

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: 8.15am - 12.15pm 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

In today's Gospel we hear the story of how Jesus cured a man who was deaf and who had an impediment in his speech. You might say this has no relevance for us but it has. There are so many important things we are not able to hear, so many important things we are not able to say. If I had only a short time to live, I would immediately contact all the people I had never really loved I'd make sure that they know I really loved them. Then I would play all the records that meant most to me. I would sing all my favourite songs, and oh I would dance, I would dance all night I would look at the blue skies and feel the warm sunshine. I would tell the moon and the stars how lovely and beautiful they are. I would say goodbye to all the little things I own, my clothes, my books, "my stuff". Then I would thank God for the great gift of life and die in his arms.

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

Lord my God and my loving Father, you have made me to know you, to love you, to serve you, and thereby to find and fulfil, myself. I know that you are in all things and that every path can lead me to you. But of them all there is one especially by which you want me to come to you. Since I will do what you want of me, I pray you send your Holy Spirit to me: into my mind to show me what you want of me; into my heart, to give me the determination to do it, and to do it with all my love, with all my mind, and with all my strength right to the end. Amen.

SECOND COLLECTIONS

- The second collection today, Sunday 8th September is for the *Catholic Education Service*.
- The second collection for next Sunday, 15th September is for *Home Missions*.

Week 23 in Ordinary Time: Cycle 2 (B)

Sunday 8 Sept.

8.45am Mass (In Thanksgiving Gemma & Tom White)
10.15am Mass (Michael Ellwood RIP)
6.30pm Mass (In Thanksgiving the Kolb family)

Monday 9 Sept.

8.30am Rosary
9.00am Mass (Paddy Rowley RIP)

Tuesday 10 Sept.

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

Wednesday 11 Sept.

6.30pm Rosary
7.00pm Mass (Valerie McDermott RIP)

Thursday 12 Sept.

9.00am Rosary
9.30am Mass (Dora Nash RIP)

Friday 13 Sept.

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

St John Chrysostom

Saturday 14 Sept.

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

Exaltation of the Holy Cross

MARIAN PRAYER

Fr. Claro and Faringdon Parish invite you to Marian Prayer on Saturday 12th October at 4pm. Followed by a shared supper (Please bring a dish but avoid nuts in case of allergies).

YOU WILL BE MY WITNESSES:

The next important step on our path following Bishop Philip's Pastoral Ten Year Plan is to come and hear what our Pastoral Area "Design" group are suggesting is the best way forward for us in English Martyrs Vale of White Horse. A meeting will be held in the parish centre on **Tues 10th September** from 7pm. It will be hosted by the Parish Finance Team and Parish Pastoral Council jointly. It is open to all parishioners who are keen to support and be part of a bright future together. Do come along. Thank you.

PILGRIMAGE TO CARMELITE PRIORY, BOARS HILL

The Friday prayer group are organising a pilgrimage to the Carmelite Priory at Boars Hill. This is taking place on **Sat 14th September** from 2.15pm to 6.00pm. The journey from our church to Boars Hill is open to everybody and can be undertaken on foot, by bus, by bike or by car, with prayer integrated into the journey.

Proposed times for each group will be:

Leaving time;

- Walking group leaves at 2.15pm;
- Cycling group leaves at 3.45 pm;
- Travel by bus group leaves at 3.05pm;
- Travel by car group leaves at 4.10 pm;
- Home-based spiritual companions pray from 4.30pm at home.

Please register your interest/participation using this link: <https://forms.office.com/r/99t81F26af> or pick up a form from back of church. **For any queries**, phone Sabina on 07449825161.

BECOMING A CATHOLIC: RCIA SESSIONS

Do you want to find out more about Jesus? Would you like to become a Catholic, be baptised or confirmed into the Catholic Church? Our weekly sessions begin on **Wed 18th September** at 7.30pm-9.00pm via zoom. If you would like to meet the RCIA team before we begin, you are invited for coffee and cake on Sunday 15th September after 10.15 am mass in the parish centre. For further details and zoom link please email Pauline Hanley: pehanley@hotmail.com

VOLUNTEERS PLEASE

We desperately need fresh volunteers to come forward. Firstly, our Baby & Toddler group on a Friday morning needs some help to bring the toys from the garage and clear them away at the end. If you can help, please contact the office or speak to Fr Jamie directly. Also, in order to re-launch Children's Liturgy at the 10.15am Mass for 20-25 minutes and rejoin the congregation for the Eucharistic Prayer, we really need some young mums and dads to try this. Again, please contact the office or speak to Fr Jamie.

FLOWER ARRANGEMENT DEMONSTRATION

A wonderful flower arrangement demonstration by Elizabeth Wait is taking place at St Mary Magdalene church in Shippon on Thursday 3rd October at 7.30pm. If you would like a ticket, please contact David or Daphne Tonks on 01235 523859.

PARISH EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

- **Sunday:** Refreshments in the parish centre after the 10.15am Mass.
- **Monday:** *Open Doors* in the parish centre from 11am to 2pm.
- **Tuesday:** Pastoral area meeting at 7pm in the parish centre.
- **Wednesday:** Parish lunch in the parish centre at 12.30pm.
- **Saturday:** Pilgrimage to Carmelite Priory at Boars Hill from 2.30pm.

FUTURE DATES

- **Tue 24th Sept:** *Alpha* course begins in the parish centre from 7pm to 9.30pm.

SEASON OF CREATION

The message from Pope Francis and other resources for the Season of Creation, can be viewed on the *News* page of our parish website.

ALPHA COURSE

Alpha is for **everyone and anyone**. If you want to know more about Jesus, this is the course for you. It will take place in the **Parish Centre** on **Tuesday evenings** from **7pm to 9.30pm** for **11 weeks, beginning on 24th September**.

The format of the evening will begin with a supper, followed by a short video (approx. 30mins) and then a very relaxed small group discussion. All welcome and **it is free!** The full programme can be seen on handouts at the back of church or downloaded from our parish website.

If you have any questions or want to let us know you are coming, please email either Jimena: jimena.belmonte@gmail.com or Sandar: sandarwade@yahoo.co.uk.

TRAINING AND FORMATION DAY FOR READERS

Saturday 19th October 10.30-2pm at St Bede's, Basingstoke. Led by Fr. Anthony Fyk, Director of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions. This is a wonderful opportunity for all our readers at Mass. Please register at liturgy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

TRAINING AND FORMATION DAY FOR EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS IN OUR PASTORAL AREA

Saturday 12th October at English Martyrs, Didcot. The day led by Sr. Judith. Please register with Fr. Dominic in Didcot:

office@didcotandwallingfordcatholicchurches.org.uk

A wonderful opportunity for our Eucharistic Ministers.

WE PRAY FOR

- Denis Brophy, RIP. Funeral 12noon on Mon. 9th Sept.