

Welcome to the Catholic Parish of Christ the King, Bedford

The Second Sunday of Lent, 2026

We have begun the grace-filled season of Lent, offering ourselves to God in a new way for the good of many. It would be great if you could invite those people who you are praying for this Lent to the evenings we are holding on the Saints. **Lent in the light of the saints** are held on Thursday evenings in the portacabin at 7.15pm.

We have re-launched the parish Facebook page, **Christ the King Bedford**. If you are already established on Facebook, it would be great to connect with you there.

We are supporting in prayer the adults who will be initiated at our Easter Vigil; Marco who will be baptised, Daniela and Nadia, who will be confirmed.

If you are an adult who feels drawn to Christ and His Church, we would love to meet you.

The Diocese of Northampton has organised a special pilgrimage day for adults who will be baptised and confirmed this Easter. This event is being held at Harvington Hall near Kidderminster on Saturday 9th May. The event is to celebrate their faith journey and to enable them to connect with the other adults who will have been initiated at Easter. Full details and booking info is available on the Diocesan Website.

Every Lent, with our fast, we try to make a special effort to support a particular cause, that others may benefit from the sacrifices that we make.

This year we are hosting an appeal made by the Charity, **Aid to the Church in Need**. The appeal will be made on Third Sunday of Lent by a representative of the Charity. We look forward to hearing more about the work of ACN and to supporting this Charity with our efforts.

Schedule for the week beginning Sunday 1st March 2026

Saturday 28th February

10.00am - 10.45am Confessions

6.00pm Vigil Mass, Clementina Dipre, anniv.

Sunday 1st March

8.30am Holy Mass (Latin), the faithful of the parish

10.30am Holy Mass, Benedict Ngwa RIP

Thursday 5th March

6.30pm Holy Mass, Alice Klein, recently deceased

7.15pm Lent in the lives of the saints (portacabin)

Friday 6th March

8.30am Stations of the Cross

11am - 11.45am Eucharistic Adoration, Confession available

12 noon Holy Mass, Graeme Gardner, RIP

Saturday 7th March

10.00am - 10.45am Confession available

6.00pm Vigil Mass

Please remember the sick of our parish and those who have died recently; Alice Klein and Darius Zimantas.

If you know anyone who is sick, please pass the contact details to Fr Richard.

Last weeks Offertory Collection:

Collection £690.28 Standing Orders £87.14 Total £777.42 Thank you

Thanks to all who made the Quiz Night such a wonderful evening and to all who supported it. The event raised £893.40 for the parish.

Readers and the Liturgy of the Word

Please remember to observe pauses that we practiced at our last training session.

- Pause 6 seconds after the reading, before saying, 'The Word of ...'
- Pause 6 seconds before beginning the psalm.
- Pause 6 seconds between the psalm and the 'Alleluia'.

These silent pauses allow God to act in our hearts.

Genuflecting to the tabernacle

This gesture that we make to the Lord in the tabernacle is an act of worship. During this time when some of our children and young people are preparing for First Sacraments, the example that we give in church is important.

Easter Duties

Traditionally, Catholics have received the Sacraments of Penance and Holy Eucharist during the period between Ash Wednesday and Pentecost. We are all required to receive both these sacraments at least once a year, if we are to continue as participants of the sacramental life of the Church.

Days of penance

A number of people have asked about these days and what the Church asks of us.

Every Friday is a day of abstinence. The Bishops of England and Wales re-established this discipline in 2010. However, if a particular Friday is a solemnity, abstinence does not apply. Such days are, for example, the Fridays of the Octaves of Christmas and Easter.

Every Friday in Lent is a day of penance (as well as abstinence), to be undertaken as we choose.

The two days of precept, Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, are days of fasting and abstinence.

An evening of Adoration with Confession

As well as the two weekly times of confession, on Friday 27th March, 6pm to 8pm, the church will be open for Adoration and Confession.

Planning Holy Week

There is meeting to plan Holy Week, for all involved, on Wednesday 25th March at 7.15pm in the parish room.

The Readers for Holy Week and volunteers for the Mandatum ceremony

There is a chart at the back of the church to enable everyone to know who is doing what and when. Please indicate on this chart your part in the Liturgies.

Servers' practice

The three great ceremonies of Holy Week are the most demanding of all our Liturgies. We will hold a practice for altar servers on Tuesday 31st March at 5pm in the church. This session will take no longer than an hour. Each child must be accompanied by a parent.

Re-commissioning of Ministers of Holy Communion

This year at the Mass of the Lord's Supper, we will hold the re-commissioning ceremony for Ministers of Holy Communion, who will be commissioned for the next two-year period. I ask all our Ministers of Holy Communion to let me know beforehand of your intention regarding this.

Parking at the main entrance to the church

We have spaces for only four cars outside the main entrance of the church and priority is given to disabled drivers. We are all asked to observe the limitations of this small parking area.

Let us continue to pray for one another during Lent, that we will truly engage in this penitential season, and by our Lent foster the growth of the Kingdom in our lives, our parish, and this part of Bedford - for the glory of God.

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