

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

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

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THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

26th May 2024



VOCATIONS MASS & ROSARY

Mass and Rosary for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life will be offered this Wednesday in St Joseph's beginning with the Rosary at 10.15am followed by Mass. We pray for this intention and for our own calling as disciples of the Lord. Refreshments afterwards in the Guild Room. All welcome.

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

The new offertory envelopes for St Joseph's are now available at the back of the church. Please take your new set with you. If you would like to Gift Aid your weekly donation please let Canon Seamus know. This is an easy way to increase our income at no extra cost.

FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE

The St Joseph's Friendship Circle meets this Wednesday at 7.00pm in the Embankment Hotel. All welcome and bring a friend along.

Mass Times – St Joseph's, Bedford

Sunday 8.15am Caroline & Family
9.30am Kay Conway, RIP
11.00am Donald Dcruz, RIP
6.30pm Stephen Byrne, RIP

Monday *St Augustine of Canterbury*

10.45am Wanda Koczan, RIP

Tuesday *Feria*

10.45am Pawel Herman, RIP

Wednesday *Pope St Paul VI*

10.45am Mass for Vocations

Thursday *Feria*

10.45am Richard Burgess, RIP

Friday *Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

10.45am Paul Rogers, RIP

Saturday *St Justin*

10.45am Dermot McCloskey

Mass Times – Our Lady's, Kempston

Saturday 6.00pm Marykutty Joseph, RIP

Confessions – St Joseph's:

Saturday 11.30am – 12.30pm (Exposition)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Happy the people the Lord has chosen as his own.

ROSARY: Daily at 10.20am

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Thursday 11.30am – 7.00pm

CLEANING: S Masih, A Daniels, R Okonkwo

FLOWERS: Mrs Price

NEXT SUNDAY: Corpus Christi

Readers & Ministers: Rota Week 1

Children's Liturgy: Jo & Raoul Bull

FLOWER COLLECTION

There is a second collection in St Joseph's today for flowers for the church. Thank you.

MARY'S MEALS

There will be a talk about the work of Mary's Meals next weekend at all Masses. In addition, a Mary's Meals Recycling Box will be available from next Sunday for donations of jewellery and watches, mobile phones, iPads, Tablets, Sat Navs, MP3 players, games consoles, cameras i.e. old film, digital and video. Maybe you have friends and neighbours who have such items. Mary's Meals can take them and turn them into cash. Please don't put anything else into the box.

FIRST AID COURSE

Emergency First Aid at Work Course (conforming to HSE requirements), is being offered on Saturday 15th June from 9.00am to 4.00pm in the Guild Room of St Joseph's church (access from Church Street). Please contact Christopher Field on 07840 878455 for further details.

NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS

This event will take place at Oscott College, Sutton Coldfield, on Saturday 14th September, to coincide with the International Congress taking place that weekend in Quito, Ecuador. If anyone is interested in attending, please let Canon Seamus know.

PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE

Parish pilgrimage to Medjugorje from 17th to 24th September 2024. Please contact Mary Frost on 07708 264054 or 01234 304014 if interested.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

We also have a parish pilgrimage to Lourdes from 2nd to 9th September 2024 costing £895 per person sharing and £1105 single room. Full board accommodation and flying from Stansted. Please let me know as soon as possible if interested.

CATHOLIC CERTIFICATE

Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies course available to anyone who wants to deepen their understanding of the faith leading to a nationally recognise qualification. To find out more about the course contact Ann Collon email: educationserviceadmin@northamptondiocese.org or visit www.northamptondioceseschools.org.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGES

As we prepare for the Jubilee Year (Holy Year) in 2025 as 'Pilgrims of Hope', we are invited to join our diocese on pilgrimage. There are plenty to choose from including the shrines of Northern France in October 2024, Lourdes in August 2024 and Rome and Assisi in 2025. For more information on all these pilgrimages visit: www.northamptondiocese.org/pilgrimage.

REQUIESCANT IN PACE

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Alma Earl and Robert Coast. May they rest in the peace of Christ.

REFLECTION

"Get thee to a nunnery!" The words of Shakespeare's Hamlet addressed to Ophelia. Well I got me to a monastery for a few days last week in the heart of Leicestershire, surrounded by beautiful countryside and the sounds of nature. Quite a contrast to the sights and sounds of Midland Road! (Mount St Bernard's Abbey. Check it out). Getting away from it all so that I can get back to it all, restored and refreshed. Time away like this is, for me, necessary in order to bring balance into one's life, as it is so easy to become absorbed in the here and now, getting caught up in the business of life as to forget the purpose of life i.e. union with God. Getting this balance right is not easy. We can't all retreat to a monastery or a nunnery but we can retreat into the cell of our hearts in prayer each day and attend to the needs of our interior life. This, of course, pre-supposes that we have an interior life and that we are not just existing on the surface, never entering the deep self where God awaits. In a monastic setting this is easy to do because the whole way of life is lived at an unhurried pace, with the rhythm of prayer and work marking out the day. No wonder monks live long! In such a setting one enters into God's time, allowing space for him to meet the self and speak to the heart. The attraction of this way of life draws many to such places of retreat and not only religious people. There is a growing awareness of the need to balance our lives and to connect with the inner self. And this is especially so for our spiritual well-being. The challenge is to build some sort of order into our daily lives whereby we find that quiet time to be with God, even though it may be just a few snatched moments here and there in our busy schedules. God sees our efforts and will reward us with his peace, strength and reassuring presence. The discipline and routine of daily prayer, this entering into our deep self, is very rewarding not only for ourselves but also for those whose lives we touch, at home, at work and the whole orbit of our influence. A peaceful, calm way, the fruit of prayer, is always a positive in our human interactions. So, just as a monk or religious sister retire to their cell to pray and reflect, we can retire to the cell of our hearts, leaving all distractions outside the door, and just be in the presence of one who understands, who knows and who is always there for us, on whose heart we can rest our hearts.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

Offertory

St Joseph's £1453.05

Our Lady's £497.89

Thank you