

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

www.stjosephsbedford.org Email: parish.stjosephsbedford@northamptondiocese.org

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

11th January 2026



SURPLUS GIFT SALE

There will be a Surplus Gift Sale on Sunday, 18th January, in the Guild Room at St Joseph's and the church porch of Our Lady's, Kempston (Sat 17th), after all the Masses. Donated items for the sale can be left at the presbytery and Our Lady's church. Proceeds in aid of our parish project.

SPUC APPEAL

The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children will be holding its annual appeal next weekend. SPUC exists to transform culture so that abortion is not only abolished but becomes unthinkable. The Society is actively leading the fight in the courts, classrooms and culture to achieve this mission. Through these efforts, we will restore a respect for the sanctity of human life from conception until natural death. You may like to take a postcard from the porch to send off for more information. There will be a second collection at all Masses next Sunday for this appeal.

Mass Times – St Joseph's, Bedford

Sunday	8.15am	Anitta Sabichan
	9.30am	People of the Parish
	11.00am	Santino Grilli
	6.30pm	Patricia Jacob, RIP
Monday	<i>Feria</i>	
	10.45am	Requiem: Mark Ngere
Tuesday	<i>Feria</i>	
	10.45am	Kenneth Kavanagh, RIP
Wednesday	<i>Feria</i>	
	10.45am	Siza Mazibuko
Thursday	<i>Feria</i>	
	10.45am	Michael Baldrey, RIP
Friday	<i>Feria</i>	
	10.45am	Bob & Joe Zak; Katy Szczurko, RIP
Saturday	<i>St Anthony</i>	
	10.45am	Maria & Teodor Bazylewicz, RIP

Mass Times – Our Lady's, Kempston

Saturday	6.00pm	McCulloch Family
----------	--------	------------------

Confessions – St Joseph's:

Saturday 11.30am – 12.30pm (Exposition)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

The Lord will bless his people with peace.

ROSARY: Daily at 10.20am

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Thursday 11.30am-7.00pm.

CLEANING: S Masih, M Golomingi, E Aoko

FLOWERS: Mrs Price

NEXT SUNDAY: Second Sunday of the Year

Readers & Ministers: Rota Week 2

Children's Liturgy: None until 25th January

CHRISTMAS DRAW

The list of prize winners is on display on the noticeboard in both churches. Prizes can be collected from the presbytery. Thanks to all who bought tickets and donated prizes, which raised £998.70 for our parish project.

THANK YOU

The SVP thank everyone who contributed to the Advent Giving Tree and chocolates for Bedford Prison. It was an overwhelming response, and the recipients of your kindness were happy and grateful.

WEEK OF PRAYER: CHRISTIAN UNITY

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity starts on Sunday, 18th January and finishes on Sunday, 25th January. There is a poster on the porch noticeboard listing the various churches in Bedford town centre where a prayer service will be held. St Joseph's is hosting on Saturday, 24th January at 2.30pm.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

These classes will begin on Saturday, 31st January, from 2.30pm to 4.00pm in the Guild Room. All who have enrolled must attend, please. Adult candidates will be seen separately.

PARENTS MEETING

The parents of the children who are candidates for Confirmation are asked to attend a meeting on Wednesday, 21st January at 7.30pm in the Guild Room, please.

SCRIPTURAL STUDIES

These will resume on Tuesday, 27th January at 7.00pm in the Guild Room.

QUIZ NIGHT

We are invited to a Quiz Night on Saturday, 31st January in Christ the King Church Hall, Harrowden Road, Bedford, at 7.30pm (arrive by 7.15pm). Tickets are £10, which includes Fish & Chips. There is also a limited bar (cash only), or bring your own drink. For tickets, contact Rachel Kirkham on 314093. See noticeboard for details.

BEDFORD FOODBANK

Toiletries of any description are now needed by the Bedford Foodbank. These can be left in the green bin in St Joseph's and the box at Our Lady's church.

LUX WEEKEND

LUX is our diocesan residential weekend for teens that happens in February every year. This year it's 13th to 15th Feb at the Kings Park Centre, Northampton, costing £110. It's for those in school years 7 – 13 and is a weekend packed with activity. Every year we explore a theme through workshops, dramas, music, worship, Mass, prayer times, games, inputs and time with friends. This year's theme is Belong. Visit: www.nymo.org/lux-belong-2026 or NYMO@northamptondiocese.com

HEALING & EVANGELISATION SERVICE

This will be led by Fr Xavier Khan Vattayil on Saturday, 24th January in Birmingham. A coach is arranged for this event from Kempston. To book seats, please contact Mary Frost on 07708 264054.

JOURNEY WITH JESUS THROUGH LENT

During Lent, the Pastoral Development Vicariate of the diocese is offering the opportunity for online small group sessions once a week for six weeks, beginning the week commencing 16th February. During each weekly session, facilitators will be using St Beuno's Outreach Prego resources, allowing you to pray and reflect on the scriptures for the coming Sunday. Within the session, there will be time for silent reflection and sharing what spoke to you from the scripture. Sessions will be available on various days and times. To find out more and to sign up to our introduction webinar on Tuesday, 17th January at 7.30pm, visit our diocesan website: www.northamptondiocese.org/Lenten-journey

LITURGY OF THE WORD

A series of online Zoom sessions offered by the diocese exploring the upcoming Lectionary readings and the seasons of the Liturgical Year. Next session is Wednesday, 14th January. Please register in advance to secure a place by emailing: deaconpeter.collins@northamptondiocese.org. Once your booking is received, you will be sent details of how to join the online Zoom session.

I AM SPECIAL

I am special. In all the world, there is nobody like me. There has never ever been another person like me. Nobody has my smile. Nobody has my voice.

I'm special.

In all of time, there has been no one who laughs like me. No one who cries like me. No one will ever look, talk, walk, or think like me. I'm special.

It is not by accident that I am special. God has made me special.

He has a job for me that no one else can do. All because I am special.

Father Thomas Merton

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

Offertory

St Joseph's £1677.20

Our Lady's £182.90

Thank you