

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

Parish Priest: Canon Seamus Keenan. Assistant Priest: Fr Liam Castle.

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**TWENTY- SEVENTH
SUNDAY OF THE YEAR**
6th October 2024



WELCOME

We welcome Fr Liam Castle to the parish as our new assistant priest. Fr Liam is a local man and so is familiar with the parish and some of you will know him already.

SECOND COLLECTION - CAFOD

There is a second collection for CAFOD today at all the Masses. Please use the envelopes provided in the porch and fill in the Gift Aid slip if you are able. Thank you.

FIRST COMMUNION FORMS

All enrolment forms for First Confession and Holy Communion classes should have been handed in by now. We cannot accept any more applications. A reminder to parents that there will be a meeting for them on Thursday 17th October in St Joseph's church at 7.15pm.

TEA & COFFEE AFTER MASS

We are invited to Tea and Coffee after the 11am Mass today in the Guild Room. Come and meet our new assistant priest, Fr Liam.

Mass Times – St Joseph's, Bedford

Sunday 8.15am Patricia Gilbert
 9.30am Paul Goodstadt, RIP
 11.00am Catherine & Michael Micallef, RIP
 6.30pm KSC Deceased Brothers

Monday *Our Lady of the Rosary*

10.45am Boleslaw Golaez-Ward

Tuesday *Feria*

10.45am Veronica Nsoyuni, RIP

Wednesday *St John Henry Newman*

10.45am In Thanksgiving: Rony Raju

Thursday *Feria*

10.45am Johnson Family

Friday *Pope St John XXIII*

10.45am Vladimir Gmajner, RIP

Saturday *Votive Mass of Our Lady*

10.45am Lorraine Kavanagh, RIP

Mass Times – Our Lady's, Kempston

Saturday 6.00pm Mary Dawe, RIP

Confessions – St Joseph's:

Saturday 11.30am – 12.30pm (Exposition)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

May the Lord bless us all the days of our life.

ROSARY: Daily at 10.20am

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Thursday 11.30am – 7.00pm

CLEANING: S Masih, D Cummings

FLOWERS: Mrs Price

NEXT SUNDAY: Twenty-Eighth Sunday of the Year

Readers & Ministers: Rota Week 4

Children's Liturgy: Jo & Raoul Bull

OLIVE WOOD SALE - A MESSAGE

A thank you message from the Bethlehem Nativity Group: We would love to thank you for allowing our group to come to your parish and sell the olive wood religious articles, the result of which was £4342. This is very beneficial and rewarding for our needy Christian families. Your help is a great support for us and for the Christian families in the Holy Land. If anyone missed the carving display you can place an order online directly from us at www.tbng.co.uk. God bless you all. Nicholas Khader.

SYNOD PARISH QUESTIONNAIRE FEEDBACK

The feedback from the parish questionnaire conducted some time ago will be made available next Sunday with a brief talk about its findings are how we may progress them.

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 – 3rd April 2025. All welcome. For more information visit: www.northamptondiocese.org/rome-and-assisi.

RETRouvaille

Retrouvaille is a Catholic organisation that seeks to help married couples experiencing difficulties in their relationship. There is no group therapy or group work involved. For confidential information about Retrouvaille or to register for the next programme starting with a residential weekend from 8th - 10th November call or text 07887 296983 or email: retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com.

REQUIESCANT IN PACE

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Mary Dawe and Paul Goodstadt. May they rest in peace. Mary's funeral Mass will be in St James Church, Biddenham on 15th October at 10.45am.

MOTHERS' PRAYERS

The Mothers' Prayers group meet this Monday after the 10.45am Mass in the Reconciliation Chapel. All mothers welcome to join in prayer for their children.

ADORATION IN OUR LADY'S

There is Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament every Sunday from 11am to 12noon in Our Lady's church, Kempston.

REFLECTION

This spiritual advice from Fr Henri Nouwen: *'Keep your eyes fixed on Jesus and ask him more directly to give you joy, peace and a pure heart. Purity of heart means a heart where God is the centre of your attention. Take a simple sentence like, "The Lord is my shepherd there is nothing I shall want," and repeat that quietly during the day until the truth of it enters the centre of your being. You will always continue to have feelings of depression, anger and restlessness, but when God dwells in the centre of the storm, the storm is less frightening and you can live with trust that in the midst of all of the darkness you will be led to a place of joy and peace.'* Wise advice and one which certainly resonates with me. Making God the centre of our lives is the secret of that peace and joy which the world cannot give. It means giving time and priority to prayer which leads to the practice of the presence of God, where the Lord is constantly in our minds and hearts. Not an easy thing to do, given all the distractions that can fill out minds and demand our attention. But a simple phrase repeated like the one suggested here can help, opening an opportunity for God to enter into our busy minds and become that still centre, that little oasis of peace we can retreat to even in the most busy moments. Prayer of this kind is an invitation to enter into the eternity of God and savour his peace and presence. It is the prayer of the busy person and can be practised by anyone. Our time-bound anxieties, preoccupations, fears and worries will gradually fade because we begin to realise that we are not alone in the dark but we have the companionship of Jesus in whom there is no shadow of darkness. He becomes the ground of our being as opposed to the shifting ground of this unstable world. We can, therefore, be at peace and hold on to joy despite what life may throw at us. We hold eternity in our hearts; everything else is passing.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

Offertory

St Joseph's £1516.90

Our Lady's £243.50

Thank you