

Our Lady & St Edmund of Abingdon ***1 Radley Rd, Abingdon on Thames, Oxon, OX14 3PL***

We are a **LiveSimply** parish aiming to live Simply, Sustainably and in Solidarity with the Poor

Parish Priest: Fr. Jamie McGrath Tel: 01235 520375
Parish Secretary: Lisa Paterson Tel: 01235 520375
Office Hours: 9am - 12.30pm Tuesday to Friday
Office Email: abingdon@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

We live stream all services

Safeguarding Team: Tel. 07572 935 230
Visits Oxford Hospitals: Priest/Chaplain 01865 221732
Visits and Help: Society of Vincent de Paul Group, contact via Parish Office
Parish Website: www.ourladyandstedmund.org.uk
Primary School: St. Edmund's School, Radley Road, Abingdon, OX14 3PP Tel 521558

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Reg. Charity No 1199568 www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Confessions: Saturdays 11.00 – 11.30am or by appointment

LENTEN REFLECTION

One thing that invariably stands out when reading about Jesus' personal dealings with people is His magnificent wisdom. He always knows how to get to the heart of the problem in a person's heart: "for he always knew what was in a man." (Jn 2)

Today with the woman at the well, he not only shows that he knows the problem, but also his wisdom and love in dealing with her.

The prejudice of the day prohibited conversation between men and women in public. Isn't it wonderful to know that Jesus loves the social outcast as well as the socially acceptable?

His preference is always for the lost and the poor: "The Son of Man has come to seek out and save that which is lost." (Lk 9:10)

PRAYER FOR LENT

Father may your Holy Spirit kindle in our hearts a greater love for Christ and his Church. Make us fully alive to the opportunities you give us for service in our world. Save us from complacency and fear. Inspire us with a vision of a world won for you, until your will is done on earth as it is in heaven. Amen

LENTEN FUNDRAISING PROJECT 2023

We are supporting **École Don Bosco, in Hadath, Baalbeck in Lebanon**, run by Salesian Sisters for our Lenten project for this year. Information on the school and current dates for your diary, are available on our parish website. If you are able to **organise and do** something, please submit your proposal to the parish office as soon as possible. *"TRULY, I SAY TO YOU, WHATEVER YOU DID FOR ONE OF THESE LEAST BROTHERS AND SISTERS OF MINE, YOU DID FOR ME"* (Matthew 25:40). Thank you.

You can follow Lent and the Lenten Fundraising project on the News or What's On pages of our website.

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT: Cycle 1 (A)

Sunday 12 March

8.45am Mass (Dora Nash RIP)
10.15am Mass (*Special Intention*)
2.00pm Mass in Polish
6.30pm Mass (Doris Lock RIP)

Monday 13 March

8.30am Rosary
9.00am Mass (Patrick Farrell RIP)

Tuesday 14 March

NO Mass See: www.ourladyandstedmund.org.uk/english-martyrs-vale-of-white-horse for other Masses

Wednesday 15 March

6.30pm Rosary
7.00pm Mass (*Special Intention*)

Thursday 16 March

9.00am Rosary
9.30am Mass (Aysel Ayhamed RIP)

Friday 17 March

6.30pm Rosary
7.00pm Mass (Pat Castle Special Intention)

St Patrick

Saturday 18 March

11am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
11-11.30am Confessions
12pm Mass (*Special Intention*)

CAFOD – FAMILY FAST DAY

If you missed out on bringing your donations to church last Sunday, you can still do so this Sunday (box available at the back of the church) or you can also donate online via the link on the *News* page of our parish website.

Also, The *Cafod* Earthquake emergency appeal is still live online at <https://cafod.org.uk/give>

BIG BREAKFAST & PRODUCE SALE

A **big thank you** to the organisers, all those who attended to support this event. The Big Breakfast raised £300 and the Produce Sale a further £162.68. All proceeds will go towards our Lenten project supporting École Don Bosco in Lebanon.

CAR WASHING

The young people of the parish will be washing cars **THIS SUNDAY** during the 10.15 Mass. The money raised from your donations will go to the Lenten Project. Please can you park your car in the OLA car park.

ST PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATIONS

This will be on Friday 17th March, 6.30pm-10pm in the Parish Centre. Enjoy an evening of Irish music, song, dance and food to help raise money for the Lenten project. Tickets £15 per adult and £5 per child to include Irish stew and desert, vegan option also. Tickets available Sunday 12th March after 10.15am Mass or email Laura or Bernadette to reserve tickets: lauraashleycarter@btinternet.com or bernadette.m.osullivan@gmail.com or phone Laura on 07947 178394. Drinks will be available to purchase or bring your own. Great raffle on the night. We look forward to seeing you there!

TREASURE HUNT – LENTEN FUNDRAISING

A fair trade sponsored treasure hunt is being organised to raise funds for our Lenten project. Please collect a form with all the information you need from the table at back of the church and encourage your children to take part. You can also download it from the *News* or *Lenten Fundraising* pages on our website. There are prizes!

OLD WIRES – LENTEN FUNDRAISING

If you have any old or broken electric wires, Linda Gelens can raise money for the Lenten project from them. Please leave them in a bag under the table at the back of the church and **contact Linda to let her know to pick them up:** famgelens@gmail.com or 07934 766305. Thank you.

WARM SPACE

We continue to run a lovely Warm Space on Mondays 11am – 3pm in the parish centre. We offer conversation, deep listening, board games, children's toys and a relaxed and warm environment!

CHURCH IN ABINGDON – MARCH NEWSLETTER

Copies of the March edition of the CiA newsletter are available in the porch in the church or on the *News* page of our parish website.

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT SUNDAY

The second collection on Sunday 19th March will be for the *Clergy Assistance Fund*.

PARISH EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

- **Sunday:** Car wash during the 10.15am Mass.
- **Sunday:** Refreshments in the parish centre after the 10.15am Mass.
- **Monday:** *Warm Space* in the parish centre from 11am to 3pm.
- **Monday:** *Journeying Together in Faith (JTIF)* at 7.30pm in the parish centre. All welcome.
- **Tuesday:** Mothers' prayers, in French, in the parish centre at 8pm.
- **Friday:** *Baby & Toddler* group in the parish centre 9.30am to 11.15am in term time.

FUTURE DATES

- **Sat 25th Mar:** FHC preparation, Session 6, 8.50am to 10am, in the church.
- **Sat 25th Mar:** Youth groups meet in the parish centre from 3.30 to 5pm. All in year 3 or above are welcome.
- **Mon 20th Mar:** *Journeying Together in Faith (JTIF)* at 7.30pm in the parish centre. All welcome.
- **Mon 17th Apr:** Golf Day at Drayton Park Golf Club for our Lenten fundraising project.

BISHOP PHILIP

A warm Welcome to Bishop Philip **THIS SUNDAY**, and Fr. Anthony Fyk, the Bishop's Secretary. It's always an honour and a joy to welcome the Diocesan Bishop to the parish. He is the successor to the Apostles, especially chosen for us to lead and guide us. In these very challenging times, let us support him with our prayers to help him in his ministry.

LENTEN FUNDRAISING 2023

Maria Pia Oliver, one of our parishioners has published a book *"Roses and Thorns"*. She is donating all proceeds to Helen & Douglas House. However, during Lent all proceeds from sales will benefit our own project in Lebanon. If you purchase it directly from Maria Pia, we will receive almost £8 per copy. The purchase price is £9.99. Contact Maria Pia or Mike directly on Ab.528528.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

You are invited to join in the Diocese on pilgrimage to Lourdes, leaving from Bournemouth airport on Monday 17th July and returning on Friday 21st July. Once in Lourdes the group will stay for four nights at the Hotel La Solitude, celebrate Mass daily, and take part in all that Lourdes has to offer. If you would like to know more about joining in as a pilgrim or as a youth helper, serving our pilgrims and helping to make our pilgrimage a success, please email: lourdes@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

WE PRAY FOR

- Harry Staite RIP.