

Parish of Christ the King



Presbytery, Harrowden Road,
Bedford. MK42 0SP

Parish Priest: ☎ 01234 342641

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Father Richard's Email:

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Hall Bookings: ☎ 01372 457651

Registered Charity Number: 234091

MASSSES AND INTENTIONS

27th December 2025 to 4th January 2026

Sat 27th Dec

10am to 10:45am Confessions available
6pm Mass: *Dead List*

Sun 28th Dec

The Feast of the Holy Family
8:30am Latin Mass: *The faithful of the parish*
10:30am Mass: *Emmanuela Ngwa, birthday*
5pm Kerala Mass:

Tue 30th Dec

6.30pm Mass: *Teresa Tickyj, anniv*

Wed 31st Dec

10am Mass: *Norah Allen*
10:30am Rosary

Thu 1st Jan

Mary, the Holy Mother of God
8.30am Mass: *Entrusting our evangelising mission to Our Lady*

Fri 2nd Jan

Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen
11am to 11.45am Exposition and Confession
12 noon Mass: *Pasquale Facchiano and Antonio Distazio*
12:30 pm Mother's Prayers

Sat 3rd Jan

10am to 10:45am Confessions
6pm Mass:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

Last Week's Collections - £593.74

Standing Orders - £170.25

SUNDAY'S RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Blessed are all who fear the Lord,
and walk in his ways.

VINTAGE AFTERNOON TEA

Our next parish Vintage Afternoon Tea is
Friday 23rd January from 2pm to 4pm.
Cost is just on £6 pp. All Welcome.

PARISH QUIZ NIGHT 2026

Our popular parish Quiz Night with fish & chips supper Saturday 31st January 2026, at 7:30pm. Only £10 per person.
For more details see Rachel Kirkham or Tel: 01234 314093. Tickets on sale now. All welcome.

TV LOOKING FOR A NEW HOME

We have a Toshiba 80cm (across the diagonal) second-hand flat-screen TV which is no longer need. It has been PAT tested. If you would like it at no charge, please contact Vicky on 07897 446396 to arrange collection.

STANDING ORDER OFFERTORY DONATION

If you would like to make your Offertory donation to the parish by Standing Order these are the details:
Parish Account name:
Christ the King Parish
Sort Code: 60 06 11
Account Number: 46714332

Bedford's Vue cinema
Riverside Square, MK40 1AS
is showing
The King of Kings (PG)
daily at 10am
from Boxing Day
until New Year's Day
Tickets are from just £2.49
when booked online
(£1 extra at box office)

BORN INTO THE ORDINARY



After the birth of Christ, we need not look to the extraordinary, the spectacular or the miraculous to find God. God is now found where we live - in our kitchens, at our tables, in our wounds, and in each other's faces.

That is hard to believe and always has been. When Jesus was on earth, virtually no one believed he was the Messiah, precisely because he was so ordinary, so unlike what they imagined God to be. They had expected a superstar, a king, someone who would turn the world rightfully upside down. Preaching meekness and gentleness, Jesus didn't live up to those expectations.

It is curious that Scripture refuses to describe what Jesus looked like. It never tells us whether he was short or tall, with beard or without, had light or dark hair, had blue or brown eyes.

Neither does it ever assign to him anything extraordinary in terms of psychological countenance. For example, it never tells us that when Jesus entered a room his eyes were so penetrating and his gaze so awesome that people knew they were in the presence of someone extraordinary.

In terms of his appearance, Jesus apparently wasn't worth describing. He looked like everyone else. Even after the resurrection, he is mistaken for a gardener, a cook, a traveller.

Things haven't changed much in two thousand years. Seldom does Christ meet expectations. (continued...)

BORN INTO THE ORDINARY (continued)
We, like his contemporaries, are constantly looking beyond the ordinary, beyond the gardener, the cook, and the travelling stranger, to try to find a miraculous Christ.

It is for this reason that we fly off to Fatima or Lourdes to see a spot where the Blessed Virgin might have cried, but fail to see the significance of the tears shed at our own breakfast table.

We are intrigued by a Padre Pio who had the wounds of Christ on his hands, but fail to see the wounds of Christ in those suffering around us or in our own emotional and moral wounds.

We pray for visions, but seldom watch a sunset. We marvel at the gift of tongues, but are bored listening to babies. We look for Christ everywhere, except in the place where the Incarnation took place: our flesh.

Love is a thing that happens in ordinary places - in kitchens, at tables, in bedrooms, in workplaces, in families, in the flesh.

God abides in us when we abide there. Through the Incarnation, God crawls into ordinary life and invites us to meet him there.

