

# ***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: 8.15am - 12.15pm Tuesday to Friday  
Office Email: [abingdon@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto: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](http://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](http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**Confessions: Saturdays 11.00 – 11.30am or by appointment**

## **REFLECTION**

The feast of Christ the King which we celebrate this Sunday, brings to an end the church's liturgical year. When we think of a king we think of someone who lords it over people. But Christ is not like that. He came to serve, not to be served, and the one thing he wants from us is to imitate him. On a cold wintery day, a man saw a small girl standing at a street corner. She was shivering with the cold and starving for want of a decent meal. The man got angry and said to God: "Why do you allow this to happen? Why don't you do something about it?" and God replied "I have already done something about it. I made you." "As long as you did it to one of those, you did it to me" These unforgettable words if Christ are at the very heart of the Gospel. Every day we get some chance to put them into practice.

## **PRAY FOR VOCATIONS**

Almighty God look with compassion on the world you have redeemed by the death of your son Jesus Christ. Move the hearts of many to offer themselves for the sacred ministry of your Church, so that by their lives and labours your light may shine in the darkness and the coming of your kingdom be advanced. On the feast of Christ the King we offer you our youth, that your Holy Spirit may inspire in their hearts the desire to serve and not be served. Amen

## **ST EDMUND'S SCHOOL**

St Edmunds school is looking to welcome an enthusiastic and committed part time Teacher, a Higher Level Teaching Assistant and a Teaching Assistant, supportive of the school mission and Catholic ethos. Please contact The School Business Manager (Ab. 521558 or email [clomas2266@st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:clomas2266@st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk)) to request further details and an application pack. **Closing date: Thurs 30<sup>th</sup> Nov at 12noon.**

## **Week 34 in Ordinary Time: Cycle 1 (A)**

### **Sunday 26 Nov.**

8.45am Mass  
10.15am Mass  
2.00pm Mass in Polish  
6.30pm Mass

### **OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST KING OF THE UNIVERSE**

(Kathleen O'Reilly RIP)  
(John Nelson RIP)  
(Joaquen Alanis RIP)

### **Monday 27 Nov.**

8.30am Rosary  
9.00am Mass

(Jim O'Leary RIP)

### **Tuesday 28 Nov.**

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

### **Wednesday 29 Nov.**

6.30pm Rosary  
7.00pm Mass

(Patricia Jones RIP)

### **Thursday 30 Nov.**

9.00am Rosary  
9.30am Mass

### **St Andrew, Apostle**

(Conrad Lewis Intentions)

### **Friday 1 Dec.**

6.30pm Rosary  
7.00pm Mass

### **St Edmund Campion**

(Paul Fazio RIP))

### **Saturday 2 Dec.**

11am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
11-11.30am Confessions  
12pm Mass

### **Our Lady on Saturday**

(Private Intention)

## **CHRIST THE KING**

On the last Sunday of the liturgical year, this Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November, Catholics celebrate the Solemnity of Christ the King, a feast designed to give special recognition to the dominion Christ our Lord has over all aspects of our lives. We firmly hope that the feast of the Kingship of Christ may hasten the return of society to our loving Saviour.

## WORLD YOUTH DAY

The youth from our parish will be celebrating WYD this Sunday, participating in the 6.30pm Mass and then inviting everyone who would like you join them for refreshments in the parish centre afterwards, where slides from the recent event in Lisbon will be shown.

## PARISH AGM

Copies of the parish report are available on the table at the back of the church.

## HELP NEEDED ON CHRISTMAS DAY

For a number of years churches in Abingdon, including our own, have welcomed people who would otherwise be alone on Christmas Day. This year on Christmas Day we will be inviting 60 people to have a two-course lunch for free with us at Peachcroft Christian Centre. We need a number of volunteers. If you would like to volunteer please email [jay.elliott@peachcroftcc.org](mailto:jay.elliott@peachcroftcc.org) as soon as possible. More information on the help needed is available on the *News* page of our parish website.

## CHILDRENS' MASSES

10.15am Mass on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent) will be a Children's Mass. We are looking forward to welcoming you to this Mass, and we intend to continue holding a Children's Mass on the first Sunday of every month during term-time. We hope to see many of you there!

## WELCOMING THE WORD – ADVENT RETREATS

The season of Advent is fast approaching, and the Carmelite friars at Boars Hill are offering us **free** Advent retreats, to which everyone is invited to join in. For more details and to register your interest, please use the link on the *News* page of our website.

## THE TRUE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS GIVING

If you have already begun your Christmas shopping – or are thinking about doing so – why not pick up the *CAFOD* booklet of *World Gifts* from the back of the church and in the porch. Every gift you buy helps real people and makes a massive positive difference.

## A SIMPLE, SUSTAINABLE CHRISTMAS

In the spirit of living more simply and sustainably as individuals and as a parish, we hope to share suggestions at the beginning of Advent for celebrating a simpler Christmas this year. Please send suggestions, big or small to [carolesawyers27@gmail.com](mailto:carolesawyers27@gmail.com) or put them in an envelope marked *Simple Christmas* and drop it into the presbytery.

## WALK & TALK IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF ST EDMUND

An open invitation to everyone to join the CGA for a very special and unique short *walk and talk* in the footsteps of St Edmund, given by Anne Dodd on **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December**, meeting at St Ethelwold House on East St Helen Street at 2pm. Coffee and mince pies to follow.

## PARISH EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

- **Sunday:** Refreshments in the parish centre after the 10.15am Mass.
- **Monday:** *Open Doors* in the parish centre from 11.30am to 2.30pm.
- **Friday:** Baby & Toddler group in the parish centre 9.30am to 11.15am in term time.

## FUTURE DATES

- **Sat. 9<sup>th</sup> Dec:** Christmas party for young people aged 7 and above, from 3.30-5pm in the parish centre.
- **Sun. 10<sup>th</sup> Dec:** Carol service in our church at 4pm, followed by refreshments in the parish centre.
- **Sat 16<sup>th</sup> Dec:** Christmas High Tea in the parish centre from 2.30-4.30pm. For info, please ring Ab. 534873.

## SUPPORTING THE HOMELESS

Our Advent collection this year will be supporting the homeless through the work of *Emmaus Oxford*. We will begin our collection at the start of Advent **on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December and will end on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December**. A list of items which would be welcomed is available at the back of the church and on the *News* page of our website. From 3<sup>rd</sup> December, a box will be available at the back of the church for you to put in your contributions. Thank you.

## CHRISTMAS WREATH MAKING

There will be a wreath demonstration - and you can make your own Christmas wreath – at St Michael's Church Hall, Park Rd, Abingdon OX14 1DS on **Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December** from 10am to 2pm. The tickets are £20 which includes the materials and lunch. Tickets are available from Anne Green (Ab. 520171) or through the link on the *News* page of our parish website.

## ABINGDON TWINNING ASSOCIATION

Abingdon Church Twinning Association have produced Christmas cards again this year, with snowy scenes of Abingdon. Packs of 10 cards for £4.50 will be available for sale after all Masses this Sunday, or contact Pat Warren 07526 033715, or Anne Dodd 07732 829624

## THANK YOU FROM FRIENDS OF THE HOLY LAND

Friends of the Holy Land would like to thank all parishioners who raised £1,655.00 through the church collections, for Christians in the Holy Land. Please continue to remember FHL and those we support in your prayers.

## ADVENT PLEDGES FOR A SIMPLE CHRISTMAS

Please take home a leaflet with some ideas about pledges for a simple Christmas. We invite everyone to make a pledge about what action they will take. From the first Sunday of Advent (3 December) the pledges will be displayed in church – remember to bring yours and pin it to the ribbons!