

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

Parish Priest: Canon Seamus Keenan. Assistant Priest: Fr Ditto Devassy

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

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**TWENTY-FIFTH
SUNDAY OF THE YEAR**
21st September 2025



WELCOME

We welcome Father Ditto Devassy to the parish as our new assistant priest this weekend. Fr Ditto has been serving in the Northampton Cathedral parish for the past year and is also involved in the Jesus Youth movement. Please keep Fr Liam in prayer as he takes up his new position in Our Lady's parish, Corby. Thanks to all who contributed to his leaving collection. I will have the total amount collected next Sunday.

MEMORIAL MASS

There will be a Memorial Mass celebrated in thanksgiving for the life and ministry of Fr Derek Laverty on Friday 3rd October at 7.00pm in Christ the King church, Harrowden Road, Bedford. All welcome to attend.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2026

Enrolment forms for First Holy Communion Classes beginning in the autumn are now available from the sacristy. Child must be in year 3 or above. Completed form must be returned by Sunday 28th September.

Mass Times – St Joseph's, Bedford

Sunday 8.15am David & Sylvia Guerin
9.30am Ethan Horsman
11.00am Charles
6.30pm Maple Blaney, RIP

Monday ***Feria***

10.45am Bob & Joe Zak; Katy Szczurko, RIP

Tuesday ***St Pio of Pietrelcina***

10.45am Maria & Teodor Bozylewicz

Wednesday ***Our Lady of Walsingham***

10.45am In Thanksgiving: Johnson Family

Thursday ***Feria***

10.45am Philip, Takouhi, John Blaney, RIP

Friday ***Feria***

10.45am Victor Inegbedion, RIP

Saturday ***St Vincent de Paul***

10.45am Douglas & Jacob Blaney, RIP

Mass Times – Our Lady's, Kempston

Saturday 6.00pm Elaine McLennon, RIP

Confessions – St Joseph's:

Saturday 11.30am – 12.30pm (Exposition)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Praise the Lord, who raises the poor.

ROSARY: Daily at 10.20am

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Thursday 11.30am-7.00pm

CLEANING: S Masih, M Golomingi, D Cummings

FLOWERS: Mrs Bino

NEXT SUNDAY: 26th Sunday of the Year

Readers & Ministers: Rota Week 2

Children's Liturgy: Bimla & Natalie Mathews

LEADERSHIP COURSE

The diocese is launching a leadership course which is a year-long programme designed to form leaders for a missionary Church. It offers the opportunity to deepen your faith, strengthen your leadership skills and learn how to serve. For more info, visit: www.northamptondiocese.org/catholic-leadership. See poster in porch.

PARISH BBQ

The parish BBQ meant for this afternoon (21st) has been postponed until the beginning of October, as rain is forecast. Will keep you informed about another date, weather allowing.

SECOND COLLECTION

Second collection today at all Masses, Evangelli Guadium Sunday (Joy of the Gospel), to aid the missionary work of the Church in England and Wales.

FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE

St Joseph's Friendship Circle meets this Wednesday in the Embankment Hotel at 7.00pm. All welcome and bring a friend.

YOUTH MASS

Calling everyone aged 11 – 25 years to a Youth Mass celebrated on Sunday, 5th October at 3.00pm in Christ the King parish, Harrowden Road, Bedford. There will be an opportunity to meet afterwards in the parish hall.

NEW SCHOOL

From Gemma Otter, Head Teacher: We are delighted to announce that we have opened a new school on the St Gregory's Biddenham site called St Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary School. Many of you know that this building has been refurbished completely and is ready to serve the needs of the Catholic community in Bedford. The decision to name the school St Francis of Assisi rests on the legacy of service from staff over the years at St Joseph's Catholic Lower School and St Gregory's Middle School, as was. We are truly grateful for their contribution. This legacy has paved the way for this move forward for Catholic families in our town. Our thanks to all the staff who have served these communities over the years and to you for your prayer, commitment and dedication to our schools. It is offering a faith-education and high standards to serve the needs of our Catholic community. An opening mass will be celebrated on Friday 3rd October just before the feast of St Francis on the Saturday. The Mass will be at 9.30am at the school on Biddenham Turn, Biddenham, Bedford. Please let the school office know if you are attending either by email: office@sfoa.beds.olicatschools.org or call the school office on 01234 352062. Thank you.

MARRIAGE SUPPORT

Does your relationship need some TLC? Need help with deeper issues? Next programme starts Friday, 17th October. Visit: www.retrouvaille.org.uk. Tel: 07887 296983.

ST THOMAS MORE OPEN EVENING

St Thomas More Catholic Secondary School Year 6 Open Evening on Thursday, 25th September 6pm-8.30pm. This event will be an opportunity for you to visit the school, talk to students and staff. There will be lots to do and see, including a presentation by the headteacher, subject and enrichment opportunities and tours of the school led by the students. The headteacher will talk at 6pm and 7pm.

INTERNATIONAL MEAL

As part of our fundraising efforts to raise funds for our new parish project, we will be having an International Meal on Friday, 3rd October at 7.30pm in the Italian Church Hall, Woburn Road. We are looking for different dishes from the various countries represented in our parishes. Please let me know if you would like to contribute a dish. The more the better!

PASTORAL AREA JUBILEE PILGRIMAGE

A Jubilee Pilgrimage to the Holy Child & St Joseph Church is being organised by the Bedfordshire Pastoral Area Council for Saturday 4th October, with parishes converging on the church from different meeting points. For us, it will be from the Faces statue, Silver Street at 9.40am, arriving at the church at 10am followed by the Rosary, Mass, Fatima Devotions with Confessions and Eucharistic Adoration. Bring a packed lunch to be had in the Guild Room. Our church is a designated Pilgrim Church where you may gain the Holy Year Plenary Indulgence.

VINTAGE TEA

Vintage Tea afternoon on Friday 26th September from 2pm to 3.30pm in Christ the King Parish Hall. Admission £6 per person. More information: Myriam on 07590 558275. See poster on noticeboard for details.

CAFOD HARVEST FAST DAY

There will be a short talk about the upcoming CAFOD Harvest Day and second collection next Sunday at all Masses. The collection will be taken on Sunday, 5th October, and there will be envelopes for this purpose in the church porch next Sunday. Please take one and fill in the Gift Aid slip, if you are able, with your donation.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

Offertory

St Joseph's £1354.69

Our Lady's £666.75

Thank you