

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

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

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**TWENTY- EIGHTH
SUNDAY OF THE YEAR**
13th October 2024



THANK YOU

Fr Galeji sincerely thanks us for the generous sum of £1861 collected for him as he bade farewell to us. He will travel to India this week to start his visa application for admission to the USA.

PRISONERS' SUNDAY

Today we are invited to pray for prisoners and their families, those who have a care for them, especially prison chaplains, and also the victims of crime. Giovanna Payne, lay chaplain at Wellingborough Prison, will give a brief talk at the 8.15am Mass today about her work with prisoners.

TALK TO PARENTS

There is a talk to parents of those children enrolled for First Confession and Holy Communion classes this Thursday at 7.15pm in St Joseph's church. It is important that you attend this meeting.

TEA & COFFEE AFTER MASS

Today after the 11am Mass in the Guild Room. Come and meet fellow parishioners.

Mass Times – St Joseph's, Bedford

Sunday	8.15am	In Thanksgiving: Anitta Sabichan
	9.30am	People of the Parish
	11.00am	Grace Saltao, RIP
	6.30pm	Varghese & Family: Thanksgiving

Monday **Feria**

10.45am Jovita Nsoyuni, RIP

Tuesday **St Teresa of Avila**

10.45am Sarro Family

Wednesday **St Margaret Mary Alacoque**

10.45am Vincent Foran, RIP

Thursday **St Ignatius of Antioch**

10.45am Mercy & Raju

Friday **St Luke**

10.45am Colin Conway

Saturday **Votive Mass of Our Lady**

10.45am Kevin Wanyufenyuy, 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:

Fill us with your love that we may rejoice.

ROSARY: Daily at 10.20am

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Thursday 11.30am – 7.00pm

CLEANING: S Masih, T Nodoro

FLOWERS: Mrs Bino

NEXT SUNDAY: Twenty-Ninth Sunday of the Year

Readers & Ministers: Rota Week 1

Children's Liturgy: Edward & Geraldine Byrne

SYNOD PARISH QUESTIONNAIRE FEEDBACK

The feedback from the parish questionnaire conducted some time ago is now available at the back of the church. Please take a copy. There is a brief talk today at all Masses today about the feedback and how we may progress the findings.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

Next Sunday, the Holy Father invites all Catholics to support Missio, his charity for world mission, through a special collection to be taken at all Masses next Sunday. This day of prayer, solidarity and giving unites Catholics worldwide to share the Good News of God's love which has the power to transform lives and heal our world. Please use the Missio envelopes available in the porch for your donation and Gift Aid if possible.

NEW PARISH PROJECT

The charity, Mary's Meals, has been adopted as our new parish project. Thanks to all who donated various items for Mary's Meals recently which raised £101.50.

PARISH QUIZ

Our first fundraising event for our new parish project is a Quiz Night on Friday 25th October at 7.30pm in the Guild Room at St Joseph's. Tickets at £5 on sale next Sunday.

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

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, Paul Goodstadt and Gabriela Zieba. May they rest in peace. Mary's funeral Mass will be in St James Church, Biddenham on Tuesday 15th October at 10.45am.

CATHOLIC HERALD

The Catholic Herald monthly magazine is on sale in the porch of St Joseph's church at £5 per copy. Please place money in the Wall-Box marked Papers.

REFLECTION

A programme I enjoy watching is the Great Pottery Throw Down. It's all about amateur potters attempting to mould or shape from clay all kinds of items of artistic beauty and practicality. It is quite a skill which requires an artist's eye and attention to detail. From a lump of unformed clay they are able to produce beautiful works of art and the fun of watching is the processes involved in creating the finished item. In this I am reminded of a couple of scripture passages from Jeremiah 18 and Isaiah 64. There God is described as a potter and we the clay. He moulds and shapes us into something beautiful but only if we, like the clay, are pliable. A potter can only work with material that is pliable, that will give way to the skill of his or her hands and offer no resistance. If we are not compliant, if we remain hard and resistant, God cannot mould us and shape us into the masterpiece he wants each of us to be. He wants to make us into images of himself, reflecting his own beauty and goodness. Saints reflect this beauty of God. They are attractive people who, in a unique way, reveal something of God and his presence. We are not all shaped from the same mould; we are hand-made by God and therefore unique. There is a lot of work involved here which takes time and a willingness on our part to allow God to have free reign in our lives of faith. He is working in us to effect his purpose and plan and we can detect his working in us through our prayer; we begin to discern his hand bringing to perfection that work. Sometimes he may have to re-shape us because of resistance on our part and our sinfulness. The sacrament of Confession is especially effective, for this where we are forgiven and healed and God can continue to make us into whatever is acceptable and pleasing to him. It is here that he mends the broken shards of our lives and heals those cracks in our relationship with him that appear from time to time. Despite our failings, if we remain pliable, he can fix us and continue to build us into a masterpiece. That unformed lump of clay, which is our lives, once placed in the hands of the divine potter becomes a thing of beauty and a joy forever.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

Offertory
CAFOD

St Joseph's £1579.64
St Joseph's £811.74

Our Lady's £834.06
Our Lady's £148.30

Thank you