

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

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

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SS PETER & PAUL

30th June 2024



GENERAL ELECTION

If you would like to check the voting intentions of candidates on pro-life matters you can go to www.spuc.org.uk/General-Election-2024

REFLECTIONS - THE BOOK

There are still a few books left at the back of the church, free to take. If you wish to make a donation to our parish project you can place your offering in the wall-box marked 'Parish Project'.

YOUTH WORKER VACANCY

The Diocese is currently recruiting for a Youth Worker to join the Youth Ministry Office. The role will be for 35 hours per week and will include evening and weekend work. Full information for the position including how to apply can be found by visiting www.northamptondiocese.org/jobs. The closing date for applications is 10th July and interviews will take place on 15th and 16th July. The start date for the position will be Tuesday 10th September 2024. All candidates should complete an application form and email to hr.admin@northamptondiocese.org.

Mass Times – St Joseph's, Bedford

Sunday 8.15am People of the Parish
9.30am John O'Connor, RIP
11.00am Dennis Gilbert, RIP
6.30pm Tinku & Ajo

Monday *St Oliver Plunket*

10.45am Fr Roy

Tuesday *Feria*

10.45am Rosalie Janoyog, RIP

Wednesday *St Thomas, Apostle*

10.45am Joseph (Ozzy)

Thursday *Feria*

10.45am Arron Juby

Friday *Feria*

10.45am Frank Rozman, RIP

Saturday *St Thomas Becket*

10.45am M Grilli & M Ward

Mass Times – Our Lady's, Kempston

Saturday 6.00pm Mr & Mrs McGettigan & Debbie Brown

Confessions – St Joseph's:

Saturday 11.30am – 12.30pm (Exposition)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

From all my terrors the Lord set me free.

ROSARY: Daily at 10.20am

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Thursday 11.30am – 7.00pm

CLEANING: S Masih, T Ndoro

FLOWERS: Mrs Bino

NEXT SUNDAY: Fourteenth Sunday of the Year

Readers & Ministers: Rota Week 2

Children's Liturgy: Bimla & Natalie Mathews

MARY'S MEALS

Mary's Meals Recycling Box is now available at the back of the church in which to place donations of jewellery and watches, mobile phones, iPads, Tablets, Sat-navs, MP3 players, games consoles, cameras i.e. old film and digital. **No** videos or DVDs, please or foreign coins. And please **do not** put anything else into the box. Thanks.

SECOND COLLECTION

A second collection for Peter's Pence today, in aid of the Church's work in the poorer parts of the world.

HEALING SERVICE

There will be a short healing service after the 6.30pm Mass next Sunday.

INDIAN BUFFET LUNCH

Our next fundraising event in aid of our parish project, 'Headway Bedford' will be an Indian Buffet Lunch at the home of John and Gillian Moore, 17 Colchester Way, Bedford, on Saturday 13th July at 12noon at a cost of £7.50 per person. A variety of dishes will be available (curries, grilled meat and vegetable dishes). If interested please place your name and phone number on the list at the back of the church.

THE THOMAS BECKET FESTIVAL

Bishop David will preside at Mass to celebrate the Feast of the Translation of the Relics of one of our diocesan patrons, St Thomas Becket, which will take place at 11am on Saturday 6th July. This event is open to all. The Festival will close with the Solemn Vespers of St Thomas at 4pm on Sunday 7th July. The Becket Lecture at 3pm on the same day. It will focus on the Venerable Ignatius Spencer who has strong links to Northampton and we look forward to listening to Fr Gerard Skinner who will deliver the lecture. Please visit www.northamptondiocese.org/relics for a full programme of events.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

We 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.

NEW CARPET

New carpet tiles have been laid in the Reconciliation Chapel in St Joseph's. It would be a great help in keeping that area clean if parents could refrain from feeding your children with snacks during Mass, especially biscuits, which tend to get trampled into the carpet. Thank you.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE

In preparation for the Jubilee Year next year, Bishop David and Canon John Udris will lead a pilgrimage to Northern France from 15th to 22nd October 2024, visiting Lisieux, the home of St Therese, Chartres Cathedral and Paris. For more information, visit:

www.northamptondiocese.org/france.

REFLECTION

I have returned from another few days on retreat, this time in the Pastoral Centre in Leeds, led by Sister Briege McKenna. The retreat was called 'Intercession for Priests', when we intercede for one another and the priesthood in general. Sister placed great emphasis on the power of intercessory prayer as an expression of love and concern for one another, especially for those engaged in priestly ministry, remembering in a particular way those who minister in difficult and dangerous situations. In our own life of faith, we can also pray and intercede for each other as a sign of our love and solidarity, sharing, as we do, in the prayer of Christ himself when he prayed at the Last Supper for his disciples and all who would come to faith through them i.e. you and me, (cf. Jn 17). As we journey together through life we look out for each other, and prayer is a powerful way of invoking the protection of God and his guidance. Often I have been asked to pray for a particular intention which I gladly do. I don't always know the outcome of such prayer, but I was heartened to learn recently that a young boy I was asked to pray for, who was seriously ill, had recovered soon afterwards. No doubt this was through the skill of the medical team who were caring for him, but who is to say that it was not also through the intervention of prayer that helped to save this poor boy and restore him to his family. We do not always see the fruits of intercessory prayer but if prayer was never considered, I think that a particular situation, whatever it may be, would be worse. God does not turn a deaf ear to those who cry to him in faith. Such prayer will always be answered one way or another. When Jesus returned to his hometown of Nazareth, he could not work any miracles there because of their lack of faith (Mk 6:4-13). We need to exercise an expectant faith because that is what moves the heart of God. It shows trust in him and what he can do for us. Imagine taking a pilgrimage of the sick to Lourdes and being told not to expect any miracles of healing. Why would you go?! We cannot limit God to our own expectations. God is a God of surprises! Let's surprise him with an expectant, trusting faith when we pray, especially when it comes to interceding for others. He delights in such and will not be outdone in generosity. Let us have a will, then, to pray for one another and never lose heart.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

Offertory

St Joseph's £1330.12

Our Lady's £466.11

Thank you