

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

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

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**THIRTIETH SUNDAY
OF THE YEAR
26th October 2025**



LATIN HIGH MASS

Latin High Mass will be celebrated in St Joseph's church on Saturday 1st November at 12.15pm. Celebrant: Bishop Marian Eleganti, from Switzerland. Refreshments afterwards in the Guild Room. All are welcome.

PLEASE NOTE

Because of the Latin Mass there will be no Fatima Devotions and no Exposition this Saturday. Confessions will be from 11.30am to 12noon.

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.

FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE

St Joseph's Friendship Circle meets again this Wednesday 29th October at 7.00pm in the Embankment Hotel. Come along and bring a friend.

Mass Times – St Joseph's, Bedford

Sunday 8.15am Edith Guerin, RIP
9.30am John, Des & William Orr, RIP
11.00am Naomi Fernandes
6.30pm Dec'd Members of the KSC

Monday ***Feria***

10.45am Joe Russell, RIP

Tuesday ***SS Simon & Jude***

10.45am Antoinette El-Rif, RIP

Wednesday ***Feria***

10.45am Alan Mayo, RIP

Thursday ***Feria***

10.45am George Mee, RIP

Friday ***Feria***

10.45am Pam Nugent, RIP

Saturday ***Votive Mass of Our Lady***

10.45am Franciska Rozman, RIP

Mass Times – Our Lady's, Kempston

Saturday 6.00pm Lisa Joanne Newall, RIP

Confessions – St Joseph's:

Saturday 11.30am – 12.00pm

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

The lowly one called, and the Lord heard him.

ROSARY: Daily at 10.20am

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Thursday 11.30am-7.00pm

CLEANING: S Masih, A Daniels, R Okonkwo

FLOWERS: Mrs Redmond

NEXT SUNDAY: All Saints Day

Readers & Ministers: Rota Week 3

Children's Liturgy: Bimla & Natalie Mathews

SAMARITANS PURSE SHOEBOX APPEAL

Fill a shoebox for a needy child who might have never had a present before. Please take a leaflet from the back of the church which gives details and suggested items. Fill your shoebox and return to either church no later than the weekend of 15/16th November. Thank you.

BLESSING OF GRAVES

The annual blessing of graves will be as follows: Foster Hill Road Sunday 9th November. Norse Road and Kempston Sunday 16th November. Each service will begin at 2.30pm with prayers near the entrance to the cemetery, followed by the blessing of individual graves.

CHRISTMAS CARD SALE

Christmas cards and other religious items will be on sale from next Sunday at the back of the church in both parishes. Any profit made from the sale will be in aid of our new parish project.

PADRE PIO PRAYER GROUP

The Prayer Group meets this Monday at 2.30pm in Our Lady's church, Kempston, which includes the celebration of Mass.

MOTHERS' PRAYERS

The Mothers' Prayers Group also meets this Monday after the 10.45am Mass in the Reconciliation Chapel. Mothers and fathers are welcome to join in prayer for their children.

HEALING SERVICE

There will be a short healing service before the Blessed Sacrament after the 6.30pm Mass next Sunday to pray for the gift of healing.

GIFT AID

Many parishioners give faithfully through the offertory collection each week. If you are a UK taxpayer, your gift could be worth 25% more at no extra cost to you. Through Gift Aid, a donation of £10 becomes £12.50, and we can even claim up to four years of past donations. Signing up is simple, confidential and makes a big difference to parish life. Please let me know if interested in Gift Aid.

SECOND COLLECTION

There will be a second collection next Sunday for the Diocesan Sick and Retired Clergy Fund.

REFLECTION

In a peaceless world, we long for peace. Politicians and governments do what they can, but face many problems, not least the willingness for peace between warring factions. Peace is possible if it is willed. There must be that incentive, that willingness, and it all begins in the human heart. Wars and conflicts don't just happen. They are the result of a decision by an individual or a group of individuals who want to subjugate another people or nation. In the words of Pope Francis: *"Warfare seeks maximum gain for oneself and maximum harm for the adversary, trampling on human lives, the environment, infrastructure...everything; and all masked by lies."*

In all this we have to appeal to a higher power and we do this through prayer. Pope Leo has asked us to pray the Rosary each day for peace during the month of October. Have we responded to this appeal? If not, start now. The power of prayer to change hearts should not be underestimated. If we pray with an expectant faith, God will listen and give answer. In prayer, we open our own hearts to the gift of peace, and we in turn become instruments of peace, carrying peace to others by our words, our actions, our behaviour, our relationships. Peace becomes the environment in which we live and work. And where peace negotiations cannot reach, prayer can. This may sound naïve and rather pious. Well, to the unbelieving person, yes, it does. But we are people of faith, and what seems impossible is always possible to God. It is in that understanding and belief that God can work miracles in our personal lives and in worldly matters that we offer our prayers. God is an active agent in the affairs of human beings. He cares for our world and wants to save it, but only if we let him. Prayer of faith lets him because we hand these impossible situations to him, acknowledging that we are helpless to solve such on our own. In one of her messages in Medjugorje, Our Lady echoed what she said in Fatima that we have forgotten that prayer and fasting can suspend the laws of nature, can stop wars. We need to get on our knees and pray. We have time for everything else; we must make time for this, too, especially when the world is in such a perilous state. Adding a bit of fasting to our prayer would make it even more powerful, especially on a Friday when we are, in fact, obliged by the Church to do some act of penance. Instead of wringing our hands and lamenting the state of the world, we have it in our power to change things by appealing to the Prince of Peace in our daily prayer. Make time for this. Prayer is that dart which pierces the clouds of heaven, pierces the heart of God, prompting him to act. He wants this from us as his co-workers in the great work of salvation and peace. We are called to be prayer-warriors in the fight against the powers of darkness, which want only death and destruction. *"For evil to triumph, it is only necessary for good men to do nothing."* (Edmund Burke). We can do something. Pray!

Lord Jesus, grant peace in our day. Mary, Queen of Peace, pray for us who have recourse to thee.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

Offertory

St Joseph's £1755.17

Our Lady's £290.34

Thank you

Mission Sunday

St Joseph's £768.03