

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

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

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CHRIST THE KING

23rd November 2025



FRIENDS OF THE HOLY LAND

A total of £2475.72 was donated by cash and card after the Holy Land appeal last weekend. A most generous response! Thank you.

ADVENT BOOKS

There are free Advent booklets, titled 'Walk with Me', available from the book stand at the back of the church with scripture readings and reflections for Advent. Please help yourself to a copy.

CONFIRMATION 2026

Those wishing to receive the sacrament of Confirmation next year, i.e. Year 9 of school or older, are asked to collect an enrolment form from the sacristy. Preparation classes will start in January 2026. Any adults seeking Confirmation will be seen separately.

CHRISTMAS CARD SALE

Christmas cards and other religious items are on sale today at the back of the church in both parishes. Profit made from the sale in aid of our parish project.

Mass Times – St Joseph's, Bedford

Sunday	8.15am	Tarcisio Cipallone, RIP
	9.30am	Holy Souls
	11.00am	Arthur, Michael, Paolo Micallef, RIP
	6.30pm	Holy Souls
Monday	<i>St Andrew Dung-Lac and Companions</i>	
	10.45am	Holy Souls
Tuesday	<i>Feria</i>	
	10.45am	Holy Souls
Wednesday	<i>Feria</i>	
	10.45am	Holy Souls
Thursday	<i>Feria</i>	
	10.45am	Holy Souls
Friday	<i>Feria</i>	
	10.45am	Franc Rozman, RIP
Saturday	<i>Votive Mass of Our Lady</i>	
	10.45am	Holy Souls

Mass Times – Our Lady's, Kempston

Saturday	6.00pm	Owen & Bea Keane, RIP
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Confessions – St Joseph's:

Saturday 11.30am – 12.30pm (Exposition)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

ROSARY: Daily at 10.20am

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Thursday 11.30am-7.00pm

CLEANING: S Masih, E Aoko, D Cummings

FLOWERS: Mrs Redmond

NEXT SUNDAY: First Sunday of Advent

Readers & Ministers: Rota Week 3

Children's Liturgy: Rebecca Lovesey & Mila

ADVENT GIVING TREE

The SVP is asking for your help in providing gifts for those we visit who may not otherwise receive gifts at Christmas. To this end, an Advent Giving Tree will be on display from next Sunday, on which will be attached labels. Please take a label and buy the required gift. Gifts should then be wrapped, please, and returned with the label attached by Sunday, 14th December, to enable distribution for Christmas. Thank you in anticipation.

PRE-MASS REFLECTION

For the next 4 weeks, each Saturday in Our Lady's 4.15pm-5.30pm with a showing of 'The Chosen' serial. All welcome.

INDIAN MEAL

Thanks to all who attended the Indian Meal last week, which raised £80 for our pariah project. Special thanks to John Moore, who organised the event. A most enjoyable evening!

FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE

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

SCRIPTURAL STUDIES

All parishioners are warmly invited to join our weekly scriptural study sessions led by Fr Ditto. The next session will be this Tuesday at 7.00pm in the Guild Room, access from Church Street. These sessions offer a wonderful opportunity to deepen our understanding of sacred scripture and the related teachings of the Catholic Church, growing together in faith and fellowship. All are welcome.

ROSARY FOR LIFE

The Rosary for the Sanctity of Human Life will be recited this Saturday after the 10.45am Mass. All are invited to pray for this intention.

SAMARITANS PURSE SHOEBOX APPEAL

Thanks to all who donated items for the Shoe-Box appeal. We and the children are very grateful for your generosity.

CHRISTMAS DRAW TICKETS

These are now available for sale after each Mass at £2.50 a book. Prizes for the Draw gratefully received, please. Money raised for our parish project.

COFFEE MORNING

The Chisen Foundation is holding a Coffee Morning on Wednesday, 3rd December from 10.30am to 1.00pm. Tea-Coffee-Cake-Biscuits-Raffle at 25 Pemberly Ave, Bedford MK40 2LE. All proceeds go to the House of Hope project for special needs children in Ghana.

REQUIESCAT IN PACE

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Ken Kavanagh. May he rest in the peace of the Lord.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations 3 and 4 have been restored and returned. We hope to have them all ready by next Lent.

AFTERNOON VINTAGE TEA

This will be at Christ the King Church Hall, London Road, on Friday 28th November from 2.00pm-3.30pm. £6 for tea, sandwiches, home-made cakes and friendship. Info: contact Myriam on 07590558275.

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Saturday 29th November in Christ the King Parish Hall, London Road, from 1.00pm to 3.00pm. Entry 50p. Children free. Refreshments, bottle stall, crafts, raffle, jumble sale and more. Further information contact Myriam on the number above.

REFLECTION - FR ALBERIC TURNER

‘Our God is a God of peace. Anything that disturbs our inner peace does not come from God; it comes from our self-seeking, our wanting to do it our way.

It was the first human temptation: to be like God. God can only be God in our lives when we fully accept and acknowledge the truth of what it is to be human, when we fully accept and acknowledge the supreme truth that God alone is, and that we are totally dependent on God for the gift of our existence – dependent upon God for every breath, for every beat of our heart. Peace is the tranquillity and freedom that comes into our lives when we do this. This is adoration, the purest form of prayer. It is the creature in truth before the Creator. The hallmark of true spirituality is life. Life pouring itself out in love from the depths of our being. This is the life to the full that Jesus said he came to give us, and it gives us a strange and secret knowledge of the wild and unchanging love that God has for us. It is a knowledge that can drive us crazy at times and make us burn with love. This knowing and loving is a participation in the very life of God. God is for us, not against us. God is on our side, wanting to give us the peace and freedom, the belonging in love that we crave and hunger for down all our human years from the cradle to the grave. Faith alone is what opens our hearts to this inflow of true peace and freedom. On the night before he died, Jesus, the God-Man, said to his friends whom he loved, “*Do not be worried or upset, do not be afraid. Believe in God and believe also in me. And after I go, the Father will send his Holy Spirit to comfort you and teach you the truth that will set you free.*” But all of this only happens if we believe, and not just with our minds and lips, but with every fibre of our being.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

Offertory	St Joseph's £1727.47
Holy Land Appeal	St Joseph's £805.99

Our Lady's £264.40	Thank you
Our Lady's £234.78	