

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 September is dedicated to the Our Lady of Sorrows

Twenty-fifth 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	20 Sep	Vigil of the Twenty-fifth Sunday
5:30pm	HC	Vigil Mass: Patrick McVerry, RIP
Sun	21 Sep	Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
		Evangelii Gaudium Sunday
9:00am	HC	Mass: Anne and Gerry Maxwell, RIP
11:00am	PJ	Mass: Jude Ibe, RIP - 1 st anniversary
2:00pm	HC	Baptism: Rory Hern
		Celebrant: Fr Alex Ibe, SMMM
Mon	22 Sep	Feria
10:15am	PJ	Mass: Joe, Tom, Maye, Anton and Morliegh - intention
Tue	23 Sep	St Pius of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio), Priest - Memorial
10:15am	HC	Mass: Byrne family, RIP
Wed	24 Sep	Our Lady of Walsingham - Feast
10:15am	HC	Mass: Colette Diamond, RIP <i>followed by Eucharistic Adoration and the Sacrament of Reconciliation until 11:15am</i>
Thu	25 Sep	Feria
10:15am	PJ	Mass: Fr Wayne - healing
Fri	26 Sep	Feria
10:15am	HC	Mass: Bryan Loveday, RIP
Sat	27 Sep	St Vincent de Paul, Priest - Memorial
10:15am	PJ	Mass: <i>Missa pro populo</i> <i>followed by Eucharistic Adoration and the Sacrament of Reconciliation until 11:30am</i>
5:30pm	HC	Vigil Mass:
Sun	28 Sep	Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
		St Vincent de Paul (SVP) Appeal
9:00am	HC	Mass: Max's 13 th birthday intention
11:00am	PJ	Mass: Gary Ball, RIP

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

Responsorial Psalm:

Praise the Lord, who raises the poor.



Photo by Serge Teymaris on Unsplash

Candidates for 2026 Confirmation

Our joint parishes of Holy Cross and Ss Philip and James will start to enroll candidates for confirmation classes from this weekend 20th/21st September. As a supportive community, we grow in awareness of how much we are loved by God, explore our faith and different ways to pray, as well as enjoying each other's company. Young people will ordinarily be in **academic year 9 and above** at the commencement of the course. However, applications from young people of other ages will be considered. There are application forms available in the narthexes of both churches and also online at the **NBCC website**. They may be accessed via the **2026 Confirmation Programme** page under the tab **'Family & Youth Ministry'**. Please submit your application to the parish office at Holy Cross church, Goldington Road. For further information, you may contact the parish office or Deacon Crispin. The closing date for applications is Sunday, 12th October.

Evangelii Gaudium Sunday

This year we celebrate **Evangelii Gaudium** this Sunday, 21st September, a day dedicated to the domestic mission of the Catholic Church in England and Wales. Inspired by Pope Francis' *The Joy of the Gospel*, it reminds us that each of us is called to be a missionary disciple, sharing our faith with joy in our parishes, schools, and communities. The 2025 theme, *"I believe..."*, marks the 1,700th anniversary of the **Council of Nicaea**, where the Creed we profess each Sunday was first formulated. On this day, let us renew our commitment to living out that Creed, building our lives on its truth, and joyfully witnessing to the Gospel. The second collection supports mission offered by CBCEW.

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.

Diary for our community

4 th Oct @ 10:00am	Jubilee Pilgrimage to St Joseph's
	Details in the poster overleaf
5 th Oct @ 3:00pm	Youth Mass in Christ the King's
10 th Oct @ 6:30pm	Youth Group in Holy Cross

Our Parish Priest is Fr Alexander Ibe, SMMM

Email: fralexander.ibe@northamptondiocese.org

Our Assistant Priest is Fr Richard Onuoha, SMMM

Email: frrichard.onuoha@northamptondiocese.org

The Presbytery, 2 Severn Way, Bedford MK41 7BX Tel: (01234) 352607

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, and on our website. To receive our newsletter electronically, please register with CASPAR, either by QR code or by [hyperlink](#) →, and tick the relevant box.

(Holy Cross: www.caspar.church/me/?ID=55969

(Ss Philip and James: www.caspar.church/me/?ID=55971

Deacon: Rev. Tony Quinlan: Tel: (01234) 950453; deacontony.quinlan@northamptondiocese.org

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

Parish Safeguarding Representatives (PSR): HC; Shirley Whitehead 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/text: 07986 357 320; email: charlie.stallard@gmail.com



Come and join the Bedfordshire
Pastoral Area

Jubilee Pilgrimage

Walking to the Jubilee Holy
Door at the Holy Child and St
Joseph Church Bedford

This will lead you to a
Jubilee Indulgence



Saturday 4th October 2025

Choose from the following meeting points

8.45 am at Christ the King Church, Bedford

8.45 am at Holy Cross Church, Bedford

9.40 am at the "Faces" statue, Silver St, Bedford



10 am arrive Holy Child & Saint Joseph Church

10.20 Rosary

10.45 Holy Mass followed by:

Fatima devotions, confessions & adoration

Please pray for the repose of **Philip Raiswell, RIP**, whose funeral liturgy will be in Holy Cross church at 2:00pm this Monday, 22nd September.

Please pray also for the happy repose of the soul of **Fr Derek Laverty SS.CC., RIP**, whose memorial Mass will be in Christ the King church on Friday, 3rd October at 7:00pm.

Fr Derek was one of the parish priests at Holy Cross church between 1991-1997. **Fr Chris McAneny** and **Fr Fergal Maguire** will concelebrate.

And please pray for the repose of the soul of **Liam Walsh, RIP**, whose funeral liturgy will take place in Ss Philip and James church on Wednesday, 8th October at 1:30pm. May his gentle soul rest in peace, Amen.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Kathleen Teresa O'Brien, RIP**, whose funeral liturgy will take place in Holy Cross church on Wednesday, 15th October at 12:30pm.

Please pray also for the happy repose of the soul of **Jenny Walsh, RIP**, who died on Wednesday last week. We pray for God's consolation for the family and friends. May her gentle soul rest in peace, Amen.

Please pray for all who mourn or grieve at this time.

Holy Cross Parish office

Holy Cross parish office will be closed up to and including Monday, 29th September. During this period please contact Maria Quinlan, SS&J Parish Secretary.

You may make donations in the same way as if using the **DONA** machines in the narthexes of our churches.

Holy Cross



Ss Philip and James





YOUTH MASS!

Calling everyone
aged 11-25

Christ the King, Bedford
October | 05 | 2025 | 3pm

Join us for an incredible youth Mass this October with Bishop David! Come get involved in the Mass and meet with Jesus, along with other teens & young adults from the area. After Mass there will time to hang out & get to know the Bishop.

To find out more, contact us at:
NYMO.admin@northamptondiocese.com



Northampton Youth Ministry Office (NYMO) are excited to be holding a **Youth Mass and Social** on Sunday, 5th October at 3:00pm with Bishop David Oakley.

Come and join us at Christ the King church, where we will celebrate Mass and then spend some time together.

For information: holly.cook@northamptondiocese.org.

Catechist Formation – Bishop's Certificate in Catechesis

Do you feel called to share the gift of faith? The Bishop's Certificate in Catechesis (Level One) offers formation for new and experienced catechists through a blend of online and in-person sessions.

- Zoom dates: 14th, 21st October; 4th, 11th, 18th November
- In-person session: Saturday, 22nd November, in St Francis and St Therese RC Church, Northampton
- Cost: No fixed fee (donations welcome)

More details and registration available here:

<https://northamptondiocese.org/courses/bishops-certificate-autumn25/>

CAFOD Family Fast Day Appeal – Friday, 3rd October

This Family Fast Day, **CAFOD** invites us to stand in solidarity with families affected by climate change and conflict. In Ethiopia, with CAFOD's support, communities now have safe water close to home. Across the world, including in Gaza, Ukraine, and Sudan, CAFOD's partners bring food, water, shelter, and medical care to those most in need.

Please support this life-saving work through your prayers and generosity.

Donate at cafod.org.uk/envelope or call 0303 303 3030.

St Thomas More Catholic Secondary School Year Six Open Evening this Thursday, 25th September 6:00pm - 8:30pm

This event will be an exciting opportunity for you to visit the school and talk to students and staff. There will be much to see and do, including; a talk by the Headteacher, subject and enrichment opportunities, and tours of the school led by our students. The Headteacher presentations are at 6:00pm and 7:00pm.