



The month of January is dedicated to the Holy Name of Jesus

2026

First Week in Ordinary Time

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

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

HC - Holy Cross; PJ/SsP&J - Ss Philip and James; STM - St Thomas More

Sat 10 Jan **Vigil of the Sunday after the Nativity**
5:30pm HC **Vigil Mass:** Martin and Kay Monaghan, RIP
- first anniversary

Sun 11 Jan **The Baptism of the Lord**
9:00am HC **Mass:** *Missa pro populo*
11:00am PJ **Mass:** Michael Toner, RIP

The Season of Christmas ends

The First Week in Ordinary Time

Mon 12 Jan **Feria**
10:00am PJ **Mass:** Carmel Jackson, RIP
Tue 13 Jan **Feria**
9:40am HC **Lauds** (Morning Prayer)
10:00am HC **Mass:** Robert Meehan, RIP
Wed 14 Jan **Feria**
10:00am HC Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion
followed by Eucharistic Adoration to 11:00am

Thu 15 Jan **Feria**
8:20am STM **Mass:** All staff and students
9:40am PJ **Lauds** (Morning Prayer)
10:00am PJ **Mass:** Fr Wayne Coughlin - healing

Fri 16 Jan **Feria**
10:00am HC **Mass:** Hikmat Tabchi, RIP
7:00pm PJ **Mass:** Elizabeth McGovern, RIP

Sat 17 Jan **St Antony of Egypt, Bishop - Memorial**
10:00am PJ **Mass:** Elena Fulco, RIP
*followed by Eucharistic Adoration and the
Sacrament of Reconciliation until 11:15am*
5:30pm HC **Vigil Mass:** Mandy Pearce, RIP

Sun 18 Jan **Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**
9:00am HC **Mass:** Jozef Pluta, RIP
11:00am PJ **Mass:** *Missa pro populo*

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

Responsorial Psalm:

The Lord will bless his people with peace.

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.

We remind parents about the **Children's Liturgy of the Word**, celebrated on Sundays at the **9:00am Mass** and at the **11:00am Mass**, and continues during term-time. The sessions use prayer, story, discussion and activities to enable the children to hear and understand what the readings and the gospel are saying to them.

All children aged 3 years-plus, are welcome.

Mass Intentions

Maria Quinlan, parish secretary SsP&J, is responsible for coordinating the Mass intentions that are applied to Masses and shown on the liturgical calendar. She informs your editor that there are many spaces available for February and March this year. Intentions need not be for deceased relatives only; they may be for joyous occasions too.

Contact Maria and ask for a date (details below).

Flower arrangers at Ss Philip and James

You will have seen, through the year, the wonderful displays of flowers that our teams of arrangers put together. As time goes on, however, the numbers are dwindling and the flower arrangers are in need of fresh talent. Training is available, of course, and your church is looking for people to join the team.

Please contact Maureen Brewer on 07749 251 625 and release your inner **florist** or **ikebana**.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Jane Fitzgerald, RIP** (sister of Peter Gerrish), who passed away recently. Funeral arrangements are to be confirmed.

Please pray also for the repose of the soul of **Giuseppe Belle, RIP**, whose funeral liturgy will be held in Holy Cross church on Thursday, 5th February at 11:00am.

Eucharistic Adoration is on Wednesdays in HC after **Liturgy** until 11:00am, and on the Saturdays in SsP&J after **Mass** followed by the **Sacrament of Reconciliation** until 11:15am.

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





WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY JANUARY 2026

- Sunday 18th 6.00pm St Andrew's Church**
KIMBOLTON ROAD, BEDFORD MK40 2PF
- Monday 19th 9.00am St Paul's Church**
ST PAUL'S SQUARE, BEDFORD MK40 1SQ
Also on zoom: Meeting ID 98213650148 Password 3GQ8s7
- Tuesday 20th 11.30am St Martin's Church**
CLAPHAM ROAD, BEDFORD MK41 7PW
- Wednesday 21st 1.30pm Bunyan Meeting**
MILL ST, BEDFORD MK40 3EU
- Thursday 22nd 1.00pm Bedford Quakers (Friends Meeting House)**
to 1.30pm
5 LANSLOWNE ROAD, BEDFORD MK40 2BY
You are welcome to bring lunch to eat together afterwards
- Saturday 24th 2.30pm Holy Child and St Joseph**
2 BRERETON ROAD, BEDFORD MK40 1HU
- Sunday 25th 7.00pm Sacred Heart Of Jesus and St Cuthbert Church (Polish Church)**
MILL ST, BEDFORD MK40 3EU



JOIN US FOR A

QUIZ NIGHT

SATURDAY JANUARY
31

Starting at
7:30pm
arrive by
7:15pm

Christ the King
Church Hall
Harrolden Road
Bedford
MK42 0SP

Tickets are £10 which includes

FISH & CHIPS



**Limited Bar (Cash only)
or bring your own
- Raffle -**



Teams of up to 8 people. These can be organised on the night; you don't have to come in a ready-made team.

All monies raised are for
Church hall roof repairs

For tickets contact
Rachel Kirkham
01234 314093

Journey with Jesus through Lent

During Lent, the Pastoral Development Vicariate is offering the opportunity for online small group sessions once a week for six weeks beginning **Monday, 16th February**.

During each weekly small group session, facilitators will be using **St Beuno's Outreach Prego resources**, allowing you to pray and reflect on Scripture for the coming Sunday. Within the session, there will also be time for silent reflection and sharing what spoke to you from Scripture.

Sessions will be available on various days and times.

To find out more and to sign-up to our introductory webinar on **Tuesday, 27th January at 7:30pm**, visit the diocesan website: northamptondiocese.org/lenten-journey/

LUX Youth Residential Weekend from 13th- 15th February in Northampton. For info or to book:
nymo.org/lux-belong-2026/ or email:
NYMO@northamptondiocese.com



Bible Alive

New Year, New Resolution? Just ten minutes a day reflecting on the scriptures is a great way to develop your understanding of the faith and can be a really positive way to start your day. **Bible Alive**, a subscription magazine or app, gives a commentary on the day's gospel-reading relating it to everyday life. A few free copies for January and February are still available in the narthex of each church.



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



Holy Days of Obligation 2026

Every Sunday

Epiphany - Tuesday, 6th January

Ascension Day - Thursday, 14th May

Corpus Christi - Sunday, 7th June (transferred since 2006)

Ss Peter and Paul - Sunday 28th June (transferred)

Assumption of the BVM - Sunday, 16th August (transferred)

All Saints - Sunday, 1st November

Nativity of the Lord - Friday, 25th December

Retiring collections held during 2025

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|--------------------------|----------------------------|----------|
| Diocesan Bishops fund | 18 th May | £ 353.42 |
| Communication Sunday | 1 st June | £ 286.82 |
| Day for Life | 15 th June | £ 224.48 |
| Peter's Pence | 29 th June | £ 368.63 |
| Mary's Meals | 6 th July | £ 260.82 |
| Stella Maris | 13 th July | £ 446.38 |
| Evangelii Gaudi | 21 st September | £ 279.25 |
| SVP Annual Appeal | 28 th September | £1512.85 |
| Education Sunday | 5 th October | £ 375.85 |
| CAFOD | 12 th October | £ 946.74 |
| Missio | 19 th October | £ 324.35 |
| PACT - Prisoners' Sunday | 26 th October | £ 116.70 |
| Sick and Retired Clergy | 2 nd November | £ 428.89 |
| SMMM Seminarians | 16 th November | £ 919.55 |
| Catholic Youth Services | 23 rd November | £ 167.61 |

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

