

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- SIXTH
SUNDAY OF THE YEAR**
29th September 2024



GOODBYE & HELLO

Sadly, we have to say goodbye to Fr Galeji this weekend as he prepares for his new mission in Louisiana. I will especially miss him after two years of serving the parish together. But I'm promised a holiday in Baton Rouge at some time! We accompany him with our prayers and wish him well in his new appointment. His address will be: Most Blessed Sacrament, 15615 Jefferson Hwy, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 70817, USA.

Email: frgalejimulupuri@gmail.com At the same time we welcome Fr Liam Castle who will be joining us and will be arriving here on Monday.

FIRST COMMUNION FORMS

All enrolment forms for First Confession and Holy Communion classes must be handed in today. There will be a meeting of parents on Thursday 17th October at 7.15pm in the Guild Room.

OLIVE WOOD SALE

Olive Wood Sale this weekend after all Masses in aid of the Christian community in the Holy Land at this difficult time.

Mass Times – St Joseph's, Bedford

Sunday	8.15am	Joseph & Aleyamma, RIP
	9.30am	Mary Wright, RIP
	11.00am	Michael & Paolo Micallef, RIP
	6.30pm	Kathleen Elliott, RIP
Monday	St Jerome	
	10.45am	Johnson Family
Tuesday	St Therese of Lisieux	
	9.00am	Boleslaw Golarz-Ward
Wednesday	The Holy Guardian Angels	
	10.45am	Carmen Giuliano, RIP
Thursday	Feria	
	10.45am	Zenna Parren, RIP
Friday	St Francis of Assisi	
	10.45am	Kevin Kondon
Saturday	St Faustina Kowalska	
	10.45am	Martin Nsoyuni, RIP
Mass Times – Our Lady's, Kempston		
Saturday	6.00pm	Paul Goodstadt, RIP

Confessions – St Joseph's:

Saturday 11.30am – 12.30pm (Exposition)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

The precepts of the Lord gladden the heart.

ROSARY: Daily at 10.20am

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Thursday 11.30am – 7.00pm

CLEANING: S Masih, A Daniels, R Okonkwo

FLOWERS: Mrs Price

NEXT SUNDAY: Twenty-Seventh Sunday of the Year

Readers & Ministers: Rota Week 3

Children's Liturgy: Bimla & Natalie Mathews

TEA & COFFEE AFTER MASS

We are invited to Tea and Coffee after the 11am Mass today in the Guild Room during which a presentation will be made to Fr Galeji.

ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

The school will be having an Open Evening for Year 6 on Thursday 3rd October from 6pm to 8pm. The evening offers families the opportunity to hear from Headteacher Martin Bonner and meet with teaching staff and some of the current students. There will also be a tour of the school. Headteacher's talk at 6pm and 7pm.

PLEASE NOTE

Mass on Tuesday this week will be at 9.00am. I and Fr Liam have to attend a meeting in Northampton and I have been unable to obtain a supply priest for that day.

CAFOD TALK & APPEAL

There will be a brief talk on behalf of CAFOD at all Masses today in preparation for the second collection to be taken next Sunday. Please take an envelope for this purpose from the back of the church and fill in the Gift Aid slip if you are a taxpayer. Thank you.

NEW PARISH PROJECT

The charity, Mary's Meals, has been adopted as our new parish project. It is a Catholic charity which feeds children going to school in some of the poorest parts of our world. Mary's Meals provides a daily school meal in communities where poverty and hunger prevent children from gaining an education. There are leaflets about the charity and its work at the back of the church. Please take one. Our first fundraising event will be Quiz Night Friday 25th October at 7.30pm.

KNOCK PILGRIMAGE

Escorted tour to Ireland to include venerating St Bernadette's Relics. Sunday 3rd November 2024. £899 per person sharing. Price includes flights, 10kg hold luggage, 5 nights in Castlecourt Hotel, Westport with dinner and B&B. Lunch on certain days. All excursions and transport. Visit St Bernadette's Relics, Knock Shrine, Galway City, Croagh Patrick, Ballintubber Abbey and Fr Peyton Centre. Single supplement on enquiry. Contact Patricia on 01268 762278 or 07740 175557 or email: knockpilgrimages@gmail.com

HOLY YEAR PILGRIMAGE

As part of the Jubilee Year 2025 Bishop David will lead a pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi. Whilst in Rome we will have the opportunity to pass through the Holy Door at St Peter's Basilica and visit other major sights in the city. The pilgrimage will end in Assisi. It will take place from 27th March to 3rd April 2025. For more information visit: www.northamptondiocese.org/rome-and-assisi. All welcome.

REFLECTION

Having had the joy of going on two pilgrimages to Lourdes and Medjugorje this month, we were reminded by one of the Franciscan priests in Medjugorje, when giving us a talk, that our pilgrimage really begins when we arrive home. He explained that the lessons we have learned on pilgrimage through our prayer, the various services, processions and beautiful liturgies and Masses, need to be lived out in our ordinary daily lives, the demands of which can easily erode the spiritual and hence the joy we experienced on pilgrimage. Keeping that sense of joy and the closeness of God needs to be worked at, needs generosity of time in going to Mass, prayer (especially the Rosary), reading the scriptures, receiving often the forgiveness of sins in Confession, and fasting, by which we give priority to the spiritual side of our nature and not always the physical. This requires a discipline that is not easy. Our human nature tends to rebel. It might seem a bit over the top! But we don't mind being a bit over the top when it comes to football or politics or some particular hobby or passion. Why can't we be a bit over the top with the practise of our faith, even at the risk of being thought so? We have been given a great treasure and a future that is literally out of this world! We should never lose sight of this truth and rejoice in it and avoid anything that could rob of us of this joy and destiny. As I grow older I am more conscious of the passing nature of this world and all its allurements. Going on pilgrimage reminds me that I am in essence a pilgrim on my way to my true home which lies beyond the confines of this world. Getting there must be my main priority and I must not lose sight of this or become distracted along the way. Turning each day to God, especially in prayer, puts things in proper perspective because he helps us to see things through the lens of eternity by which we should measure all things and happenings, thus giving a certain balance to our lives and not go 'over the top' about what does not really matter. We tend to do this and get ourselves in a right fix at times, disturbing the peace that God wants to share with us as his gift. We are pilgrims; remember this and be at peace.

REQUIESCANT IN PACE

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Mary Dawe and Paul Goodstadt. Rest in the peace of the Lord.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

Offertory

St Joseph's £913.30

Our Lady's £276.15

Thank you