

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

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SS PETER & PAUL
29th June 2025



FATHER LIAM

We will have to say farewell to Fr Liam towards the end of September when he moves to Corby as Priest in Charge of Our Lady of Walsingham parish. We wish him well in his future ministry.

SECOND COLLECTION

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

PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM

The SVP is running a coach to Walsingham on Sunday 6th July, picking up at Christ the King church, Harrowden Road at 7.00am. There are 15 seats available at £10 per head. Names to Mary Frost on 07708 264054 or 304014.

PARISH FORUM MEETING

The Parish Forum will next meet on Friday 18th July at 7.30pm in the Guild Room. The list of Forum members can be found on the noticeboard in both churches.

Mass Times – St Joseph's, Bedford

Sunday	8.15am	Dermot McCloskey
	9.30am	Lynne Brady
	11.00am	Catenian Bedford Circle
	6.30pm	Canon Seamus Keenan
Monday	<i>The First Martyrs of Rome</i>	
	10.45am	Bob & Joe Zak; Katy Szczurko, RIP
Tuesday	<i>St Oliver Plunket</i>	
	10.45am	Requiem: Jean Petts
Wednesday	<i>Feria</i>	
	10.45am	Maria & Teodor Bazylewicz, RIP
Thursday	<i>St Thomas, Apostle</i>	
	10.45am	Andrew McGuire; Mary Win Baker
Friday	<i>Feria</i>	
	10.45am	Fr Roy
Saturday	<i>Patronage of St Thomas of Canterbury</i>	
	10.45am	Frank Rozman, RIP

Mass Times – Our Lady's, Kempston

Saturday 6.00pm Egan Family

Confessions – St Joseph's:

Saturday 11.30am – 12.30pm (Exposition)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

From all my terrors the Lord set me free.

ROSARY: Daily at 10.20am

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Thursday 11.30am-7.00pm

CLEANING: S Masih, T Ndoro

FLOWERS: Mrs Price

NEXT SUNDAY: Fourteenth Sunday of the Year

Readers & Ministers: Rota Week 2

Children's Liturgy: Edward & Geraldine Byrne

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The Stations of the Cross in St Joseph's are in need of restoration. The first one has been done already. Please take a look. The cost is £400 per Station. To defray the cost to the parish, if anyone would like to adopt a Station to pay or part-pay for it, please let me know.

CHARISMATIC PRAYER MINISTRY

There will be a charismatic prayer ministry led by Anointing Fire Catholic Ministry on Saturday, 5th July in Our Lady's church, Kempston from 12noon to 4.00pm. Prayer, talk, adoration. All welcome.

FATIMA DEVOTIONS

Fatima Devotions this Saturday after the 10.45am Mass.

CAFOD PETITION

In this Jubilee Year, CAFOD is working with its sister Caritas organisations around the world to call for urgent action on the global debt crisis. Many of the world's poorest countries are suffering huge debt burdens with devastating impacts on ordinary people. Pope Francis spoke about this many times, saying, "More than a question of generosity, this is a matter of justice." Next weekend, there will be a worldwide Church petition you can sign as you leave Mass.

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 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.

SVP MINNIE VINNIES

We would like to establish an SVP Minnie Vinnie group in the parish. These are for children aged 7 to 11. There are many groups across the country based in schools and parishes, and are very popular with the communities they are in. If you are interested in helping to set up and organise a group, please let Canon Seamus or Jim Keane know (07753 612080). All helpers will have to be DBS cleared. Please take a leaflet from the back of the church with more information.

REQUIESCAT IN PACE

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Jean Petts. Her funeral Mass is this Tuesday at 10.45am in St Joseph's. There will be light refreshments afterwards in the Guild Room.

BOARD OF CATHOLIC WOMAN

Helen Burgess is the Northampton diocesan link for the National Board of Catholic Women and invites us to join her online on Tuesday, 8th July at 7.30pm where she will interview the president of the NBCW to find out what has been happening, learn about this important Catholic organisation and get involved. Find out more by going to www.nbcw.co.uk. Zoom link for July 8th contact: helen.burgess@northamptondiocese.org.

ADVERT

One of our parishioners, Torin Hodgkiss, advertises his services as a gardener/handyman. Contact toringardening@gmail.com. www.instagram.com/ghsbeds or 07360 642319. Further information is in St Joseph's church porch.

REFLECTION

Today's feast of SS Peter & Paul gives us an opportunity to reflect on our own calling to be a saint. That is the whole purpose of the gospel, of Jesus coming into the world. He wants us all to be saints without exception. A big ask, you may think. Yes, it is, but realisable, aided by God's grace and reliant on his mercy. We might think that saints are born holy. No! We are all in need of redemption and salvation. Even great saints like Peter and Paul. Peter was an impetuous man given to exaggerated boasts and who even denied Christ. Paul was no better. He actively persecuted the early Christians, locking up whole families in prison until his dramatic conversion. Two men with lots of weaknesses and flaws. But what they had in common was a great love for Jesus and trust in his power. In the words of St Paul: "*I am proud of my weaknesses in order to feel the protection of Christ's power over me.*" (2 Cor 12:9). Both knew their need of God's grace and mercy, which allowed God to act in and through them to bring about his plan and at the same time make them into the saints we know them to be today. If God can change and use such unpromising material as this, then there is hope for us. We are called and chosen to be part of God's great plan, but it depends upon our openness and generosity and desire to be saints. To be malleable in God's hands, shaping us into the masterpiece he wants you and me to be. In the words of another great saint, to make us into "something beautiful for God". (St Teresa of Calcutta).

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

Offertory

St Joseph's £1721.63

Our Lady's £656.40

Thank you