



## Sixth Week in Lent

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

The live-stream from HC is at [www.mcn.live](http://www.mcn.live)

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

Sat 28 Mar	<b>Vigil of Palm Sunday</b>
5:30pm HC	<b>Vigil Mass:</b> Peter and Mary McNulty, RIP
Sun 29 Mar	<b>Palm Sunday</b>
9:00am HC	<b>Mass:</b> Angela Howe, RIP
11:00am PJ	<b>Mass:</b> <i>Missa pro populo</i>
1:00pm PJ	<b>Baptism:</b> Ava Elizabeth Priest <b>Celebrant:</b> Deacon Crispin Walkling-Lea
Mon 30 Mar	<b>Monday of Holy Week</b>
10:00am PJ	<b>Mass:</b> Colette Diamond, RIP
Tue 31 Mar	<b>Tuesday of Holy Week</b>
9:40am HC	<b>Lauds</b> (Morning Prayer)
10:00am HC	<b>Mass:</b> Derek Storey, RIP
Wed 1 Apr	<b>Spy Wednesday of Holy Week</b>
12:00pm	<b>Chrism Mass at the Cathedral</b>
	<b>Easter Triduum</b>
Thu 2 Apr	<b>Maundy Thursday</b>
9:40am PJ	<b>Lauds</b> (Morning Prayer)
7:30pm HC	<b>Mass</b> <i>followed by The Watch until midnight concludes with Night Prayer (Compline)</i>
Fri 3 Apr	<b>Good Friday</b>
11:00am HC	<b>Family Stations of the Cross</b>
3:00pm HC	<b>The Passion of the Lord</b> (Solemn Liturgy)
3:00pm PJ	<b>The Passion of the Lord</b> (Solemn Liturgy) <b>Retiring collection:</b> <i>Holy Places of Palestine</i>
7:00pm PJ	<b>Stations of the Cross</b> <i>Good Friday is a day of Fasting, and Abstinence from eating meat</i>
Sat 4 Apr	<b>Holy Saturday</b>
10:30am PJ	<b>Lauds</b> (Morning Prayer) <i>followed by the Sacrament of Confession</i>
7:00pm HC	<b>Easter Vigil</b>
8:30pm PJ	<b>Easter Vigil</b>
Sun 5 Apr	<b>Easter Sunday</b>
9:00am HC	<b>Mass:</b> <i>Missa pro populo</i>
11:00am PJ	<b>Mass:</b> Barbara Dainton, RIP

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

## Chrism Mass at Northampton Cathedral

The diocese will celebrate the Chrism Mass this **Spy Wednesday of Holy Week** at midday. Parishioners are encouraged to attend. If you need a lift, or if you are able to offer a lift, please contact Sheila at the HC parish office.

## Maundy Thursday - Washing of the feet

On **Holy Thursday**, we have the traditional washing of the feet of twelve parishioners, commemorating Jesus' washing the feet of his disciples during the Last Supper, a ritual symbolizing humility and service. If you wish to be among the twelve, please email your name to the parish secretaries or put your name on the lists in the narthexes.

You are also reminded that on **Maundy Thursday**, there will be the annual **Recommissioning of Extraordinary Ministers of the Holy Eucharist**. Ask for a renewed mind and strength as you continue your service in this ministry and attend the **Maundy Thursday** service for this important liturgy.

## Easter Celebrations

### Holy Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> April

10:30am PJ	Morning Prayer (Lauds)
7:00pm HC	Easter Vigil in the Holy Night
8:30pm PJ	Easter Vigil in the Holy Night

### Easter Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> April

9:00am HC	Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord
11:00am PJ	Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord

## Easter Offering Envelopes

There are envelopes in each narthex marked **Easter Offering Envelopes**. This is our gift to our parish priests

## Holy Cross and Ss Philip and James Repositories

The Repositories are open before and after Sunday Mass.

Please continue to pray for the repose of the soul of **Joy Matheiken, RIP**, who died peacefully on Friday last week. His funeral Mass will be announced later. We also pray for God's consolation to the family members.

**May His gentle soul rest in peace, Amen.**

**The Sacrament of Reconciliation ONLY** is on Saturday in **Ss Philip and James**, after **Lauds**, until 11:30am.

## Responsorial Psalm:

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Our Parish Priest is Fr Alexander Ibe, SMMM

Email: [fralexander.ibe@northamptondiocese.org](mailto:fralexander.ibe@northamptondiocese.org)

Our Assistant Priest is Fr Richard Onuoha, SMMM

Email: [frrichard.onuoha@northamptondiocese.org](mailto: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](http://www.caspar.church/me/?ID=55969)

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

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

Deacon: Rev. Crispin Walkling-Lea: Tel: 07941 884645; [deaconcrispin.walkinglea@northamptondiocese.org](mailto: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](http://northbedfordcatholics.org.uk) (Contact the Webmaster through the website)

Facebook: [North Bedford Catholic Community](https://www.facebook.com/northbedfordcatholiccommunity)

Parish Secretary HC, Sheila Allen (Monday and Thursday: 9:00am - 12:00pm) Tel: (01234) 353116; [parish.holycross@northamptondiocese.org](mailto:parish.holycross@northamptondiocese.org)

Parish Secretary Ss P&J, Mariateresa Quinlan (Tuesdays: 11.15am - 3:15pm) Tel: (01234) 353116; [Parish.SsPhilipandJames@northamptondiocese.org](mailto: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](mailto:charlie.stallard@gmail.com)



## Family Stations of the Cross

**Friday 3rd April 2026**  
**11am – Good Friday**

The stations of the cross will be outside  
weather dependant

Refreshments after in the parish room  
Arts and crafts for the youth

**Holy Cross**  
**11am**

**North Bedford**  
CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

Sponsored  
**Spiritual Triathlon**

The spiritual triathlon is back, so lets get ready to **listen, walk and pray** with the Lord, whilst building our united communities. Funds raised go towards programmes within our parish ministry.

Date : 16th May 2026  
Start time : 9:30am  
At : SS Philip & James

Please bring a labelled packed lunch. Drinks and cakes will be provided after the event.

Sign up information - the sign up sheet and sponsor forms are in the narthex of both churches. Please sign up by 05th April 2026. Any questions please contact Clare, Catechist.HolyCross@northamptondiocese.org

St Philip & St James RC Church  
Holy Cross RC Church

**OVERALL TARGET - £600 -**  
Every pound plays a part  
Thank you for your support!

ALL WELCOME TO JOIN - UNDER 16'S PARTICIPATING MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT AT ALL TIMES.

**North Bedford**  
CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

## CELEBRATION OF PENTECOST

We are looking for people to share their talents and perform at our Pentecost celebration. You can showcase your culture through music, dance, poetry and many more ways. Please contact Clare via email [catechist.holycross@northamptondiocese.org](mailto:catechist.holycross@northamptondiocese.org) by 26th April. Details of the event are below, there will be a full rehearsal on Saturday 16th May at 2.30pm at Holy Cross parish hall.

**SUNDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2026**  
**1PM**  
**HOLY CROSS PARISH HALL**  
**355 GOLDINGTON ROAD, BEDFORD, MK41 0DP**

### Bedfordshire Pastoral Area Triduum Mass times

	Maundy Thursday	Good Friday	Easter Vigil	Easter Day
<b>Holy Cross, Bedford</b>	7.30pm followed by The Watch until midnight	Family stations of the Cross – 11.00am Liturgy – 3.00pm	7.00pm	9.00am
<b>St Philip &amp; St James, Bedford</b>		Liturgy – 3.00pm Stations of the Cross – 7.00pm	8.30pm	11.00am
<b>Christ the King, Bedford</b>	7.30pm followed by The Watch until 9.30pm	Children's Stations of the Cross – 10.00am Liturgy – 3.00pm	7.30pm	Holy Mass (Latin) – 8.30am Holy Mass – 10.30am Holy Mass in Lithuanian – 3.00pm Syro-Malabar Mass – 5.00pm
<b>The Holy Child &amp; St Joseph's, Bedford</b>	8.00pm	Stations of the Cross – 10.30am and 7.30pm Liturgy – 3.00pm	8.30pm	8.15am 9.30am 11.00am 6.30pm
<b>Our Lady of Ransome, Kempston</b>	8.00pm	Liturgy – 3.00pm Stations of the Cross – 7.30pm		9.30am
<b>Sacred Heart, Flitwick</b>	Morning Prayers (Lauds) - 9.00 am. Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper - 8.00 pm. Eucharistic Adoration till 10.00 pm	Morning Prayers (Lauds) - 9.00 am. Walk of Witness in Amphilil - 10.00 am. Stations of the Cross - 2.15 pm. Good Friday service - 3.00 pm followed by Divine Mercy	Morning Prayers (Lauds) - 9.00 am followed by Divine Mercy Vigil Mass - 8.30 pm.	9.00am 11.00am
<b>St Peter's, Biggleswade</b>	8.00pm	3.00pm	8.30pm	11.00am
<b>Sacred Heart, Leighton Buzzard</b>	7.00pm	3.00pm	8.00pm	9.00am 11.00am
<b>St Francis of Assisi, Shefford</b>	8.00pm	3.00pm	8.30pm	English Mass – 9.00am & 10.30am Telugu Mass – 11.45am

**Planned Giving envelopes**  
The new **Gift Aid boxes** will be distributed this weekend. Margaret Wells will be at each Mass so please pick up your boxes from her. She will also be available to discuss with anyone who wishes to sign up for Gift Aid and to set up standing orders.

The **Rosary and Divine Mercy Group** meets in SsP&J each Monday at 1:45pm. Divine Chaplet, Rosary, cup of tea.

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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

See previous newsletters for the details of:  
**40 pence for 40 days**  
By giving up 40p for 40 days through Lent please support local individuals and families facing hardship this Easter.

**Catholic Young Artist and Young Writer Awards**  
The deadline for young artistic submissions is 22<sup>nd</sup> May. The deadline for young writers is 30<sup>th</sup> June. See: [catholicunion.org.uk/2026/01/young-catholic-artist-award-2026/](http://catholicunion.org.uk/2026/01/young-catholic-artist-award-2026/)

**MARRIAGE SUPPORT:** If you are just in a rut or for more serious issues – Retrouvaille could be the solution. [retrouvaille.org.uk](http://retrouvaille.org.uk) Telephone: 0797 338 0443

**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.

**SVP Conference Amalgamation**  
From Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> April 2026, **Ss Philip and James SVP Conference** is to amalgamate with **Holy Cross SVP Conference** to form one SVP group to cover our joint parishes. You will see very little change as we will continue our pastoral and fund-raising work as we have done in the past. The amalgamated Conference is to be known as **Holy Cross and Ss Philip and James SVP Conference**. Future financial transactions (eg. donations) will be conducted through the Holy Cross Conference bank account, and anyone affected will be notified individually. Please contact *Charles Moubarak* (07971 849 135) or *Peter Morris* (07591 579 235) if you require further information.

In April, *Krystyna Sykes* will be walking the **Camino de Santiago**. Krystyna will walk the 100km over six days and is raising funds for the **SVP** through sponsorship.

## 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**