

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

REFLECTION

Christ told his followers that they should not be afraid to declare themselves for him before other people. Are we sometimes afraid to speak and to act in a Christian way? If so why is this? It is because we are unwilling to suffer for Christ or is it simply that we are afraid of what others will say? We cannot witness to Christ without his grace. Saint John Henry Newman once asked his congregation to ponder on what Christ meant to them, and what difference being a Christian made in the way they lived their daily lives. He asked: "Is it the case that there is nothing we resolve, nothing we do or not do, nothing we avoid or choose, nothing we give up or take up which we would not resolve, or do, or omit, or avoid, or chose, or give up if Christ had not died and if heaven were not promised to us?" "I really fear" he went on "that most of those who call themselves Christians would go on almost as they do if they believed Christianity to be nothing more than a fable".

PARISH DAY

Next Sunday 2nd July we will celebrate our Open Air Mass in the Parish Centre garden. Mass Will be celebrated at 10.30am. NB there will be no 8.45 Mass. We pray for good weather! Please bring your own chairs and blankets if you can. Seats are provided but the number is limited. Also, as a precaution, use protection from the sun - cream, hats etc. A BBQ will be provided after Mass so please stay and enjoy the company of other family and friends. We appeal for fit volunteers to help set up the chairs and tables etc, and especially to help clear everything away at the end. Many thanks.

PLEASE PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

God our Father, you have created us for some definite purpose. Grant us the grace to know the path you have planned for us in this life and to hear your call. Bless our Diocese, our parishes and our families, and mould our hearts to be faithful and receptive ground for your gift of vocations. May our young people respond to your call with courage and zeal.

Week 12 in Ordinary Time: Cycle 1 (A)

Sunday 25 June

8.45am Mass (Maureen Cash RIP)
10.15am Mass (Ted Kelly RIP)
2.00pm Mass in Polish
6.30pm Mass (Jorge Cervantes RIP)

Monday 26 June

8.30am Rosary
9.00am Mass (Pat Castle Intentions)

Tuesday 27 June

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

Wednesday 28 June

St Irenaeus

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

Thursday 29 June

Saints Peter & Paul

8.30am Rosary
9.00am Mass (Deirdre O'Sullivan RIP)
7.00pm Mass (Private Intention)

Friday 30 June

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

Saturday 1 July

Our Lady on Saturday

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

YOUTH GROUPS

Our Youth groups meet again on **Saturday 8th July** from 3.30pm to 5pm in the parish centre. This will be the last session until September. All children in the school year 3 and above are very welcome. We could also do with some parent volunteers. Please consider coming along to help with supervision and refreshments. Thank you.

USING YOUR CARD TO GIVE

We have a new machine at the back of church so that you can give to a collection or pay for candles or books using a bank card. It is very simple and quick – just follow the on-screen instructions and select what it is you are giving for. The money you give will be directed as you choose – to the offertory collection, to the second collection or to pay for candles or books. **This Sunday** the second collection is for **Peter's Pence**.

ST EDMUND'S SCHOOL

St Edmund's school is looking to welcome a Nursery Leader and also a Teaching Assistant, supportive of our school mission and Catholic ethos to join our happy, motivated children. Please contact The School Business Manager (01235 521558 or clomas2266@st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk) to request an application pack. Closing date: **Friday 30th June at 12.00 noon**

LIGHT FOR THE BLIND

This is to give advance notice that Father Thomas from India - who is well known to most parishioners - will be visiting Abingdon next month. He will be at all the Masses on **Sunday July 9th** and there will be an opportunity to meet him in the Parish Centre for coffee and refreshments after the 10.15am Mass.

CHURCH TWINNING VISIT TO ARGENTAN

Thurs 12th to Mon 16th October 2023. Celebrating 25 years of twinning with Abingdon churches, 15 people have been invited to commemorate this link. We would stay with host families where possible and a varied programme is being prepared for us. Ideally transport is by private car (sharing spaces) using the Portsmouth to Caen ferry. If interested, contact Pat Warren 07526 033715 or patwarren14@hotmail.com communities in Abingdon.

WORLD YOUTH DAY

This year World Youth Day WILL TAKE PLACE IN Lisbon 1st – 6th August. Young Catholics from all over the world will gather with Pope Francis to celebrate their faith. Delighted that we have three young people from this parish going, Lewis, Isaac & Mateo. They will join the Diocesan group led by Fr. P.J. We pray that they will be greatly blessed, and their faith encouraged.

CAFOD: UPDATE ON CONFLICT IN SUDAN

Violent conflict continues in Sudan and thousands of people are running out of food, water and medicine. Working as part of the Caritas network, your previous donations to CAFOD are enabling our teams to provide practical help to families who have escaped to neighbouring countries, including South Sudan. Please join Pope Francis in praying for peace in Sudan. Find out more on the CAFOD website:
<https://cafod.org.uk/news/emergencies-news/sudan-conflict>

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

- **Sun 2nd July:** Parish Day. Morning Mass at 10.30am in the garden by the parish centre followed by BBQ.
- **Sat 8th July:** Youth groups meet in the parish centre from 3.30 to 5pm.
- **Wed 12th July:** Mothers' prayers in French at 8pm in the parish centre.

SS. PETER & PAUL

This Thursday is the feast of Saints Peter & Paul – one of our great Holy Days. It celebrates the Rock on which our Church is built (Peter) and her missionary call to evangelise all peoples (Paul). We pray on this day for the grace we all need to be faithful to our vocation to witness to Christ in our world.

FORTY MARTYRS OF ENGLAND & WALES

Did you see Bishop Philip's e-news this week? He gives information of a new series on The Forty Martyrs being screened on Shalom World TV an online Catholic T.V. station. The first programmes last year were written by Dora Nash, who sadly passed away last September. Andrew, her husband has completed the script for the rest. Showing every Thursday at 9pm.

TACKLING THE ROOT CAUSES OF POVERTY

Church teaching says that we should not only support those in poverty but also tackle the root causes of poverty. Pope Benedict XVI said that *"Love - caritas - is an extraordinary force which leads people to opt for courageous and generous engagement in the field of justice and peace."* For decades CAFOD has spoken out against injustice. To find out more please go to www.cafod.org.uk/latestcampaigns

VACANCY AT HINKSEY PARISH

Hinksey parish have a vacancy for a part time Parish Administrator. For details, please visit the *News* page of our parish website.

PRO-LIFE PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM

Archbishop Kevin McDonald will be leading this year's Pilgrimage to Walsingham in Reparation and Prayer for the Sanctity of Life, on **Sat 5th August** at 12 noon Pilgrim Mass in the Chapel of Reconciliation. If interested, for coach details please go to www.prolifepilgrimage.org or call 01858 571242 / 07779 122365.