



The month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary

2026

Twenty-Eighth 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	10 Oct	Vigil of the Twenty-Eighth Sunday
5:30pm	HC	Vigil Mass: Anna-Marie Wright - healing
Sun	11 Oct	Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
		Prisoners' Sunday Appeal
9:00am	HC	Mass: <i>Missa pro populo</i>
11:00am	PJ	Mass: Tadeusz Piotrowski, RIP
Mon	12 Oct	Feria
10:00am	PJ	Mass: The Bull family, RIP
Tue	13 Oct	St Edward the Confessor, King - Memorial
9:40am	HC	Lauds (Morning Prayer)
10:00am	HC	Mass: Raj Sohun, RIP - anniversary
Wed	14 Oct	Feria
10:00am	HC	Mass: Eileen Bull, RIP <i>followed by the Sacrament of Confession and Eucharistic Adoration until 11:00am</i>
Thu	15 Oct	St Teresa of Avila, Virgin and Doctor - Mem
8:20am	STM	Mass: All Staff and Parents
9:40am	PJ	Lauds (Morning Prayer)
10:00am	PJ	Mass: Brigitte McMahon, RIP
Fri	16 Oct	Feria
10:00am	HC	Mass: Toddler Edward Tillotson - speedy recovery
7:00pm	PJ	Mass: Slawek friends and family - intentions
Sat	17 Oct	St Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop and Martyr - Memorial
10:00am	PJ	Mass: Youths in our parish
5:30pm	HC	Vigil Mass: Nigel Good, RIP - 20 th anniv
Sun	18 Oct	Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time
		Mission Sunday - Missio
9:00am	HC	Mass: Chris and Lucy White - 10 th Wedding anniversary
11:00am	PJ	Mass: <i>Missa pro populo</i>

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

Responsorial Psalm: In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for length of days unending.

Rosary Procession - Sunday, 25th October

Throughout the month of October, dedicated to **Our Lady of the Rosary**, our Holy Father invites us to pray the Holy Rosary. We are encouraged to join in praying the Rosary collectively **30 minutes** before Mass on Mondays in SsP&J and Fridays in HC.

To mark the end of the month in honour of **Our Lady of the Rosary**, there will be Rosary Processions after the 9:00am Mass at Holy Cross and the 11:00am Mass at Ss Philip and James. We need volunteers to carry the statue of Our Blessed Lady and also people from each church to lead the five Glorious Mysteries. Please talk to any of the clergy if you would like to volunteer or email the HC secretary: parish.holycross@northamptondiocese.org. The Rosary procession ends in front of the grotto of Our Lady.

Prisoners' Sunday

This Sunday is Prisoners' Sunday, a day to pray for people in prison, their families and children, victims and survivors of crime, and all those working within the criminal justice system. It marks the beginning of the ecumenical Prisons Week which encourages people to support **PACT (Prison Advice and Care Trust)**. PACT, the national Catholic prison charity, supports people in prison, people with convictions and their families across England and Wales. Please, support its work through prayer, volunteering and giving.

World Mission Sunday (Missio) is celebrated next weekend, 17th/18th October, marking the 100th anniversary of its establishment by **Pope Pius XI** in 1926. This day is the only Sunday in the year when the entire Catholic Church unites in prayer and collects donations exclusively for missionary activity. The annual theme for 2026, chosen by **Pope Leo XIV**, is "One in Christ, United in Mission." The collected funds are distributed through the Pontifical Mission Societies, where the Church is young, poor, or persecuted. Resources are used for seminary formation, church construction, healthcare, and catechetical programs.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Luigi Raia, RIP** whose funeral Mass will be in Holy Cross church this Tuesday, 13th October at 1:30pm.

The **Sacrament of Reconciliation** and **Eucharistic Adoration** is on Wednesdays at HC after Mass until 11:00am **ONLY** this week. Saturday has the preparation for the youth excursion

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

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

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

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 (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



This Saturday, 10th October, 45 pilgrims from across our Diocese will travel to London to take part in **Adoremus**, the **National Eucharistic Congress**. It will be a wonderful opportunity for our pilgrims to join Catholics from across England and Wales in celebrating our faith and reflecting together on the gift of the Eucharist at the heart of our life as the Church. The Congress is taking place in London and will be livestreamed, allowing parishioners, families and those unable to attend in person to join in from home. You can watch the Adoremus livestream via the link: northamptondiocese.org/adoremus-3/

A gentle reminder that **Mass Counting** will continue across our united Parish this weekend.

Catholic Charismatic Renewal

WATER OF LIFE

PRAYER GROUP



Join us

An evening of praise and worship, Bible reflection, intercessory prayer and fellowship

EVERY 2ND TUESDAY | 7:00 P.M.

MATTHEW 18:20

"For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them."

Holy Cross Church Parish Hall
355 Goldington Road, Bedford MK41 0DP

All welcome

Ages 13-18

North Bedford CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

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

Twenty young candidates in Sacramental Preparation

We ask parishioners 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 able to fulfill this important ministry at: catechist.holycross@northamptondiocese.org

Franciscan Jubilee Year

Putting Franciscan Spirituality into Practice

Saturday, 31st October in Holy Cross from 2:00 - 4:00pm
Join us in meeting **Fr Emmanuel Mansford, CFR** a Franciscan Friar of the Renewal (CFR). (See poster)

Pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela.

2027 is a Jacobean Jubilee Year, and the *Bedfordshire Pastoral Area* is proposing to run a pilgrimage to **Santiago de Compostela** in September/October next year. Parishioners interested in joining the pilgrimage should contact Deacon Crispin (details at the foot of the front page) for more information. Pilgrims will need to be independent and capable of walking 115km over six days, carrying their own pack. Accommodation will be in shared dormitories in backpacker hostels, and the estimated cost of the pilgrimage is £550 per person.

The **CHISEN Foundation** is holding a **Quiz Night** in aid of the **House of Hope building project in Ghana** on Saturday, 24th October. Doors open at 7:00pm and the Quiz starts at 7.15pm in **Christ the King church hall**. Tickets are £5pp or £10 for a family ticket. **Bring snacks and drinks to share**. Contact Mary Taylor on 07833 147 113 for tickets.

New Foodbank Collection Box at SsP&J.

Bedford Foodbank supports local people, who find themselves in crisis, with emergency supplies of food. Please note that a new donation box, located at the back of SsP&J, is ready for your donations, including: long-life sponge pudding, long-life fruit juice, tinned carrots, jars of jam, bars of chocolate, cup-a-soup, washing-up liquid, and tinned rice pudding. Thank you

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



LUX - 29th to 31st January 2027

For young people of Secondary School Age (School Years 7–13) at the Kings Conference Centre, Northampton
LUX is a residential weekend organised by **NYMO** for young people in secondary school and sixth form. The weekend includes talks, activities, prayer, games, small groups and opportunities for them to explore and deepen their faith. Bookings are live. To find out more: nymo.org/lux-2027

FLAME 2027

Saturday, 6th March 2027 for young people aged 14–25 in OVO Arena Wembley. **FLAME** is one of the largest Catholic youth events in the UK, bringing thousands of young people from across England and Wales together for a day of music, inspiring speakers, prayer, worship, adoration and celebration. **NYMO** has some tickets so that young people from the Diocese can sit together as a diocesan group. Tickets are limited. Transport will also be available from certain locations. Register: nymo.org/flame-2027



A visit to **Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre** has offered a glimpse of the quiet but important ministry of prayer, pastoral care and practical support provided there by the Catholic chaplaincy. Loralie Rodrigues, Head of **Caritas** for the Diocese of Northampton, visited Yarl's Wood last Monday, 5th October with **Joan Kedward**, from our parish. For Joan, this has become a regular part of her own life of faith. One day each week, Joan travels to Yarl's Wood to pray the Rosary with residents. Pastor Simon, the full-time chaplain, told Loralie and Joan that the Rosary has become an important part of the centre's programme and Fr Alex serves as Catholic chaplain celebrating Masses and offering pastoral care.

St Vincent's

1:00pm to 3:30pm every Tuesday

Holy Cross Church
355 Goldington Road,
Bedford MK41 0DP



