

Our Parish Family:
Cherishing the Past,
Celebrating the Present,
Embracing the Future.



North
Bedford
CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

The North Bedford
Catholic Community of
Holy Cross Church and
Ss Philip and James Church

The month of July is dedicated to the Precious Blood/August to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

Seventeenth Week in Ordinary Time

Sunday Mass Cycle: Year C; Weekday: Year 1; Psalter 1

The live-stream from HC is at www.mcn.live

HC - Holy Cross; PJ/SsP&J - Ss Philip and James

Sat 26 Jul	Vigil of the Seventeenth Sunday
5:30pm HC	Vigil Mass: Dilys Willis, RIP
Sun 27 Jul	Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
9:00am HC	Mass: Clare Glendenning - healing
11:00am PJ	Mass: Patricia McManus, RIP - 1 st anniversary
Mon 28 Jul	Feria
	No liturgy
Tue 29 Jul	Ss Martha, Mary and Lazarus - Memorial
10:15am HC	Mass: Charlene, Carl, Charles, Maxima, Letizia, Mark, Cyril and families - intention
Wed 30 Jul	Feria
10:15am HC	Mass: Marie McCuskey - healing <i>followed by Eucharistic Adoration and the Sacrament of Reconciliation until 11:15am</i>
Thu 31 Jul	St Ignatius Loyola, Priest - Memorial
10:15am PJ	Mass: Kai, Akie, Anna, Monika, Tatyana, Lyubov, Nadezhsa, Nladimir and Fr Naill - healing
Fri 1 Aug	St Alphonsus Mary de Liguori, Bishop and Doctor - Memorial
10:15am HC	Mass: Anna, Donald, Sue & Monika -healing
Sat 2 Aug	Feria
10:15am PJ	Mass: Ivanka, Ali, Xi, Alexander, Vladimir, Prabowo and families - healing <i>followed by Eucharistic Adoration and the Sacrament of Reconciliation until 11:30am</i>
5:30pm HC	Vigil Mass: Missa pro Populo
Sun 3 Aug	Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
9:00am HC	Mass: Anne and Francis Simmonds, RIP
11:00am PJ	Mass: Colette Diamond, RIP

NB: We seek to open the Church **thirty** minutes before any Mass or liturgy

Responsorial Psalm:

On the day I called, you answered me, O Lord.

There will be **NO Children's Liturgies** at HC and SsP&J in August. Liturgies recommence on Sunday, 7th September.

Bishop's visit - Sacrament of Confirmation

Bishop David will visit our united community to celebrate the **Sacrament of Confirmation** for our children on Thursday, 11th September at 7:00pm in Ss&J.

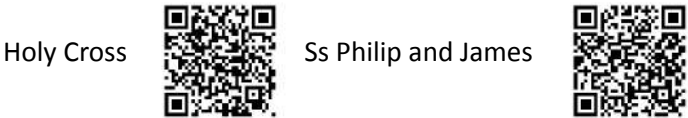
Parish Youth Ministry

Our united parishes will be starting a monthly **Youth Ministry** for 13-to-18 year-olds in September. Activities will include games, health talks, career guidance and spiritual exercises, plus refreshments! The first meeting is scheduled for **Friday, 12th September in Holy Cross Hall** from 6:30pm to 8:00pm. Register your interest with Sheila, HC Parish Secretary: Parish.HolyCross@northamptondiocese.org

A warm welcome to Fr Richard Onuoha, SMMM

We look forward to welcoming Fr Richard Onuoha, SMMM to our parishes. Fr Richard's first Sunday Masses in our parishes will be on the weekend 16th/17th August. Refreshments will be available and you may meet Fr Richard informally after the vigil Mass in Holy Cross and after the 11:00am Mass at Ss Philip and James.

By the miracle of modern information technology, we have these marvellous **QR-codes** which take you directly to the site where you may make donations in the same way as using the **DONA** machines in the narthexes of our churches. These **QR-codes** will be displayed in our narthexes too!



The **Bethlehem Nativity Group**, a missionary group from Bethlehem in the Holy Land, will visit us next weekend, 2nd/3rd August, to talk briefly about the Holy Land and sell religious articles made out of olive wood to help and support poor Christian families. Any help you could give to them it will be highly appreciated.

Diary for our community

28 th July - 1 st Aug	Pray and Play Summer Camp in HC
12 th August @ 7:00pm	Life in the Spirit in HC
11 th Sept @ 7:00pm	Confirmation in SsP&J

Eucharistic Adoration and the **Sacrament of Reconciliation** will be on Wednesdays in HC after Mass until 11:15am and every Saturday from 11:00 - 11:30am in SsP&J.

Our Parish Priest is Fr Alexander Ibe, SMMM: Presbytery, 2 Severn Way, Bedford MK41 7BX

Tel: (01234) 352607 Email: fralexander.ibe@northamptondiocese.org

HC: Holy Cross Church, 355 Goldington Road, Bedford MK41 0DP

SsP&J/PJ: St Philip and St James Church, 2 Severn Way, Bedford MK41 7BX

Newsletters are available through **CASPAR**, on our website. To receive the Newsletter electronically, please register with **CASPAR**, either by **QR code** or **hyperlink**, and tick the relevant box. (Holy Cross: www.caspar.church/me/?ID=55969

Deacon: Rev. Tony Quinlan: Tel: (01234) 950453; deacontony.quinlan@northamptondiocese.org (Ss Philip and James: www.caspar.church/me/?ID=55971

Deacon: Rev. Crispin Walkling-Lea: Tel: 07941 884645; deaconcrispin.walkinglea@northamptondiocese.org

Parish Safeguarding Representatives (PSR): HC; Shirley Whiterod 07955 670543 and SsP&J; Ann-Marie Blaney 07867 757598

Website: northbedfordcatholics.org.uk (Contact the Webmaster through the website) Facebook: **North Bedford Catholic Community**

Parish Secretary HC, Sheila Allen (Mondays and Thursdays: 9:00am - 12:00pm) Tel: (01234) 353116; parish.holycross@northamptondiocese.org

Parish Secretary Ss P&J, Mariateresa Quinlan (Tuesdays: 11:15am - 3:15pm) Tel: (01234) 353116; Parish.SsPhilipandJames@northamptondiocese.org

Items for the Newsletter to the editor, by the Sunday before publication. Tel: 07986 357 320; email: charlie.stallard@gmail.com



www.caspar.church/me/?ID=55969



www.caspar.church/me/?ID=55971



JOIN US TO CELEBRATE OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

The final day of our summer camp will be a fiesta themed celebration! All are welcome!

Mass, games, bouncy castle, face painting & performances by our summer camp children. Please bring a blanket & picnic lunch, hot & cold drinks will be provided

**FRIDAY
1ST
AUGUST**

**HOLY CROSS
CHURCH
9AM-3PM**

The online **Rosary Group** meets from 8:00am to 8:20am weekdays on Zoom. ID: 833 1504 6319 Password: Rosary

The **Rosary and Divine Mercy Group** meets in SsP&J each Monday at 1:45pm. Divine Chaplet, Rosary, cup of tea.

Holy Cross and Ss Philip and James Repositories

The Repositories are open before and after their respective Masses on Sundays.

Some changes in our Liturgical activities:

Starting from September, we plan to make adjustments to the times we celebrate weekday Masses. ***Weekend Masses will remain the same for the time being.*** We are asking for your input and suggestions.

- Weekday Masses will begin at **10:00am** from **Monday to Saturday**
- Lauds (morning prayer) will be said before Mass from **9:40am in Holy Cross Church on Tuesdays** after which Mass begins. After Mass, tea/coffee will be available in the hall.
- Lauds (morning prayer) will be said before Mass from **9:40am at Ss Philip and James on Thursdays** after which Mass begins. Again, after Mass, tea/coffee will be available in the hall.
- We plan to introduce evening Mass (targeting mainly working parishioners) at **7:00pm**.
- Vespers (evening prayer) will be said before Mass from **6:40pm on Thursdays** in **Holy Cross Church**.
- Vespers (evening prayer) will be said before Mass from **6:40pm on Fridays** in **Ss Philip and James Church**.

There will be a sheet in the Narthex. Please, let us know your opinion by ticking the box indicating whether you would like the evening Mass or not.

See previous newsletter for details of the followings:
National Pilgrimage of Reparation and Prayer for the Sanctity of Life at the **Catholic National Shrine of Our Lady in Walsingham** on Saturday, 2nd August.

Life in the Spirit meets monthly on the **second Tuesday of the month** at 7:00pm for prayer, scripture and reflection.

Youth 2000 Summer Festival 2025 in the grounds of Ampleforth College, Friday, 22nd to Monday, 25th August.
youth2000.org/events/summerfestival2025

World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, 1st Sept.

Canonisation of **Blessed Carlo Acutis** and **Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati**, on Sunday, 7th September.

Northampton Diocesan Pilgrimage to France - 2025

Paray-le-Monial • Cluny • Taizé

from Sunday, 19th - Friday, 24th October

<https://www.jcjourneys.com/northampton-burgundy>

Our united parishes are updating the statistics and data held with **CASPAR**. We ask all **Catholic Association and Religious Organisations** in our parishes to inform us, through either of our parishes secretaries, if your association(s) **do not** appear in the following list:

Guild of St. Stephen, SVP, Lay SSCC, KSC, Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem (KHS), The Catenians, Prego, Bedford Guardians of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Holy Cross Hub prayer group, Bedford OFS, Isaiah Journey, BIAPT, DHS Lay Associates, Cambridge Nazareth Trust and Catholic Union of Great Britain.

Hospital Chaplaincy

If you know of a parishioner who is in hospital and who would like a visit, or if you have been admitted and would like the Catholic Chaplain to visit, please contact **Deacon Tony** on 01234 950 453.

The Assisted Suicide Bill

On the 20th June, by a narrow margin, the House of Commons voted to approve the **Third Reading of the Terminally Ill (Adults) End of Life Bill** to open the door to euthanasia in the guise of medically-assisted suicide. The passage of this legislation would constitute one of the greatest changes to society in our history and a seismic shift from its Christian foundations. As this Private Member's Bill has now moved to the House of Lords, the level of concern expressed in the aftermath of the Commons vote regarding the safety of its provisions, lack of adequate scrutiny and even of time given to its debate together with the narrowness of its majority offers some hope that this legislation will be reassessed.

We thank all parishioners who took time to write and meet with their MPs. It will be important to remind everyone discouraged by these events that the fight against euthanasia is not over, despite the outcome of the vote on 20th June. We hope and pray the dangers of medically-assisted suicide will be quickly recognised and we cannot doubt our witness to the sanctity of human life, especially in the care of the sick and aged, is needed more than ever.



St Vincent's

Together, we can make a difference

Closed for the Summer break

Holy Cross Church, 355 Goldington Road
Bedford MK41 0DP