

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

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

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CORPUS CHRISTI

22nd June 2025



PLEASE NOTE

The Mass this Friday will be at 6.30pm.
No 10.45am Mass this Friday.

HOLY HOUR

There will be a Holy Hour before the Blessed Sacrament today in St Joseph's, honouring the feast of Corpus Christi, from 3pm to 4pm. Let us come together in prayer in thanksgiving for this wonderful sacrament of our faith.

SECOND COLLECTION

Second collection next Sunday for Peter's Pence which helps support the Church in poorer parts of our world.

FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE

St Joseph's Friendship Circle meets again this Wednesday at 7pm in the Embankment Hotel. All most welcome to come along and socialise and get to know fellow parishioners. Bring a friend.

FUNDRAISING MEETING

The parish fundraising group will meet this Friday at 7.30pm in the Guild Room.

Mass Times – St Joseph's, Bedford

Sunday 8.15am In Thanksgiving: Denil Biby
9.30am Tim O'Keeffe, RIP
11.00am Angela & Bill Letch
6.30pm People of the Parish

Monday ***Feria***

10.45am Mary & Alan Wright, RIP

Tuesday ***Birth of St John the Baptist***

10.45am Tony Wensley

Wednesday ***Feria***

10.45am Bob & Joe Zak; Katy Szczurko, RIP

Thursday ***Feria***

10.45am Maria & Teodor Bazylewicz, RIP

Friday ***Sacred Heart of Jesus***

6.30pm Daisey McCann, RIP

Saturday ***St Irenaeus***

10.45am Special Intention (King)

Mass Times – Our Lady's, Kempston

Saturday 6.00pm Dee Smith

Confessions – St Joseph's:

Saturday 11.30am – 12.30pm (Exposition)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: You are a priest forever,
according to the order of Melchizedek.

ROSARY: Daily at 10.20am

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Thursday 11.30am-7.00pm

CLEANING: S Masih, D Cummings

FLOWERS: Mrs Price

NEXT SUNDAY: SS Peter & Paul

Readers & Ministers: Rota Week 1

Children's Liturgy: Rebecca Lovesey & Mila

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

The new offertory envelopes for St Joseph's parish are now available for collection from the back of the church. It is important to use them if you have Gift Aided your donations. Thank you.

VINTAGE TEA AFTERNOON

Vintage Tea Afternoon Friday 27th June at Christ the King Parish Hall, Harrowden Road from 2.00pm to 4.00pm. Entry £6 which includes tea, homemade cake and friendship. For further information, contact Myriam on 07590 558275.

ANNUAL HOLY HOUR

Annual Holy Hour to celebrate Eucharistic Ministry with Renewal of Commissioning as Lay Ministers of Holy Communion 29th June at 3.00pm. Livestream from Northampton Cathedral. Order of Service on the diocesan website www.northamptondiocese.org.

SAFEGUARDING ADVISORY BOARD

The diocese of Northampton is seeking a committed and experienced safeguarding professional to take on the voluntary role of Independent Chair of the Safeguarding Advisory Board. This vital position involves leading quarterly meetings, offering expert advice on safeguarding matters and supporting our diocesan safeguarding team. We are looking for someone with senior-level safeguarding experience who has a good understanding of the Catholic faith. If you or someone you know might be interested in this rewarding opportunity to help ensure the safety and well-being of all our Church community, please contact Danielle Dixon, Safeguarding Coordinator, at email safeguarding@northamptondiocese.org or 01604 723514 for more information. Applications are now open, with the new Chair due to take up the role in December 2025.

SPONSORED PARISH RIVER WALK

This will be at 11am on Saturday 28th June in aid of our parish project. It will be a gentle group walk at your own pace over some of the pedestrian river bridges of Bedford, which will take about one hour, depending on your walking pace. If interested in participating, please pick up a sponsorship form with a route plan attached, from the table at the back of the church.

CHISEN CHARITY

Family fun evening in Christ the King Hall, London Road, on Friday 27th June 7.15pm-10pm. Karaoke, Dance performance, Raffle, Bar. Family ticket £15 includes pizza. Single/couple £10. All proceeds in aid of the House of Hope in Ghana. Tickets available from Teresa Williams 07989 506625 or Mary Taylor 07833 147113.

REQUIESCAT IN PACE

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Jean Petts.

FUNDRAISING CONCERT

The parish of St Francesca Cabrini is having a concert to raise funds in support of a group of young people from their parish in going to Rome for the Holy Year. The concert is on Friday 27th June at 7.30pm in the church hall, Woburn Road. Tickets on sale on the door at £5 for adults and £2 for children.

REFLECTION (continued)

Creating a cloister of the heart will take time and perseverance, but so rewarding. It becomes that secret place where you can be yourself with the Lord and rest in his company and share intimacies with him, knowing he understands better than we can understand ourselves. In that time of silence and retreat, he waits for us and invites us to open our hearts to him. In the cloister of the heart, he reveals himself to us and makes his home there. He is that still small voice that can only be discerned when we quieten our faculties and give him our attention, like Mary in the gospel story who sat at the feet of Jesus. We will never exhaust the mystery of God, but that journey into him constitutes our happiness here and in eternity. In the life of faith, reason and thought will only get us so far. Awe and reverence will take us further into the mystery of God, which cannot be put into words. St Paul experienced this: *“(I) was caught up into paradise and heard things which cannot be put into human language.”* (2 Cor 12:4). Maybe the Lord has such an experience in store for any one of us! Certainly so, when we leave the realms of this world, *“beyond the limitations of our senses and beyond the horizon of death, where lies a place of inexpressible joy, the fountain of all life and love.”* The feast of Corpus Christi we celebrate today, affords us another opportunity to be amazed and to contemplate this other great mystery of our faith. God is truly present to us in this sacrament. Just ponder that. God is here! I had to remind a group of prisoners at Mass recently that they had just received God in Holy Communion. Talk to him, I said, not to one another. Complete silence, as it dawned on them the wonder of this astounding truth. This should be our attitude before such a mystery: prayerful silence in the presence of God who has come to make his home in you and me. What amazing love! What an amazing God! We bow down in worship, in praise and in thanksgiving. Amen!

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

Offertory

St Joseph's £1787.48

Our Lady's £383.05

Thank you

Day for Life

St Joseph's £443.18

Our Lady's £44.67