

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-Ninth 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	18 Oct	Vigil of the Twenty-Ninth Sunday
5:30pm	HC	Vigil Mass: Celia Chan, RIP
Sun	19 Oct	Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time
		World Mission Sunday - Missio
9:00am	HC	Mass: Missa pro populo
11:00am	PJ	Mass: Hikmat Tabchi, RIP
Mon	20 Oct	Feria
10:15am	PJ	Mass: Joe and Charles - intention
Tue	21 Oct	Feria
10:15am	HC	Mass: Les Leach - healing (from SVP)
Wed	22 Oct	St John Paul II, Pope - Memorial
10:15am	HC	Mass: Teresa Clark, RIP <i>followed by Eucharistic Adoration and the Sacrament of Reconciliation until 11:15am</i>
Thu	23 Oct	Feria
10:15am	PJ	Mass: Josephine Hodgkiss - healing
Fri	24 Oct	St Antony Mary Claret, Bishop - Memorial
10:15am	HC	Mass: Alma Davis, RIP
Sat	25 Oct	Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary
10:15am	PJ	Mass: Mary and Ken May - healing <i>followed by Eucharistic Adoration and the Sacrament of Reconciliation until 11:30am</i>
5:30pm	HC	Vigil Mass: Peter Willis, RIP
Sun	26 Oct	Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
		Prisoners' Sunday
9:00am	HC	Mass: Bryan Loveday, RIP
11:00am	PJ	Mass: Missa pro populo

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

Responsorial Psalm:

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.

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.



Candidates enrolled for First Holy Communion

We ask parishioners to consider being **Prayer Sponsors** this year. This entails a promise to pray for named candidates throughout the programme. Please email **Clare Connolly** at catechist.holycross@northamptondiocese.org if you are able to fulfill this very important ministry.

We also ask more parishioners to volunteer to train as **catechists** who will go on to help teach and support our children as they prepare to receive Christ in the Blessed Sacrament. The parish will cover the cost of the catechist training courses.

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

Changes in our Liturgical activities:

Please note, the new weekday Mass times take effect from Monday, 3rd of November (All Souls Day). Mass will start at **10:00am in SsP&J**. Our weekday Mass times November will begin at 10:00am. Newsletter, 14th September for details.

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 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



ALL SAINTS DAY!

Lets celebrate the light!

Holy Cross Church

Party: 3pm

Mass: 5:30pm

Saturday 1st November 2025

Bring a
Christian carved
pumpkin

Dress up as
your favourite
Saint

Food, music, crafts, games and more!

Limited spaces!

FREE!

ALL
AGES!

please sign up by emailing Clare on

catechist.holycross@northamptondiocese.org



World Mission Sunday, *Missio*

This Sunday, 19th October, the Holy Father invites us to join the global *Missio* family in supporting **World Mission Sunday**, the Church's annual celebration of mission.

On this special day, Pope Leo asks people in every Catholic parish around the world to support *Missio* — his charity for world mission. We stand united in prayer and solidarity with our sisters and brothers in need, as together we strive to make God's love more visible in the world.

In this Jubilee Year, Pope Leo reminds us that we are called to be "*Missionaries of Hope Among All Peoples*" — witnesses of Christ's love and resurrection in our parishes and communities, and in solidarity with those in greatest need. Read Pope Leo's message for the day here: <https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/messages/missio/documents/20251013-giornata-missionaria.html>

Altar Servers Training

All altar servers are encouraged to attend, with a parent/guardian, the training session in **SsP&J at 12:00pm this coming Saturday, 25th October**. Please try to attend.

A Ladies' Breakfast - Please join us where we will be raising funds for the **SVP - Camino Walk**. There will be a talk with demonstrations from ethical skin brand **Tropic** on Saturday, 8th November in HC Parish Room, 9:30 to 11:30am. Tickets, £5 including breakfast. Krystyna Sykes: 07814 861 843.

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



Prisoners' Sunday, 26th October

Prisoners' Sunday invites us to reflect on how we, as Church and community, support those affected by imprisonment. With record numbers in our overcrowded prisons, many face violence, isolation, and despair; others leave with no home, work, or hope. Families, too, serve a hidden sentence, often struggling to afford basic needs. By marking **Prisoners' Sunday**, we stand with prisoners and their loved ones, helping them find dignity, renewal, and the chance of a fresh start.

Rosary Procession - Sunday 26th October

To mark the end of the month in honour of our blessed Lady, there will be Rosary Processions after 9:00am Mass at Holy Cross and 11:00am Mass at Ss Philip and James. We will need volunteers to carry the statue of our blessed Lady and also individuals from both churches to lead the five Glorious Mysteries. Please talk to any of the clergy if you would like to volunteer or email the secretary at parish.holycross@northamptondiocese.org. The rosary procession ends in front of the grotto of our Lady.

November List of the Dead

Throughout the month of November, prayers and Masses are being offered for the happy repose of our departed loved ones. If you would like the names of your departed loved ones remembered and prayed for on All Souls Day and throughout the month of November, please collect an envelope provided in the narthex for this purpose or email their names to Maria:

Parish.SsPhilipandJames@northamptondiocese.org

Names of the departed will be placed before the Altar in each church. Masses will be offered for their happy repose.

Holy Masses for All Saints' and All Souls' Days

All Saints' Day

Vigil (Saturday, 1st November)

Mass: 5:30pm HC

Sunday, 2nd November

Mass: 9:00am HC

Mass: 11:00am Ss P&J

Monday, 3rd November

Mass: 1:30pm in St John Rigby School (**All Saints' Mass**)

All Souls' Day - Monday 3rd November

Mass: **10:00** SsP&J (*please note the new, earlier time*)

Mass: 7:00pm HC

The Annual Shoebox Appeal



Operation Christmas Child UK or **the Shoebox Appeal** started last week. There are leaflets available explaining what you can and cannot put in the boxes.

Remember, your shoebox, filled with presents for a child in a second/third world country, may well be the only gift they receive this Christmas. You may donate a box online for £25 if you Google '**Operation Christmas Child UK**'. Boxes must be returned to the church by 8th/9th November at the latest.

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

