

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

This is the day when Jesus, true to his promise, sent his Spirit on the apostles. The coming of the Spirit resulted in changed people and saw the launching of the new community, The Church. This great day renews the gift of the Spirit in each of us and in the Church as a whole. Let us dispose ourselves to receive the Spirit.

Lord the Spirit enlightens the darkness of our minds and softens the hardness of our hearts. It kindles within us the fire of your love. The Spirit heals the wounds of division in the Christian community. Come Holy Spirit!

LENTEN PROJECT - LEBANON

Delighted to announce today the final total raised with gift aid during Lent was **£13,669.71**. Truly wonderful! Congratulations and huge thanks for your generosity and support. Special thanks to all of you who hosted any of the events and made it such a wonderful time both for *École Don Bosco, in Hadath, Baalbeck in Lebanon*, but also our own community as well. Final thanks to Ernest & Theresa who suggested the project.

God Bless you all.

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 week the second collection is for the *Catholic Communications Network*. You don't have to wait until after the Mass – it can all be done in a few seconds before Mass starts.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Please pray for the children who are in the final stages of preparing for their First Holy Communion in June. Please also keep their families in your prayers.

PENTECOST SUNDAY: Cycle 1 (A)

Sunday 28 May

8.45am	Mass	7th Sunday of Easter (Sylvia Brown, RIP)
10.15am	Mass	(Jane Ellwood, RIP)
2.00pm	Mass in Polish	
6.30pm	Mass	(Paul, Stella & Simon Worrallo, RIP)

Monday 29 May

8.30am	Rosary	Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church
9.00am	Mass	(William Moffatt intentions)

Tuesday 30 May

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

Wednesday 31 May

6.30pm	Rosary	Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
7.00pm	Mass	(Ted Kelly, RIP)

Thursday 1 June

9.00am	Rosary	Our Lord Jesus Christ, Eternal High Priest
9.30am	Mass	(Private intention)

Friday 2 June

6.30pm	Rosary	
7.00pm	Mass	(Peter Delany, RIP)

Saturday 3 June

11am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	St Charles Lwanga & Companions
11-11.30am	Confessions	
12pm	Mass	(Vincent Collins, RIP)

BABY & TODDLER GROUP

There will be no baby and toddler group session on Friday 2nd June due to half term. Sessions resume on Friday 9th June.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE

16 members of our parish will be on pilgrimage to Patmos (site of St John's revelation) from 5th to 12th June. They will be praying for you - please also keep them in your prayers.

OUR PARISH CENTRE

The parish centre is professionally cleaned each Monday, following the weekend. However, all users are asked to leave it as you find it so that the next group finds it clean and tidy. Many thanks,

WANTING TO VOLUNTEER?

Caritas Portsmouth volunteer teams support parishes and schools to become the 'church beyond walls' to help meet the needs in our local communities. *Caritas* would be delighted if you would join them. Visit their website for details at <https://caritas.org.uk/act/> or email them at caritas@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk Thank you.

THINKING BOOKS - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

TrinityLearning is a small church funded charity working with volunteers to improve the wellbeing and mental health of school communities in Abingdon. They're currently looking for new *Thinking Books* volunteers to start in September 2023 to go into schools regularly to meet children one-to-one or in small groups and share reading of carefully selected books which start conversations about feelings and relationships. They're committed to Safeguarding and provide full training and ongoing support to volunteers. Email nic.trinitylearning@gmail.com to find out more.

GRANDPARENTS, GREAT AUNTIES AND UNCLAS!

Please do come and join us for tea and cake at No. 30, St Ethelwold's House and Gardens, East St Helens St on **Thursday 8th June** at 2.30. Parishioner Anne Dodd will also give a talk about Dorothy Pickering, Fr Bede Griffiths and St Ethelwold who are all connected in some way to this interesting house and stunning gardens. If there are any transport needs please call either Clare on 524861 or Mary on 534873.

PAX CHRISTI

There are copies of the Annual Report 2022-23 at the back of church. Please take a copy if you wish.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

We are planning our open-air parish Mass in the garden by the parish centre for **Sunday 2nd July**. There will be a celebration BBQ following the outdoor Mass at 10.30am, weather permitting. On that day there will only be one morning Mass. Any volunteers to set up and clear away would be much appreciated.

MOTHERS' PRAYERS

Mothers' prayers on Saturday 3rd June is cancelled.

PARISH EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

- **Sunday:** Refreshments in the parish centre after the 10.15am Mass.

FUTURE DATES

- **Mon 5th June:** *Open Doors* in the parish centre from 11.30am to 2.30pm.
- **Thu 8th June:** Tea, cake and talk at St Ethelwold's House. See info in main section of this newsletter.
- **Fri 9th June:** *Baby & Toddler* group in the parish centre 9.30am to 11.15am in term time.
- **Wed 14th June:** Parish lunch in the parish centre at 12.30pm.
- **Sat 24th June:** Youth groups meet in the parish centre from 3.30 to 5pm.
- **Sun 2nd July:** Parish Day. Morning Mass at 10.30am in the garden by the parish centre followed by BBQ.

TACKLING THE ROOT CAUSES OF POVERTY

Did you know that 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 about our seeds campaign and get involved in tackling the root causes of poverty, please go to www.cafod.org.uk/latestcampaigns

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT COURSE

Bishop Philip has announced that this year in the diocese is to be the Year of the Holy Spirit. Why not come and join the *Life in the Spirit* course running after Pentecost! This will be held on Zoom from **Thursday 1st June until Thursday 13th July** from 7.30pm until 9pm. Get involved in Praise and Worship of the Lord. Listen to sound teaching on the Holy Spirit. Meet up with other members of the diocese - and beyond - to discuss what you believe. It is in articulating our thoughts that we really come to know what we do believe. You can register for the course using the link on the *News* page of our parish website.

CARE FOR CREATION

This week marks the 8th anniversary of Pope Francis' encyclical Letter to the World called *Laudato Si'* in which he reminded us that "*human life is grounded in three fundamental and closely intertwined relationships: with God, with our neighbour and with the earth itself.*" In urging us to "*hear both the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor*", Pope Francis reminds us that as Christians our responsibility within creation and our duty towards nature are an essential part of our faith. A film '*The Letter*' about Pope Francis can be watched free online at <https://laudatosiweek.org>