



The month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary/November to The Holy Souls

Thirtieth Week in Ordinary Time

Sunday Mass Cycle: Year C ; Weekday: Year 1; Psalter 2

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

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

Sat	25 Oct	Vigil of the Thirtieth Sunday
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: <i>Missa pro populo</i>
Mon	27 Oct	Feria
10:15am	PJ	Mass: Hikmat Tabchi, RIP
Tue	28 Oct	Ss Simon and Jude, Apostles - Feast
10:15am	HC	Mass: Deceased members of SVP
Wed	29 Oct	Feria
10:15am	HC	Mass: Christopher David Canny, RIP 8 th Anniv <i>followed by Eucharistic Adoration and the Sacrament of Reconciliation until 11:15am</i>
Thu	30 Oct	Feria
10:15am	PJ	Mass: Prayers for Slawek family and friends
Fri	31 Oct	Feria
10:15am	HC	<i>Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion</i>
Sat	1 Nov	Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary
10:15am	PJ	Mass: Liam Walsh, RIP <i>followed by Eucharistic Adoration and the Sacrament of Reconciliation until 11:30am</i>
5:30pm	HC	Vigil Mass: <i>Missa pro populo</i>
Sun	2 Nov	All Saints - Solemnity
		Sick and Retired Priests' Fund
9:00am	HC	Mass: Maria Beasley-Suffolk, healing
11:00am	PJ	Mass: Brewer and Donnelly families, RIP

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

Responsorial Psalm:

The lowly one called, and the Lord heard him.

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.

Friday, 31st October is a **Clergy Induction Day**.

There will be no Mass this Friday.

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 on:

Parish.SsPhilipandJames@northamptondiocese.org

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

Changes in our Liturgical activities

From November, our weekday Masses will be as follows:

- Weekday morning Masses will begin at 10:00am from Monday to Saturday
Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays in HC
Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays in SsP&J
 - Lauds (morning prayer) will be said before Mass from 9:40am in HC on Tuesdays
 - Lauds (morning prayer) will be said before Mass from 9:40am in SsP&J on Thursdays.
 - Evening Mass will begin at 7:00pm on Thursdays in HC
 - Evening Mass will begin at 7:00pm on Fridays in SsP&J
- We remain grateful for your efforts and commitments.

God bless you!

From November, we will be including the Mass times in **St Thomas More School** in our liturgical calendar to encourage family participation. Mass will be celebrated on Thursdays, during term-time, at 8:20am in the school chapel.

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

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

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

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

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



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



All spaces are now booked!
We look forward to celebrating!

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 meet 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.

With thanks

Thank you to all parishioners who supported **Fr Richard** with donations and gifts for his winter wardrobe. It will help greatly towards his settling-in. He will buy himself the necessary outfits and get prepared for the winter months.

Our **Repositories** are open before and after Sunday Mass.

Communion in the pew:

Any parishioner with **mobility problems** may request communion be brought to them in their pew.

Please notify one of the **'Welcomers'** upon arrival at Mass.

Looking for a Primary School Place?

St John Rigby Catholic Primary School (CPS) is a happy, thriving school. Rated 'Good' by Ofsted.

Set in spacious grounds, St John Rigby CPS is more than just a place for learning! We are a school community where everyone is valued, excellence in learning is achieved and pupils are inspired to develop and grow in service to others. Call us on 01234 401900 to arrange a tour of the school or book onto our Open Morning - Saturday, 15th November at 9:30am - 12:30pm. We look forward to welcoming you to our St John Rigby family! See: www.stjohnrigby.org

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.

SMART - Trustees

SMART, who run the **Prebend Street Day Centre**, are looking for people who may be interested in becoming trustees of the charity. No experience is necessary, as training will be given. We are keen to receive applications from anyone with a finance or HR background. Go to smartcjs.org.uk for further details.

There have now been over **ten-and-a-half-million abortions** in Great Britain since the Abortion Act was passed 58 years ago on 27th October 1967. On this terrible anniversary please pray and fast for the end of abortion in this country. This Monday, 27th October, please go to Mass, say an extra Rosary and give up some food for the day.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/2088827391922348/>

The Annual Shoebox Appeal



Operation Christmas Child UK or **the Shoebox Appeal** is well in hand.

There are leaflets in the narthex available explaining what you can and cannot put in the boxes.

Boxes must be returned to the church by 8th/9th November.

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 parishioners to volunteer to train as **catechists** who will then 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.

Sunday Mass Count 2025

Thanks to our parishioners for their commitment to church activities and for fulfilling the **Sunday Mass Obligation** every weekend. The attendance figures conducted for the four Sundays ending, 12th October are as follows:

HC Sat, 20th Sept 5.30pm - 169 HC Sun, 21st Sept 9am - 149

SsP&J Sun 21st Sept 11 am - 121 **Total = 439**

HC Sat, 27th Sept 5.30pm - 84 HC Sun, 28th Sept 9am - 164

SsP&J Sun, 28th Sept 11:00am - 156 **Total = 404**

HC Sat, 4th Oct 5.30pm - 103 HC Sun, 5th Oct 9am - 149

SsP&J Sun, 5th Oct 11:00am - 179 **Total = 431**

HC Sat, 11th Oct 5:30pm - 124 HC Sun, 12th Oct 9am - 173

SsP&J Sun, 12th Oct 11:00am - 156 **Total = 453**

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

