



Twenty-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 school

Sat 22 Aug	Vigil of the Twenty-First Sunday
5:30pm HC	Vigil Mass: Alice Arnold - speedy recovery
Sun 23 Aug	Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time
9:00am HC	Mass: Alan White, RIP
11:00am PJ	Mass: Ndi Igbo Bedford - thanksgiving
Mon 24 Aug	St Bartholomew, Apostle - Feast
10:00am PJ	No liturgy
Tue 25 Aug	Feria
9:40am HC	Lauds (Morning Prayer)
10:00am HC	Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion <i>followed by the Holy Rosary</i>
Wed 26 Aug	Feria
10:00am HC	Mass: Augustina - birthday <i>followed by the Sacrament of Confession and Eucharistic Adoration until 11:00am</i>
Thu 27 Aug	St Monica of Hippo - Memorial
10:00am PJ	Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion <i>followed by the Holy Rosary</i>
Fri 28 Aug	St Augustine of Hippo, Bishop and Doctor - Memorial
10:00am HC	Mass: Olus' court case - thanksgiving
7:00pm PJ	No liturgy
Sat 29 Aug	The Passion of St John the Baptist, Martyr - Memorial
10:00am PJ	Mass: Successful celebration <i>followed by the Sacrament of Confession and Eucharistic Adoration until 11:15am</i>
5:30pm HC	Vigil Mass: Missa pro populo
Sun 30 Aug	Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
9:00am HC	Mass: Christopher Gordon-Styes, RIP
11:00am PJ	Mass: Kimberley - private intention

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

All existing **Altar Servers** and those who made their **First Holy Communion** recently and who would like to join the Altar Servers are encouraged to participate in the **Training and Pizza Gathering** to welcome new members. This training and welcome will be on **Wednesday, 2nd September at 7:00pm in Holy Cross church.**

All Altar Servers are encouraged to attend.

Confirmation Mass 2026

The Area Dean, Fr Prasad Kasireddy, MSFS, will visit our united community to celebrate the **Sacrament of Confirmation** for our young people on Friday, 11th September at 7:00pm in Holy Cross church.

RCIA – Journey into the Catholic Faith

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a process in the Catholic Church that prepares adults for the sacraments of **Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist**. RCIA is open to people of different faith backgrounds who wish to become full members of the Catholic church. Are you - or someone you know - interested in learning more about the Catholic faith or considering becoming Catholic? The programme will begin in September and runs in stages of study and prayer. Please email the parish office via parish.holycross@northamptondiocese.org or call 01234 353116 or 01234 352607 to register.

Holy Cross and Ss Philip and James Repositories

Both Repositories are open before and after Sunday Mass.
Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Philippa Anne Willis, RIP**. Her funeral liturgy will be at 1:00pm on Wednesday, 2nd September, in Holy Cross church.
And please pray also for the repose of the soul of **Concetta 'Connie' Leone, RIP**, whose funeral liturgy will be on Monday, 7th September in Holy Cross church at 11:00am. A private family service will follow at Norse Road Crematorium.
Please also pray for the repose of the soul of **Brigitte McMahon, RIP**, whose funeral Mass will be in Holy Cross church on Monday, 14th September at 12:00pm noon.

Responsorial Psalm:

O Lord, your merciful love is eternal; discard not the work of your hands

The **Sacrament of Reconciliation** and **Eucharistic Adoration** is on Wednesdays at HC after Mass until 11:00am and every Saturday from 11:00 - 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 Walkling-Lea: Tel: 07941 884645; deaconcrispin.walklinglea@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 (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



PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE

19th - 25th September 2026, £845 pp

Still two places left!

Spiritual Director: Fr. Alex Ibe SMMM

£845

Sharing in twin or double room (single room +£210)

TRAVELLING

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

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 23kg + 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), £210 for 6 nights
- Tips & Gratuities of £15 pp to be added to your invoice. Compulsory. Paid directly to guide, driver and hotel staff.



North
Bedford
CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

Parish Family Day and BBQ

...an opportunity to come together as a big family to celebrate, build, and strengthen our community life, fundraise for our youth's excursion/Fun Day, and give families a chance to enjoy each other outside of Mass.



Others include: burgers, hot dogs, salads, puds, etc. Bar is also available.

TICKETS
available after
mass from
1st AUGUST

ADULTS: £5
12 YEARS AND UNDER: £2.50
UNDER 5 YEARS: FREE

SUNDAY 30TH AUGUST 2026

4PM TO 8PM

AT HOLY CROSS

INVITE YOUR NEIGHBOURS
AND LAPSE CATHOLICS
BACK IN A WELCOMING WAY.

... "Come, eat together, laugh together, pray together."

Notes for the Parish BBQ

This is the last weekend to buy tickets for the family BBQ. Please also bring a chair or two with you. We suggest **foldable/camping chairs**, rather than your best **Chesterfield** though it would be equally welcome. And there is a Raffle, and that means **CASH**. There may also be opportunities for donations so, **please bring cash with you**.

Appeal for Volunteers

60th and 70th Anniversaries of Our United Parishes

As we prepare to celebrate the **60th and 70th anniversaries of Ss Philip and James Parish and Holy Cross Parish, respectively, next year**, we continue to invite parishioners who would like to assist in organising this joyful milestone. We are looking for volunteers who can help gather parish photos and memories to produce a booklet for the event. If you are able to offer your time, skills, or ideas, please contact the parish office or speak to one of the clergy. Your support will help make the anniversaries a truly memorable celebration of faith, community, and gratitude. Thank you for your generosity and love for our parish.

The SVP Raffle

The **SVP Raffle** tickets are on sale during this weekend, 22nd/23rd August; and the draw will take place at the SVP National Office (wherever that is!).

Please bring CASH, readies, spondulicks, moolah!

You may make donations in the same way as if using the **DONA** machines in the narthexes of our churches by use of these QR Codes.

Holy Cross



Ss Philip and James



All welcome

Ages 13-18



North
Bedford
CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

YOUTH club meetings & events 2026/27

FRIDAYS monthly 6.30 - 8.00 PM

Holy Cross Church Hall, 355 Goldington Road, Bedford

- 18th SEPTEMBER 26 (St Philip & St James)
- 9th OCTOBER 26
- 13th NOVEMBER 26
- 11th DECEMBER 26
- 12th FEBRUARY 27
- 7th MARCH 27 - Youth Mass Holy Cross 9am
- 12th MARCH 27
- 9th APRIL 27
- 14th MAY 27
- 11th JUNE 27
- 27th JUNE 27 - Youth Mass St Philip & St James 11am
- 9th JULY 27
- 21st NOVEMBER 27 - Feast of Christ the King Youth Mass (Holy Cross 9am; St Philip & St James 11am)

GAMES *FOOD* *FUN* *FRIENDSHIP* *PRAYER*

ALL FREE - SEE YOU THERE

For enquiries and further information, please contact
commnsbcc@northamptondiocese.org

St Vincent's

Together, we can make a difference

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