

## **Welcome to the Catholic Parish of Christ the King, Bedford** The Fifth Sunday of Lent, 2026

The Lord calls us, every Sunday, to share in his saving love in the Holy Mass. But with the approach of Holy Week, he makes this invitation to us in a much greater way. Today, the terrible circumstances of his Passion and Death are no longer in operation, but the Mystery of the Redemption is fully present to us in the Liturgies of Holy Week and Easter. On Palm Sunday at the start of Holy Week, Christ Jesus calls all the baptised to a much greater awareness of his Passion, Death, and Resurrection. He invites us to participate with him in these days so that we experience, more intimately and personally, the Mystery of his Redeeming love for us.

2000 years ago, the crowds gathered to welcome him into the holy city. Next week, on Palm Sunday, he will personally invite the whole Church to re-live and re-embrace that mutual openness we share with him; the way in which he takes us into his heart, and the way in which we have welcomed him into our lives.

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday of Holy Week are days of recollection, giving us time to come to a place of awareness of the intentions of his heart for us, and correspondingly, of our self-gift to him.

On Thursday, the Paschal Triduum begins with the Mass of the Lord's Supper and the giving of the Holy Eucharist, a gift which enables us to participate sacramentally in the Redemption. Then follows the hour of Watching with the Blessed Sacrament, remembering that in the Garden of Gethsemani, 2000 years ago, he accepted the burden of our sins. Then follows Good Friday and Holy Saturday.

The Church sets aside these days because they commemorate the one transformative event of our lives and the life of the world. It is wonderful if you are able to invite people you know to come with you and take part in these Mysteries. But, at least, let us hold them in our hearts before the Lord.

## **Schedule for the week beginning Sunday 22nd March 2026**

### **Saturday 21st March**

10.00am - 10.45am Confession available  
6.00pm Vigil Mass, Protection of the vulnerable

### **Sunday 22nd March**

8.30am Holy Mass (Latin), the faithful of the parish  
10.30am Holy Mass, Bih Maria Che, birthday  
5pm Syro-Malabar Mass

### **Tuesday 24th March**

6.30pm Holy Mass, For peace in the world  
7pm-7.30pm Eucharistic Adoration

### **Wednesday 25th March, The Solemnity of the Annunciation**

10am Holy Mass, the intentions of our bishop  
10.30am The Holy Rosary  
6.00pm Parish office hour  
7.15pm Meeting to plan Holy Week, Parish Room.

### **Thursday 26th March,**

6.30pm Holy Mass, Conversion from sin  
7.15pm Lent in the lives of the Saints, in the Portacabin

### **Friday 27th March**

8.30am Stations of the Cross  
11am - 11.45am Eucharistic Adoration, Confession available  
12 noon Holy Mass, Arthur and Jo Hoggard, RIP  
6 - 8pm Eucharistic Adoration with Confession available

### **Saturday 28th March**

10.00am - 10.45am Confession available  
6.00pm Vigil Mass

Please remember the sick of our parish and those who have died recently.

