



The month of June is dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus/July to the Precious Blood of Jesus 2026

Thirteenth 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 school; SJR - St John Rigby school

Sat	27 Jun	Vigil of Ss Peter and Paul
5:30pm	HC	Vigil Mass: Michael Kiernan RIP
Sun	28 Jun	Ss Peter and Paul, Apostles - Solemnity
		Peter's Pence
9:00am	HC	Mass: Missa pro Populo
11:00am	PJ	Mass: Brigitte and Frank McMahon
Mon	29 Jun	Feria
10:00am	PJ	Mass: Derek Ruff - healing
Tue	30 Jun	Feria
9:40am	HC	Lauds (Morning Prayer)
10:00am	HC	Mass: Fr Wayne and Fr Christopher - thanksgiving
Wed	1 Jul	Feria
10:00am	HC	Mass: June Morrish - birthday blessings <i>followed by the Sacrament of Confession and Eucharistic Adoration until 11:00am</i>
Thu	2 Jul	Feria
8:20am	STM	Mass: All Staff and Parents
9:40am	PJ	Lauds (Morning Prayer)
10:00am	PJ	Mass: David Chinonso - 16 th birthday
1:30pm	SJR	Mass: Thanksgiving FHC
Fri	3 Jul	St Thomas, Apostle - Feast
10:00am	HC	Mass: Dot Jones, RIP
7:00pm	PJ	Mass: Vlad - healing
Sat	4 Jul	Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary
10:00am	PJ	Mass: Dermot McCluskey - birthday blessing <i>followed by the Sacrament of Confession and Eucharistic Adoration until 11:15am</i>
5:30pm	HC	Vigil Mass: Michael Anthony Kiernan, RIP
Sun	5 Jul	Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
		CAFOD Appeal
9:00am	HC	Mass: Missa pro Populo
11:00am	PJ	Mass: Safe arrival baby Kasozi

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

Youth Mass - All are Welcome A Mass, organized by and for our young people, is at 11:00am this Sunday in Ss Philip and James. Our young people will participate in music, readings, welcoming, etc. You are welcome to bring a friend. Let us worship together and celebrate our faith in our youth! Please join us for tea and coffee after Mass.

On this Thursday, 2nd July there will also be a **Thanksgiving Mass** for all those who received their First Holy Communion in June, held at St John Rigby School at 1:30pm.

Fr Richard, SMMM, Deacon Tony and Deacon Crispin 10th Anniversary Celebration of Ordination



The 10th Anniversary Mass of Thanksgiving to celebrate the Priestly/Diaconate Ordinations of Fr Richard, SMMM, Deacon Tony and Deacon Crispin will take place on Sunday, 12th July at 11:00am in Ss Philip and James church.

Your presence will be very welcome.

There will be a "Bring and Share" celebration buffet in Holy Cross Parish Hall at 1:00pm. If you can provide some food, please sign-up after Mass or contact Kathy Goodwin at kathy.goodwin@gmail.com or 07956 560 380.



In case of fire!

Please note: in case of a fire, a **hand-held bell** is available to alert the congregation or others at Ss Philip and James. **The bell** is located in the vestibule area on top of the cupboard where the incense is kept, on the right, as you walk towards the parish room or the toilets.

Mass intentions - see Maria Quinlan

There are a few spaces available towards the end of **July** and beyond for Mass intentions.

Holy Cross parish office will be closed on Mondays and Thursdays from 29th June to 9th July inclusive.

The Diocese of Northampton issued a statement on Wednesday, 24th June which may be read here:

northamptondiocese.org/home-page/statement/

The **Sacrament of Reconciliation** and **Eucharistic Adoration** is on Wednesdays at HC after Mass and Saturdays in SsP&J.

Responsorial Psalm:

From all my terrors the Lord set me free.

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 (closed until 13th July) 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



First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion

Preparation Programme AD 2026-2027

The North Bedford Catholic Community provides a united sacramental programme for the combined parishes of The Holy Cross and Saints Philip and James. This is a very important time for the parents and all the family members. It will be a time of growth in your child's faith, and in your own faith as you are expected to play an active and leading role in helping your child through every step of the way. The parish will assist you by providing classes for your child and sessions to aid you in helping your child, but you must commit wholeheartedly to this time of preparation and participate weekly in Sunday Mass and attend all the classes on the programme with your child.

Dates for the Sacramental preparation Programme:

Saturday, 12th September 2026
Saturday, 26th September 2026
Saturday, 10th October 2026
Saturday, 7th November 2026
Saturday, 21st November 2026
Saturday, 5th December 2026
Saturday, 9th January 2027
Saturday, 23rd January 2027
Saturday, 6th February 2027
Saturday, 13th March 2027
Saturday, 17th April 2027
Saturday, 1st May 2027

All the classes will be at Holy Cross church, starting promptly at 3:50pm, and we encourage all families to join us in the Vigil Mass after class

Enrolment Masses: Weekend, 10th/11th October 2026

Rehearsals: Thursday, 25th February 2027 (SsP&J), Wednesday, 19th May 2027 (SsP&J), Wednesday, 26th May (HC Candidates only), Thursday, 27th May 2027 (SsP&J Candidates only)

Advent giving party: Saturday, 28th November 2026

First Reconciliation: Saturday 27th February 2027

Celebration of First Holy Communion Masses: *Corpus Christi weekend*, 29th/30th May 2027

Thanksgiving and celebration Mass: Saturday, 12th June 2027

If you would like to enrol your child onto the Sacramental Preparation Programme AD 2026-2027, enrolment forms are available in the narthex of both churches or online at northbedfordcatholics.org.uk. Completed and signed enrolment forms should be returned **with your child's original Baptism certificate** to Sheila Allen, Parish Secretary, parish.holycross@northamptondiocese.org or by post on or before Sunday, 26th July 2026. Please ensure you are available for all the dates specified before signing up to the program. Further details of the programme will be discussed at the first meeting with parents and children, which will be held on Wednesday, 9th September 2026 in Saints Philip and James church at 6:30pm. Any questions please contact the catechist Clare Connolly via email, catechist.holycross@northamptondiocese.org or after Mass. The Clergy and our sacramental team look forward to getting to know you and your family better. We look forward to accompanying our children as they prepare to receive Jesus in the Eucharist for the first time. **Fr Alex**

Holy Cross and Ss Philip and James

The Repositories are open before and after their respective Masses on Sundays.

You may make donations as if using the **DONA** machines in the narthexes of our churches. The machines are awaiting repair so please use the QR Codes below

Holy Cross



Ss Philip and James



THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF
NORTHAMPTON

PERMANENT DIACONATE

TASTER MORNING

Saturday 4th July

10:30 am

Holy Family Parish,
Langley, SL3 7UD

*Called
Serve*

Discover the vocation
and ministry of the
Permanent Diaconate



Diocesan Residential Youth Weekend

Young people from across the diocese are invited to join together for a residential summer weekend filled with games, discussions, activities, socialising, and prayer. This will take place the weekend of Friday, 17th - Sunday, 19th July 2026 at Buckden Towers, St Neots, for young people aged 11-18.

The cost of the weekend includes accommodation, all meals and organised social activities. There will also be a tuck shop available throughout the weekend, so participants may wish to bring some spending money.

Young people will stay in shared rooms at Buckden Towers. If you have any questions about room arrangements, or if you need transport, contact nymo.admin@northamptondiocese.com. Booking is essential and places must be paid for in advance. If you have any concerns about cost, please get in touch - we can discuss support options in confidence.

Diocese of Northampton Discernment Day for Vocations to the Priesthood

Are you wondering whether God may be calling you to the priesthood? If you are seeking to deepen your relationship with Christ and explore God's plan for your life, you are warmly invited to attend a *Discernment Day for Vocations to the Priesthood* on **Saturday, 8th August at 10:30am** *St Augustine Catholic Church, 1 Langcliffe Drive, Milton Keynes, MK13 7PL*

The day will include prayer, reflection, Mass, fellowship, and opportunities to speak with priests and others who may be discerning God's call. It is open to men aged 16 and above who are considering a vocation to the Catholic priesthood in the Diocese of Northampton.

For further information or to register, please contact: Fr Pius, Vocations Director, Diocese of Northampton.

Email: vocationsdirector@northamptondiocese.org or phone: 01753 523147

Please keep vocations to the priesthood and religious life in your prayers.