

# ***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](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**

## **SECOND COLLECTION THIS SUNDAY**

*The second (optional) collection this Sunday is for the Catholic Association for Racial Justice (CARJ). You can place your donations in the boxes as you leave the church – please do not put them in the offertory collection bags. You can also donate online on News page of our website.*

*Come, Holy Spirit, show us your beauty, reflected in all the peoples of the earth, so that we may discover anew that all are important and all are necessary, different faces of the one humanity that God so loves. Amen. (Pope Francis)*

## **WORLD YOUTH DAY - LISBON 1<sup>st</sup> TO 6<sup>th</sup> AUGUST**

It's not too late to join in as there are a few places left. So, if you are aged 16 - 30, or know someone who is, and you'd like to join in for a life-changing pilgrimage to Lisbon in the summer, get in touch today by emailing [wyd@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:wyd@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

Our Diocese is also in need of sponsorship to help our young people get to Lisbon. If you are able to give anything, however big or small, we would be extremely grateful. You can donate at: [www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/portsmouthwyd](http://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/portsmouthwyd)

## **FLAME YOUTH GATHERING**

On **Saturday 4th March** a Diocesan contingent, led by Bishop Philip will be travelling to Wembley Arena to attend the biggest Catholic Youth Event in the country: *Flame 2023*, which is always an awesome and inspiring experience. All young people in school year 9 or above, are welcome to join in. There are only a few days left to take advantage of the discounted tickets, priced £27 each, available from [youth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:youth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) Transport by coach from St John's Cathedral in Portsmouth to the venue has now been arranged. Seats on the coach are £30 each and must be booked via [youth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:youth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk). **Book NOW!**

## **LENT**

This year, Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on 22nd February.

## **Week 5 in Ordinary Time: Cycle 1 (A)**

### **Sunday 5 Feb**

8.45am Mass (Special Intention)  
10.15am Mass (Nicolino Porzio & Piera Anna Simonetti RIP)  
2.00pm Mass in Polish  
6.30pm Mass (Private Intention)

### **Monday 6 Feb**

8.30am Rosary  
9.00am Mass (Cameron Paterson Intentions 24<sup>th</sup> Birthday)

### **St Paul Miki & Companions**

### **Tuesday 7 Feb**

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 8 Feb**

6.30pm Rosary  
7.00pm Mass (Special Intention)

### **Thursday 9 Feb**

9.00am Rosary  
9.30am Mass (Dermot Carroll RIP)

### **Friday 10 Feb**

6.30pm Rosary  
7.00pm Mass (Special Intention)

### **St Scholastica**

### **Saturday 11 Feb**

11am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
11-11.30am Confessions  
12pm Mass (Sharon Brady RIP)

## **ABINGDON COMMUNITY FRIDGE**

*Abingdon Community Fridge* is open to EVERYONE. Help to prevent food waste by coming to Hadland Road Community Centre, Abingdon OX14 3YH:  
Opening hours:  
Mondays 4 - 4.30pm, Thursdays, 1pm - 2 pm and Saturdays, 10.30am - 11.30 am.  
Visit: [www.facebook.com/abingdoncommunityfridge](http://www.facebook.com/abingdoncommunityfridge)

## WARM SPACE

We continue to run a lovely Warm Space on Mondays 11am – 3pm in the parish centre. We were pleased to see more parishioners last time, some bringing a friend, to have a hot lunch, or a drink and a chat. We offer conversation, deep listening, board games, children's toys and a relaxed and warm environment! Who do you know who might like to come?

## DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

A Screening of *'The Letter'* will take place in the Parish Centre at **4.30pm on Sunday 19 February**. The 80-minute film stars Pope Francis as he invites community leaders from all over the world to come to Rome to talk about a change of heart in the light of the environmental crisis. The film follows his *Laudato Si* encyclical. The event is free, and there will be popcorn and Fairtrade nibbles! Further details from Margaret Hancox [margaretdhancox@gmail.com](mailto:margaretdhancox@gmail.com)

## YOUNG ADULT GROUP

The Young Adult Group for 18-35s meets at Holy Rood Church on Abingdon Road. Our next meeting is Monday the **6th of February** at 19:30 with Fr John Hughes, OCD. Arrive from 19:00 to begin the talk at 19:30, have a discussion and end with prayer by 21:00. Contact Kate on 07933765367 if you have any questions. All welcome.

## BISHOP PHILIP'S PRAYER BOOK

Would you like to have the prayer book *Lord I am Not Worthy* on your mobile, laptop or iPad? This is now possible and you can download it from the link on the News page of our website. Also, if you would like a larger print copy (A5), then please email: [events@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:events@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

## BISHOP PHILIP'S SIX HOLY HABITS

You may remember that Bishop Philip has been encouraging everyone in the Diocese to adopt and to put into practice six holy habits. Over the next weeks in the Diocesan e-News, he is going to explore in turn each holy habit to help us reflect more deeply on what is being asked and how we might respond. You can read the first of his reflections on *Sunday Mass*, on the *News* page of our parish website.

## ARE YOU IN NEED?

If you are in need or know someone who is, do contact our parish SVP group (St Vincent de Paul Society) via the parish office and we will see what we can do to help. We always maintain confidentiality. Our members meet every fortnight on a Wednesday evening.

## NEW APOSTOLATE OF FAITH FORMATION

Since September, the Dominican Sisters in Lyminster have launched their new apostolate of Faith formation, *Light of Truth*. Their courses and events for adults and catechists are free, but donations are welcome, and they are available to everyone in the diocese. For more information, visit: [www.lightoftruth.uk](http://www.lightoftruth.uk)

## PARISH EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

- **Sunday:** Refreshments in the parish centre after the 10.15am Mass.
- **Monday:** *Warm Space* in the parish centre from 11am to 4pm.
- **Monday:** *Journeying Together in Faith (JTIF)* at 7.30pm in the parish centre. All welcome.
- **Wednesday:** Parish Lunch, 12.30pm in Parish Centre. All welcome.
- **Friday:** *Baby & Toddler* group in the parish centre 9.30am to 11.15am in term time.

## FUTURE DATES

- **Tue 14<sup>th</sup> Feb:** Mothers' prayers, in French, in the parish centre at 8pm.
- **Sun 19<sup>th</sup> Feb:** Screening of film *'The Letter'* in the parish centre at 4.30pm.
- **Sat 25<sup>th</sup> Feb:** FHC preparation, Session 4, 8.50am to 10am, in the church.
- **Sat 25<sup>th</sup> Feb:** Youth groups meet in the parish centre from 3.30 to 5pm. All in year 3 or above are welcome.

## FUNDRAISING FOR CAFOD

Do consider using your skills and talents to help CAFOD raise money for those living in poverty overseas. If you prefer to take on a sponsored challenge don't forget the CAFOD *BIG Lent Walk* - walking 5km for the 40 days of Lent starts on Ash Wednesday, 22nd February. You can get more information for this and sign up the walk at: <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/>

## LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE – A REFLECTION

It only takes one lighted candle in a dark room to transform that room. Jesus uses the metaphor: *"You are the light of the world"* (Matthew 5:14) to get us to try to understand the importance and value of bringing light where there is darkness. That is our mission as Christians. Just as a single candle can give light to an entire room, so are we capable of being a source of light for many others. Christ is the true light – the actual candle, so to speak – but we can, and should, be the mirrors that reflect His light. When we radiate the Light of Christ, others will be inspired not to praise us but rather to glorify God as He acts through us. When we allow Christ to shine His light through us, we can light up the darkness for those who need an act of love, charity, mercy, forgiveness or compassion. Let us try to commit ourselves to becoming God's light for others in their darkness. Our world can become a better place if we radiate Christ's light to a world in need and also seek out His light as it shines brightly through others.

## WE PRAY FOR

- Ellen Mary Annette Weait RIP.