

# ***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](http://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](http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

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

## **LENT ON OUR WEBSITE**

Visit our website for weekly reflections, videos and prayers to help you during Lent. Look in the *What's On* section. There is also a page for children in the *Youth* section, with many activities added every week.

## **PARISH LENTEN REFLECTIONS**

We invite you to join our parish 2022 Lenten Prayer and Reflections, *'Knowing Jesus; the emotional Jesus'*, by Zoom. The course is hosted by the parish RCIA team and will continue every Thursday evening throughout Lent from 7.30pm to 8.15pm and everyone is welcome to join all or any of the sessions. If interested, please contact Pauline on 07506 753085 or email [pehanley@hotmail.com](mailto:pehanley@hotmail.com) to register for the Zoom link.

## **CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY – 11 March**

This is on **Friday 11 March**, a day when we eat simply and give generously to support others.

Please note that this year, in view of the grave humanitarian crisis unfolding in Ukraine, CAFOD has – in partnership with its sister Caritas agencies in Ukraine, Poland and Moldova – committed £100,000 on behalf of the Catholic community in England and Wales. If you would like to contribute to this appeal you can use the **CAFOD Lent Appeal envelopes, but you need to clearly mark the envelopes "For Ukraine". You can also make donations for Cafod and/or Ukraine online on the News page of our website.**

**Envelopes for donations are available this Sunday at the back of the church and in the porch. Please return them with your contributions, the following Sunday.** Thank you.

## **RETREATS AT DOUAI ABBEY**

This Lent, Douai Abbey are offering a number of Saturday reflection days and also two weekend retreats as part of their pastoral programme. For information, contact Fr Peter Bowe by calling 0118 971 5333 or use the links on the *News* page of our website.

## **First week of Lent: Cycle 2 (C)**

### **Sunday 6 March**

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

### **1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent**

(Special intention)  
(Betty Hemmings, RIP)  
(Donald Langridge, RIP)

### **Monday 7 March**

8.30am Rosary  
9.00am Mass

(Sr Catherine Wybourne, RIP)

### **Tuesday 8 March**

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 9 March**

6.30pm Rosary  
7.00pm Mass

(Naïf & Nadége Habayeb, RIP)

### **Thursday 10 March**

9.00am Rosary  
9.30am Mass

(Phil Lane, RIP)

### **Friday 11 March**

6.30pm Rosary  
7.00pm Mass

(Special intention)

### **Saturday 12 March**

8.50am FHC (Session 5)  
11am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
11-11.30am Confessions  
12pm Mass (Peace in Ukraine)

## **LENTEN, EASTER & PENTECOST RETREATS**

The *Centre for Applied Carmelite Spirituality* at Boars Hill are running a variety of Lenten, Easter and Pentecost retreats, which you can join in person or online. See the *News* page of our website for info.

## **DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES**

18-22 July. Youth leaders and pilgrims wanted!  
Contact: [lourdes@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:lourdes@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

## THANK YOU

Our parish branch of the **St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP)** would like to thank, very sincerely, everyone who so generously donated to our appeal last Sunday. So far we have raised £768.56, which will help us greatly in our work. You can still make a donation online this week, using the link on the *News* page of our website, or make donations at any other time using the marked slot in the back wall of our church. Once again, a big thank you for supporting the work in our parish.

## PAPAL MESSAGE FOR LENT

Pope Francis has released a Message for Lent called *Sow Seeds of Goodness*. You can read the full message on the *News* page of our website.

In his message, Pope Francis invites the faithful to sow seeds of goodness, so that we might reap a harvest of salvation for ourselves and others. He bases the Message on a passage from St Paul's Letter to the Galatians, *"Let us not grow tired of doing good, for in due time we shall reap our harvest, if we do not give up. So then, while we have the opportunity, let us do good to all" (6:9-10)*. Beginning with the image of sowing and reaping, the Holy Father points out that *"Lent invites us to conversion, to a change in mindset, so that life's truth and beauty may be found not so much in possessing as in giving, not so much in accumulating as in sowing and sharing goodness."*

## JOURNEYING TOGETHER IN FAITH (JTIF)

Please note that there will be no session on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March. Sessions will resume on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March.

## ENJOY SINGING?

New voices are needed for the **choir** at the 10.15am Mass on the second and fourth Sundays of each month. If you enjoy singing, do come up to the St Edmund's chapel (where the choir will be) after Mass and talk to Paolo, the organist.

## PRAYER FOR LENT

Lord God, through Isaiah You speak to us about the sort of fasting that pleases You: *'to break unjust fetters and undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and break every yoke, to share our bread with the hungry, and shelter the homeless poor, to clothe the people we see to be naked and not turn from our own kin.'* (cf. Isaiah 58:6-7) Lord, help us this Lent to develop a humble and contrite heart through fasting and prayer. Help us to do away with things we do not need and with whatever takes us away from you; to free us from preoccupation with ourselves and to put more energy into helping others both physically and spiritually. May our small acts of fasting, abstinence and self-sacrifice be done generously and joyfully with love, so that we win the grace of conversion for someone we know and unite ourselves more closely to You. Amen.

## WE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL OF:

Eleanor Yates, RIP

## PARISH EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

- **Sunday: Big Breakfast & Produce Sale** in the parish centre after morning Masses.
- **Friday:** Baby & Toddler group in the parish centre 9.30am to 11.15am in term time.
- **Saturday:** FHC preparation, session 5, in the church from 8.50am to 10am for those registered.

## FUTURE DATES

- **Mon 14<sup>th</sup> Mar:** JTIF (Journeying Together in Faith), 7.30pm to 9pm in the parish centre. All welcome.
- **Fri 18<sup>th</sup> Mar:** Baby & Toddler group in the parish centre 9.30am to 11.15am in term time.
- **Fri 25<sup>th</sup> Mar:** International Evening at 7.30pm in the parish centre.
- **Sat 26<sup>th</sup> Mar:** FHC preparation, session 6, in the church from 8.50am to 10am for those registered.

## A GREAT START!

Our Lenten fundraising started really well, with the *Simple Soup Supper* on Ash Wednesday. This was well attended and a total of **£302.92** was raised. Many thanks to the cooks, those who prepared the room so tastefully, the washer uppers and those who cleared up afterwards – and very importantly, all those of you who came along and generously contributed to project.

However, we still have a long way to go if we are to provide meaningful help to St Monica's School in Malawi! So please consider running some fundraising event(s) yourself – and generously supporting events that are being organised. You are also able to make contributions online on our website – just visit the *News* page or look in the *What's On* section.

## BIG BREAKFAST & PRODUCE SALE – 6<sup>th</sup> MARCH

This will take place after the 8.45 am and 10.15am Masses this Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> March, in the Parish Centre. Please come and enjoy a hot breakfast roll and refreshment after the morning Masses.

**ALSO NEEDED: Contributions for our Produce Sale.** Homemade (or shop bought) CAKES, PASTRIES, PIES, FAMILY FAVOURITES, JAMS, PRESERVES AND CHUTNEYS are needed for our sale. Also, good quality "unneeded gifts" would be gratefully received. **THESE ITEMS CAN BE DROPPED OFF IN THE PARISH CENTRE BEFORE THE 8.45am AND 10.15am MASSES ON 6 MARCH.**

## GOLF DAY – 4<sup>th</sup> APRIL

This will be on **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April** at Drayton Park. Once again, a big thank you to Mary McKenna for letting us hold the event at Drayton free of charge. The cost will be £25 for the day. We usually get terrific support from our golfers for this very worthy project! Please contact Terry Murphy on either 01235 527597, 07584 248169, or by email: [terry.murphy62@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:terry.murphy62@yahoo.co.uk)