

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 at JR Hospital: 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



Roman Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Reg. Charity No 246871 www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Confessions: Saturdays 11.00 – 11.30am or by appointment

MASSES:

Thank you for helping to keep each other safe by continuing to wear face masks/coverings, for sanitising your hands as you enter the church, and for maintaining a reasonable distance from others where feasible.

ADVANCED NOTICE

There will be **no Mass on Monday 29th November**, as the Bishop has called all priests to a meeting.

SEASON OF ADVENT

Yes, the season of Advent is almost here and this Sunday is the last in this liturgical year, as Advent begins on Sunday 28th November. Let us take this opportunity to *prepare a way for the Lord and to make his paths straight.* (Mark 1:3 & Isaiah 40:3)

CAFOD WORLD GIFTS

As we rejoice in once again celebrating Christmas with our loved ones, let us spread our joy around the world by having a CAFOD World Gift under the tree. From energy saving stoves to weatherproof crops to emergency shelters, CAFOD's virtual charity gifts help transform the lives of families living in poverty. Buy online at cafod.org.uk/worldgifts or pick up a catalogue in church.

BLESSING OF GRAVES

Fr Jamie will be blessing graves this **Sunday 21st November** at 10am here at the Church graveyard and 12 noon at the cemetery at Spring Road.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The Salvation Army are holding a Christmas Concert on 27th November at 7pm at 12 West St Helen Street. Tickets are £5 per person available by booking by phone 07435 075660 or email abingdon@salvationarmy.org.uk

ABINGDON PASSION PLAY

If interested, please note that the Abingdon Passion Play AGM will be held at 7 pm on 27 November 2021 at Christ Church Barns Northcourt Road.

34th Week of Ordinary Time (Year B)

Sunday 21 Nov.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

8.45am Mass (Peggy & John Anderson, RIP)
10.15am Mass (All the Bereaved)
2.00pm Mass in Polish
6.30pm Mass (Private Intention)

Monday 22 Nov.

St Cecilia

8.30am Rosary
9am Mass (Argo Ashton, RIP)

Tuesday 23 Nov.

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

Wednesday 24 Nov.

St Andrew Dung-Lac & Companions

6.30pm Rosary
7pm Mass (John Dunleavy, RIP)

Thursday 25 Nov.

9.00am Rosary
9.30am Mass (David Bland, RIP)

Friday 26 Nov.

6.30pm Rosary
7pm Mass (*Special Intention*)

Saturday 27 Nov.

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

SVP

Our parish *St. Vincent de Paul Society* has a new President: Sandra Alanis has taken over from Ben Osei. If you are interested in joining the SVP to visit and help those in need, or if you know someone who would like to be visited or helped, please contact the SVP via the Parish Office.

CHRISTMAS DAY OUTREACH

Our Lady and St Edmund's will be organising this year's **Abingdon Christmas Day outreach**. It used to be run by Peachcroft Church, but is now a Church in Abingdon supported project, which can be run by different churches. This year we are going to take Christmas Hampers to the doorstep of 100 people who are on their own on Christmas Day and would appreciate some gifts and a short chat on the doorstep. We are looking for some parishioners to help, whether for a few hours or regularly over the next 8 weeks. Firstly, some people who can help Clare Simpson prepare by buying contents for the hamper, contact possible recipients using last year's database and ringing various organisations, and help with some artwork or crocheting a gift or writing the cards. Secondly, we need some volunteers for Christmas Day morning, to deliver about 6 bags each (you are put into pairs and all very organised!) which would take about one hour. Thirdly, if anyone would like to make a financial contribution, to add to the funding we should get from local bodies, we would be most grateful. Contact clare@claresimpson.com or tel 847804.

CLIMATE CORNER

Let us all try to waste less water by:

- turning off the tap when brushing our teeth (we can save about 6 -8 litres each time);
- taking a shower instead of a bath (of course it depends on how long our shower lasts, but using an aerated showerhead cuts down the amount of water used);
- fixing a dripping tap (could just need a new washer).

CATHOLIC MOTHERS OXFORD

Are you a Catholic mother living in Oxfordshire (or neighbouring counties) and would like to connect with other Catholic mums and families? Laura Williams is trying to create a local community online and in person, for mothers to connect and support each other, and hear about local faith-based events, talks and groups. If you would like to join them, please find them on:

- *FaceBook*: Catholic Mothers Oxford,
- *Instagram*: @catholicmothersoxford or
- *email* at catholicmothersoxford@gmail.com to be added to the email list.

CHRISTMAS POST

Abingdon Scouts & Guides are back! A Christmas postal service run by the Scouts & Guides for delivery in Abingdon, Radley & Shippon only. Guaranteed delivery by Christmas Eve. Costs 30p per card and these may be deposited in the box at the back of the church. Collections from 13th November to 12th December. All proceeds to Scout & Guide funds to provide additional facilities for young people. Thank you for your support.

WE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL OF:

- John Dunleavy, RIP.
- Hazel Richardson, RIP

PARISH EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

- **Sunday**: Blessing of graves at 10am here at the Church graveyard and 12 noon at the cemetery at Spring Road.
- **Sunday**: Refreshments in the Parish Centre after the 10.15am Mass.
- **Monday**: JTiF (Journeying Together in Faith), 7.30pm to 9pm in the parish centre. All welcome.
- **Friday**: Baby & Toddler group in the parish centre 9.30am to 11.15am in term time.

FUTURE DATES

- **Sun 12th Dec**: Parish Christmas lunch in the parish centre. Please ring Mary 534873 or Jo 526177 if you would like to attend.

CHRISTMAS MATTERS

Christmas Matters, a Fanning the Flame Day, will be taking place on **Saturday 4th December** from 9:45am-6:00pm at Holy Family, Southampton. This is day for young people to discover why the Incarnation matters, how it must affect our daily lives, from how we treat ourselves and others to our understanding of the dead and belief in the Resurrection. Led by the Dominican Sisters of St Joseph, it's an opportunity for young people to come together and grow in faith and fellowship, and have some fun too! The day is open to young people from 10-21 years of age. There is a cost of £10 and you need to bring your own lunch. For more information and to book a place, visit:

www.fanningtheflame.co.uk/christmas-matters

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW ST EDMUND?

St Edmund of Abingdon's feast day was on 16th November. Anyone interested in learning a little more about our local saint is welcome to come on a short walk round the centre of Abingdon next **Sunday 28th at 2.30pm** led by Anne Dodd. We will meet outside St Nicholas' Church in the Market Place and will visit the places in the centre of town connected with St Edmund. The walk, with stops en route, will take about an hour. Further information from Tel. 525997.

CIA CAROL SERVICE

The Church in Abingdon is planning a Carol Service in the Market Place on **Saturday 18 December from 11.00am - 12.00pm**. The aim is not to collect money but to hand out leaflets about Christmas services in Abingdon churches. We hope that Our Lady & St Edmund's will be represented at the event. If you would like to take part, and/or if you're interested in helping the choir to lead, please let Margaret Hancox know. (01235 524534 or margaretdhancox@gmail.com)

CHRISTIAN FOCUS

Christian Focus is back after many months! The Autumn 2021 edition of the newsletter is available at the back of the Church and in the porch.