



Seventh Week in Easter

Sunday Mass Cycle: Year A; Weekday: Year 2; Psalter 3

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

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

STM - St Thomas More school; SJR - St John Rigby school

- Sat 16 May **Vigil of the Seventh Sunday of Easter**
5:30pm HC **Vigil Mass: Missa pro populo**
- Sun 17 May **Seventh Sunday of Easter**
World Communications Sunday
9:00am HC **Mass:** Pauline Tucker, RIP
11:00am PJ **Mass:** Fr Liam Castle - intention
- Mon 18 May **Feria**
10:00am PJ **Mass:** Gary Stewart, RIP
- Tue 19 May **Feria**
9:40am HC **Lauds** (Morning Prayer)
10:00am HC **Mass:** Safe arrival of Sophia and Testa baby
- Wed 20 May **Feria**
10:00am HC **Mass:** Ann and Anthony Byrne, RIP
followed by the Sacrament of Confession and Eucharistic Adoration until 11:00am
- Thu 21 May **Feria**
8:20am STM **Mass:** All Staff and Parents
9:40am PJ **Lauds** (Morning Prayer)
10:00am PJ **Mass:** Godlove Enongene and family
- Fri 22 May **Feria**
10:00am HC **Mass:** Harvey Papper, RIP
7:00pm PJ **Mass:** Fr Wayne and Fr Christopher - thanksgiving
- Sat 23 May **Feria**
10:00am PJ **Mass:** Brigitte and Frank McMahan - healing
followed by the Sacrament of Confession and Eucharistic Adoration until 11:15am
5:30pm HC **Vigil Mass:** Kerrie Clitheroe, RIP - 10th anniv
- Sun 24 May **Pentecost**
9:00am HC **Mass:** Gordon Henry Smith, RIP
11:00am PJ **Mass:** Missa pro Populo

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

Responsorial Psalm: I believe I shall see the Lord's goodness in the land of the living.

Pentecost - Celebrating our unity in diversity - 24th May

Pentecost is the feast that reminds us who we truly are: **one people, many gifts; one Spirit, many voices; one Church, many cultures and stories.** On this day we, as a parish, celebrate with an international Mass. On that first Pentecost morning the Holy Spirit gathered people from every nation under heaven and made them understand one another. What human effort could not achieve, God accomplished in a single breath.

Today, that same Spirit continues to weave our differences into beautiful harmony. In our parish community — with its many languages, backgrounds, and experiences — the Spirit creates a unity that does not erase diversity but **celebrates it as a gift.** If you are still interested in participating and contributing with your cultural identity: National dress, food and heritage, please talk to any of the Pastoral Council members, or the Social committee after Mass. Let us make this a truly international celebration.

Novena to the Holy Spirit

Booklets for the nine days of the Novena to the Holy Spirit are in the narthex. As we welcome the fire of Pentecost, may we open our hearts to the Spirit who builds bridges, heals divisions, and makes us one family in Christ. **Come, Holy Spirit, renew Your Church and unite us in Your love.**

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be held at St Joseph's church every day this week until 8:00pm except Saturday and Sunday, in preparation for the **Solemnity of Pentecost.** There will also be 40 Hours of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from Thursday, 21st to Saturday, 23rd May, concluding at 12:30pm with Benediction.

The family of the late **Dr Joy Matheiken** thanks you most sincerely for your kind expression of sympathy and prayers in their recent sad bereavement through Mass cards and sympathy cards. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered for your intentions.

There will be a retiring collection this weekend for **World Communications Sunday**

The **Sacrament of Reconciliation** and **Eucharistic Adoration** will be on Wednesdays at HC after Mass until 11:00am and every Saturday until 11:15am in SsP&J.

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 Whiterop 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](https://www.facebook.com/northbedfordcatholiccommunity)
 Parish Secretary HC, Sheila Allen (Thursday ONLY: 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



PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE

19th - 25th September 2026, £845 pp



Spiritual Director: Fr. Alex Ibe SMMM

£845

Sharing in twin or double room (single room +£10)

TRAVELLING

19th - 25th Sep. '26
7 days, London Luton
with easyJet

HOW TO BOOK

Full details and booking form here:
www.allsaintstravel.co.uk/MJ1183
Deposit of £300 to confirm place.
Booking deadline 25th May 2026 to
get the best price possible!

Organised by Mrs Hetty Okonji, tel. 07590731488

INCLUDED

- Return flight between London Luton and Split (with easyJet)
- 6 nights at Hotel Marconi, Medjugorje, 4*, or similar standard
- Half board (breakfast and dinner)
- Check-in luggage 23 kg + small hand carry
- Transfers between airport and hotel
- Executive coach for touring
- Professional English-speaking guide throughout
- UK Airport taxes and Government charges
- Personalised travel pack for each pilgrim including hymn booklet, name badge and lanyard, luggage tag, general information booklet, flight information sheet, boarding passes where applicable.

NOT INCLUDED

- Travel insurance (compulsory)
- Single room (limited availability), £279 for 5 nights
- Tips & Gratuities of £95 pp to be added to your invoice. Compulsory. Paid directly to guide, driver and hotel staff.



FULL DETAILS AND BOOKING FORM AT WWW.ALLSAINTSTRAVEL.CO.UK/MJ1183



All Saints Travel

web: www.allsaintstravel.co.uk
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North Bedford
CATHOLIC COMMUNITY



CELEBRATION OF PENTECOST

SUNDAY 24TH MAY 2026

9am MASS AT HOLY CROSS &
11am MASS AT SS PHILIP & JAMES

We are still looking for volunteers to cook their national dish for our celebration at 1pm in Holy Cross parish hall. If you can help with the food, please sign up after Mass, or contact Kathy at kathye.goodwin@gmail.com

See previous newsletters for details:

The **Life in the Spirit Seminars** are every Tuesday, at 7:00pm on Zoom until 2nd June. You may still take part in a group setting in Holy Cross parish hall.

Catholic Young Artist and Young Writer Awards

The deadline for young artistic submissions is this Friday, 22nd May. The deadline for young writers is 30th June. catholicunion.org.uk/2026/01/young-catholic-artist-award-2026/

"Pray and Play" NBCC Summer Camp is in Holy Cross church from Monday, 20th July. All places are filled.

Called and Equipped 2026-27

This course is for anyone active in parish life or coming into ministry. See: northamptondiocese.org/called-equipped/

Light of Truth

The next two-year **Light of Truth Certificate** begins in September. It prepares you for catechetical work in the parish, school, diocese. See: lightoftruth.uk/certificate

Blaze - May 2026

NYMO, the youth ministry, are hosting their event, **Blaze South**, at St Michael's School, Aylesbury this Saturday, 23rd May. **Blaze** gives attendees the opportunity to join together and explore. See the website for more information: nymo.org/blaze-2026/

Hospital Chaplaincy

If you know of a parishioner who is in hospital and who would like a visit, or if you have been admitted and would like the Catholic Chaplain to visit, please contact **Deacon Tony** on 01234 950 453.

St Vincent's

Together, we can make a difference

1:00pm to 3:30pm every Tuesday
in Holy Cross Church

355 Goldington Road, Bedford MK41 0DP



The full itinerary is on the posters

Day 1, Saturday, 19th September: UK - Croatia - Medjugorje

Day 2, Sunday: Medjugorje - Apparition Hill

Day 3, Monday: Medjugorje to Cenacolo

Day 4, Tuesday: Free day (do what you want!)

Day 5, Wednesday: Medjugorje to Surmanci

Day 6, Thursday: Medjugorje - Mt Krizevac - Cross Mount

Day 7, Friday: Medjugorje - Airport - UK

Songhaven

Professional Dementia-friendly music events: Relaxed, Inclusive, Joyous! FREE relaxed concert. Proudly Dementia Friendly - open to all. With FREE light lunch.

The next concert is on Tuesday, 19th May at 12:00pm noon in St Andrew's Church, Kimbolton Rd.

Booking via: ticketsource.co.uk/songhavenbedford

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 their respective Masses on Sundays.

Communion in the pew

Any parishioner with mobility problems may request communion be brought to them in their pew by speaking with a Welcomer when they arrive at Mass.

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

