the Lord.

REFLECTION

Turning on the news these days invariably offers us a diet depressing items; war, conflict, famine, political and financial instability and so on. It would be hard put to find some good news. But in all this we must remember that we do in fact have good news, the Good News of the gospel. This good news offers us respite from the exigencies of life, giving us hope and security in the midst of all our problems and uncertainties. And it has nothing to do with a political system or a philosophy or an ideology but a person, the person of Jesus Christ. He is the Good News, he is the message and the messenger. The gospel is all about this person who lived in time but lives beyond time and therefore his message does not depend on the vagaries of this passing world. It's a message of hope intrinsically linked to his person. We need, therefore, to get to know this person and his message of hope. St Jerome, the great biblical scholar of the 4th century, famously declared that ignorance of the scriptures is ignorance of Christ. The source of our knowledge of him is the scriptures, the four gospels. So our mantra should be 'take and read.' Open the pages of the gospels and read them. A chapter a day would be a good start. This daily read will build up our knowledge of Christ's teachings and our understanding of him as a person. Importantly, we ask the Holy Spirit to guide and enlighten our reading so that it is done in prayerful and reflective way. This, then, will feed into our prayer time, recalling, perhaps, some phrase or incident in Our Lord's life that can help us in our meditation. Such moments can bring clarity or consolation or healing to us and very often challenge. But it is always good news and serves as an antidote to all the bad news that afflicts us every day. We need to hear that other voice which speaks of hope, love, peace and joy. Remember those words of encouragement of Jesus: "*In the world you will have trouble, but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.*" (Jn.16:33). The word of God is life-giving and has the power to change us and renew the face of the earth. Even though it was proclaimed and written centuries ago it remains ever new and fresh; it is timeless, spoken by the timeless one. Begin reading God's life-giving and hope filled word, making its message our own, allowing it to change and inform us, leading us closer to the mystery of Christ, who is the Good News.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

Offertory

St Joseph's £1200.25

Our Lady's £143.35

Thank you