



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: <i>Missa pro populo</i>
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 <i>followed by Eucharistic Adoration to 11:00am</i>
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 <i>followed by Eucharistic Adoration and the Sacrament of Reconciliation until 11:15am</i>
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: <i>Missa pro populo</i>

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. (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; deacontroy.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





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 to 1.30pm **Bedford Quakers (Friends Meeting House)**

5 LANSDOWNE 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

churches Together
IN BRITAIN AND IRELAND

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

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



JOIN US FOR A

QUIZ NIGHT

SATURDAY JANUARY 31

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

Christ the King
Church Hall
Harrowden 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

