

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 October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary

Twenty-Seventh Week in Ordinary Time

Sunday Mass Cycle: Year C ; Weekday: Year 1; Psalter 3
The live-stream from HC is at www.mcn.live
HC - Holy Cross; PJ/SsP&J - Ss Philip and James

Sat	4 Oct	Vigil of the Twenty-Seventh Sunday
5:30pm	HC	Vigil Mass: Renato Thomas, RIP
Sun	5 Oct	Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
		Catholic Education Service
9:00am	HC	Mass: <i>Missa pro populo</i>
11:00am	PJ	Mass: Alice Greenfield, RIP - Anniversary
Mon	6 Oct	Feria
10:15am	PJ	Mass: Darren Francis, RIP
Tue	7 Oct	Our Lady of the Rosary - Memorial
10:15am	HC	Mass: All deceased members of the Wells, Keenan and Cook families
Wed	8 Oct	Feria
10:15am	HC	Mass: Jenny Walsh, RIP <i>followed by Eucharistic Adoration and the Sacrament of Reconciliation until 11:15am</i>
Thu	9 Oct	St John Henry Newman, Priest - Feast
10:15am	PJ	Mass: Br John Mayhead Silver Jubilee of Ordination
Fri	10 Oct	Feria
10:15am	HC	Mass: Margaret Wells - thanksgiving
Sat	11 Oct	Memorial of Our Blessed Lady
10:15am	PJ	Mass: Charles, Joe, Mary, Anna, Kai and Vital - healing <i>followed by Eucharistic Adoration and the Sacrament of Reconciliation until 11:30am</i>
5:30pm	HC	Vigil Mass: Kathleen Passmore, RIP - first anniversary (SVP)
Sun	12 Oct	Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
		CAFOD Family Fast Day
9:00am	HC	Mass: Private intention
11:00am	PJ	Mass: <i>Missa pro populo</i>
NB: We seek to open the Church thirty minutes before any Mass or liturgy		

Responsorial Psalm:

O that today you would listen to his voice!
"Harden not your hearts."



Photo by Serge Teymaris on Unsplash

Candidates for 2026 Confirmation

Our joint parishes of Holy Cross and Ss Philip and James have started to enroll candidates for confirmation classes. Young people should ordinarily be in **academic year 9 and above** at the commencement of the course.

Application forms are available in the narthexes of both churches and online at the **NBCC website** via the **2026 Confirmation Programme** page under the tab **'Family & Youth Ministry'**. Please submit your application to the parish office at Holy Cross. The closing date is next Sunday, 12th October. Please contact Deacon Crispin if you have any questions.

There will be a retiring collection for the **Catholic Education Service** this weekend and for the **CAFOD Family Fast Day** next weekend, 11th/12th October.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Liam Walsh, RIP**, whose funeral liturgy will take place in Ss Philip and James church this Wednesday, 8th October at 1:30pm.

Please pray also 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.

And please pray for the repose of the soul of **Bridget Zielinski, RIP**, whose funeral liturgy takes place in Holy Cross church on Thursday, 16th October at 10:30am.

And also pray for the happy repose of the soul of **Jenny Walsh, RIP**. There will be a vigil service at 4:00pm on Sunday and her funeral liturgy will be on Monday, 20th October at 11:30am, all in Ss Philip and James church.

Eucharistic Adoration and the **Sacrament of Reconciliation** is on Wednesdays in HC after Mass until 11:15am and on the Saturday in SsP&J after Mass until 11:30am.

Diary for our community

5th Oct @ 3:00pm
10th Oct @ 6:30pm
14th Oct @ 6:00pm
7:00pm
18th Oct @ 10:00am

Youth Mass in Christ the King
Youth Group in Holy Cross
Gospel choir followed by:
Living Water prayer group in HC
EMoHC Retreat at SsP&J

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.

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

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

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

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

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/text: 07986 357 320; email: charlie.stallard@gmail.com





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



NYMO

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH OF NORTHAMPTON

NBCC NEW YOUTH GROUP!

Who is it for? Those aged 13 to 18

What will we be doing? Games, activities, guest speakers, discussion, prayer and more, plus food!



When is it? Friday, 10th October 6:30pm to 8pm

Where is it? Holy Cross Church Hall

Come along and have some fun!

Sign up using the QR code:



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 and 18th November

In-person dates: Saturday, 22nd November, in St Francis and St Therese RC Church, Northampton

Cost: No fixed fee (but donations are always welcome)

More details and registration available here:

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

CAFOD Family Fast Day

Retiring collection will be next weekend 10th/11th 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.

You may donate at: cafod.org.uk/envelope or by telephone: 0303 303 3030.



Food Bank. Items we need are: Long Life Fruit Juice, Long Life Sponge Pudding, Tinned Meat, Tinned Tuna, Jars of Coffee, Bars of Chocolate, and Biscuits. Collecting boxes in each parish and at SsP&J these boxes are in the parish room.



St Vincent's

Together, we can make a difference

1:00pm to 3:30pm every Tuesday

Holy Cross Church, 355 Goldington Road
 Bedford MK41 0DP



October, the Month of the Rosary

During October, ***dedicated to the Holy Rosary***, Pope Leo has called on Catholics around the world to pray the Rosary daily for peace.

We are encouraged to join our collective praying of the Rosaries before Mass on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 9:45am in HC and SsP&J.

The Pope's Prayer Intention

For collaboration between different religious traditions

Let us pray that believers of different religious traditions may work together to defend and promote peace, justice, and human fraternity.

Saint John Henry Newman

Pope Leo has announced that he will declare ***Saint John Henry Newman*** a Doctor of the Church on Saturday, 1st November.

Our ***Extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion (EMoHC)*** are having a retreat on **Saturday, 18th October** in Ss Philip and James church. The retreat opens with 10:15 Mass. After Mass is Exposition, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and a brief talk. The retreat concludes with Benediction.

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 Sunday Mass.

Collections for our joint parishes in September

Holy Cross:	£1911.76	Open plate and envelopes
Ss P&J:	£1106.50	Open plate and envelopes

These figures do not include standing orders nor donations made through the Dona machines in the narthexes or by the QR codes.