

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

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

The Presbytery, 2 Brereton Road, Bedford MK40 1HU Tel: 352569

www.stjosephsbedford.org Email: parish.stjosephbedford@northamptondiocese.org

**TWENTY- NINTH
SUNDAY OF THE YEAR**
20th October 2024



OPEN MEETINGS

You are invited to an open meeting this Thursday (24th Oct) in Our Lady's, Kempston at 2.30pm or St Joseph's Guild Room (access from Church Street), on the same day at 7.30pm to look at the parish questionnaire feedback and discuss where we go from here in the light of the feedback. Five areas have been highlighted in which we can perhaps move forward in our parishes. They are: Prayer and Faith, Building Community, Social Action, Youth Growth and Communications. Ideas, support, active involvement are welcome and needed. Come along to listen, discuss, share ideas and plan. We may not be able to cover everything but we can make a start. See you there.

TEA & COFFEE AFTER MASS

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

WELCOME

We welcome Fr Francis Maple today at the 11.00am Mass. His latest book 'Journeying into the Catholic Faith' will be on sale after the Mass at the back of the church.

Mass Times – St Joseph's, Bedford

Sunday	8.15am	Ann Baker, RIP
	9.30am	Kathleen Canavan, RIP
	11.00am	Daniel Reddy, RIP
	6.30pm	Ruairi O Conhalaigh, RIP
Monday	<i>Feria</i>	
	10.45am	Angela & Pasquale
Tuesday	<i>Pope St John Paul II</i>	
	10.45am	Heidi Billingham
Wednesday	<i>Feria</i>	
	10.45am	Bob & Joe Zak; Katy Szczurko, RIP
Thursday	<i>Feria</i>	
	10.45am	Veronique Chanpda
Friday	<i>Feria</i>	
	10.45am	Maria & Teodor Bazylewicz, RIP
Saturday	<i>Votive Mass of Our Lady</i>	
	10.45am	Denis Gilbert, RIP

Mass Times – Our Lady's, Kempston

Saturday	6.00pm	Tony Fink, RIP
----------	--------	----------------

Confessions – St Joseph's:

Saturday 11.30am – 12.30pm (Exposition)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.

ROSARY: Daily at 10.20am

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Thursday 11.30am – 7.00pm

CLEANING: S Masih, A Daniels, R Okonkwo

FLOWERS: Mrs Bino

NEXT SUNDAY: Thirtieth Sunday of the Year

Readers & Ministers: Rota Week 2

Children's Liturgy: Edward & Geraldine Byrne

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

Today, parishes worldwide celebrate World Mission Sunday. By supporting Missio, the Pope's charity for world mission, we stand united as God's global family, in prayer, solidarity and action. We are called to 'go and invite everyone to the banquet', for the joy of Christ's resurrection is a gift meant to be shared with the entire world. Please pray for missionaries and give what you can to the second collection today, bringing God's compassion, peace and justice to those in need. Please use the Missio envelopes provided in the porch and Gift Aid your donation if possible. Thank you.

PARISH QUIZ

Our first fundraising event for our new parish project, Mary's Meals, is a Quiz Night this Friday 25th October at 7.30pm in the Guild Room at St Joseph's. Tickets at £5 on sale today after Mass.

MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

If you wish to include the names of your deceased loved ones in the daily Masses during the month of November, then please list them and place the list in the envelopes provided at the back of the church and return them to the presbytery or the church.

LATIN MASS

There will be a Latin High Mass in the Tridentine Rite on Saturday 9th November at 12 noon in St Joseph's church in reparation for abortion. Refreshments afterwards. All welcome.

HEALING SERVICE

There will be a short healing service after the 6.30pm Mass next Sunday to pray for personal healing and healing for others.

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

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.

REQUIESCANT IN PACE

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Daphne Smith and Bob Mitchell. Also Paul Goodstadt and Mary Dawe. May they rest in the peace of the Lord.

'Faith in the resurrection of Jesus says that there is a future for every human being; the cry for unending life, which is a part of the person, is indeed answered.'

Pope Benedict XVI

REFLECTION

One of my favourite musicals is Fiddler on the Roof. There is a scene where Tevye, the main character, asks his wife, Golde, of 25 years, *"Do you love me?"* Instead of answering directly she lists all the things she has done for him over the years of their marriage. He responds rather pleadingly, *"But, do you love me?"* He repeats the question a few times until she admits, saying with real meaning, *"Yes, I love you."* A touching moment which cheered Tevye's heart. It is cheering to hear from someone's lips, *"I love you!"* especially within the bond of marriage and family life. It is often the case that we can take each other for granted and never really say it or say thank you. It can make us feel that we are not appreciated and this can cause resentment, even relationship breakdown. I recently led a vigil for the deceased before an open coffin. I was moved by the widow in the way she would kiss her deceased husband, touch him tenderly, arrange the rosary beads in his hands and so on. Little signs of love and affection. These are important and speak of our common humanity, and not to be overlooked in our relationships. They help to form bonds of love which unite us and bring comfort and healing. This very human way of showing love and affection can translate into our relationship with God, even though we don't see him in the same way. But he is present and close and seeks entry into every heart. We just have to invite him in and make him welcome. You know the story of Martha and Mary and Lazarus from the gospel, who were good friends of Jesus and who welcomed him into their home. We can do the same in prayer and tell him that we love him as we sit at his feet like Mary. As with Martha, we can become caught up in all kinds of activities and don't have time just to sit and be still before the Lord and say, *"I love you."* It touches his heart to hear this from our lips. This should be the basis of all our prayer instead placing before him a whole list of items that we want. That can come later. Make prayer essentially a time of praise, worship, thanksgiving and declarations of your love for him. In that moment of personal prayer all that matters is you and him. A loving heart is a listening heart because it is still and attentive to the one we love. Keep it simple and let that simple profession, *"I love you, Jesus,"* be the heart of one's prayer and hear him say in return, *"And I love you."*

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

Offertory

St Joseph's £1734.71

Our Lady's £441.13

Thank you