



Twenty-Fourth Week in Ordinary Time

Sunday Mass Cycle: Year A; Weekday: Year 2; Psalter 4

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 12 Sep	Vigil of the Twenty-Fourth Sunday
5:30pm HC	Vigil Mass: Patrick Stapleton, special birthday
Sun 13 Sep	Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
	Education Sunday
9:00am HC	Mass: Raj Sohun, RIP
11:00am PJ	Mass: <i>Missa pro populo</i>
Mon 14 Sep	The Exaltation of the Holy Cross - Feast
	Patronal Solemnity Holy Cross church
10:00am PJ	Mass: Ann and Francis Simmonds, RIP
Tue 15 Sep	Our Lady of Sorrows - Memorial
9:40am HC	Lauds (Morning Prayer)
10:00am HC	Mass: Thanksgiving for Dcons Tony & Crispin
Wed 16 Sep	Ss Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop;
	Martyrs - Memorial
10:00am HC	Mass: Michael Simmonds - intentions
	<i>followed by the Sacrament of Confession and Eucharistic Adoration until 11:00am</i>
Thu 17 Sep	Feria
8:20am STM	Mass: All Staff and Parents
9:40am PJ	Lauds (Morning Prayer)
10:00am PJ	Mass: Edith Teadale, RIP
Fri 18 Sep	Feria
10:00am HC	Mass: Patrick Mcgirl, RIP
7:00pm PJ	Mass: Brigitte McMahon, RIP
Sat 19 Sep	Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary
10:00am PJ	Mass: All the volunteers in our churches
	<i>followed by the Sacrament of Confession and Eucharistic Adoration until 11:15am</i>
5:30pm HC	Vigil Mass: Philip Holdershaw, RIP
Sun 20 Sep	Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
	Evangelii Gaudium Sunday
9:00am HC	Mass: <i>Missa pro populo</i>
11:00am PJ	Mass: Peter Holdershaw, RIP

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

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger and rich in mercy.

Feast of Holy Cross

This **Sunday, 13th September**, after 9:00am Mass, there will be light refreshments and the cutting of the feast cake to mark our **patronal solemnity**. We also commence preparations for next year's celebration of the 70th Anniversary of the dedication of **Holy Cross church**.

On Monday, 14th September, at **Ss Philip and James**, we will celebrate the **Mass of the Exultation of the Holy Cross**.

This is **Education Sunday**, a celebration that takes place annually. Established by the Bishops in 1848, it is one of the oldest **Days of Special Prayer** in the liturgical calendar of England and Wales.

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.

Please be aware that **HC parish office** is still closed this Monday, 14th September, opening on Thursday.

Volunteers for the 60th and 70th Anniversaries

We are preparing to celebrate the **60th and 70th anniversaries of Ss Philip and James Parish and Holy Cross Parish, respectively, next year**. We invite you, the parishioners to help us organise this joyful milestone by providing memories of life in the parishes when they were young. Photographs and stories; but not only of the parishes individually but also from when we became a joint community. This is a long-term project.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Brigitte McMahon, RIP**, whose funeral Mass will be in Holy Cross church this Monday, 14th September at **12:30pm**, followed by a service in Norse Road Crematorium.

Please also pray for the repose of the soul of **Eileen Bull, RIP**. Her funeral is in St-Mary's Catholic church, Aspley Hill, Woburn Sands MK17 8NN this Friday, 18th September 11:30am. For transport text/phone Fiona: 07932 791 230.

And please pray also for the repose of the soul of **Clare Glendenning, RIP** who died recently. Funeral details TBA.

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 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 (Thursday: 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





All welcome
Ages 13-18

YOUTH Group 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 commshcc@northamptondiocese.org

Mass of Confirmation

We congratulate our young people who celebrated the **Sacrament of Confirmation** on Friday. Please continue to pray for them:

Amelie, Bennet, Christine, Dalia, Danielle, Gabriella, Giovanni, Isabella, Kacie, Kamila, Nico, Salvatore, Tia and Valerie.

We extend our sincere thanks to everyone who participated in this wonderful celebration, the Choir, and those who helped with refreshments in the hall. It was truly a joyful celebration. Thank you everyone.

Trampoline Party

For our young people aged 13 - 18.

To mark the first anniversary of our **Youth Group**, we will be taking our young people to **Xtreme360** in Eaton Socon on Saturday, 17th October. We will meet at SsP&J for Mass at 10:00am and afterwards head off to the trampoline park for a bounce followed by pizza and ice cream.

£10 per person will secure your place, and bookings may be made at the **Youth Group meeting**, Friday, 18th September.



RCIA Team Training:

As we begin the RCIA process in September, we ask those who would like to assist in supporting the candidates and catechumens through this process to indicate by emailing: parish.holycross@northamptondiocese.org or notifying any of the priests so we can support them in this training. It is a four-session course offered by the Diocesan Liturgy Commission and Mission Northampton. It is meant to equip RCIA leaders, catechists, liturgists, clergy and parish teams to accompany people on their Journey of Faith. The course includes two online evening sessions (Mondays, 14th and 21st September) and a half-day in person at Holy Ghost RC Parish Centre, Luton (Saturday, 26th September). The course is free.

More information can be found at: northamptondiocese.org/courses/rcia-team-training-sept-2026/

And now, meet the 25 candidates for Sacramental Preparation, preparing for **First Reconciliation** and their **First Holy Communion**. These are two very important moments in their spiritual lives.

We have asked parishioners in previous years to support our young people making this bold movement in their spiritual growth with prayers. We ask parishioners again to consider being **Prayer Sponsors** this year. This entails a promise to pray for named candidates throughout the programme.

Please, email Clare Connolly if you are willing to fulfill this important ministry at: catechist.holycross@northamptondiocese.org

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

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