

# ***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](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**

## **REFLECTION**

At times we all find life difficult. We become overwhelmed with problems and worries. We often use these as an excuse for not turning to Christ. In today's gospel Christ tells us to bring all our burdens to him and he will give us comfort, peace and strength. We have to come to him with love and trust. As He helps us then we in turn learn to become gentle and humble of heart that we may find peace for our troubled souls. Slow me down Lord, ease my pounding heart, quiet my racing mind, steady my hurried steps. Teach me the art of taking time off, of slowing down to look at flowers, to chat to a friend. Let me look into the branches of a towering oak, and know that it grew tall and strong because it grew slowly and well. Slow me down Lord. Teach me to be gentle and humble of heart, and thus I will find rest for my soul.

## **PLEASE PRAY FOR VOCATIONS**

Loving God, your son Jesus, has shown us that an open heart finds the way. Help me to find my way in this world. Keep my heart open to Jesus' way of serving others in love. Give me the courage to accept the guidance you offer me through my family, and my parish community. Through the Holy Spirit, you will call me to a particular way of life. If it is the way of a Priest, sister, brother or deacon then help me to walk it in joyful service to your people. With you my God I know I can find my way Amen.

## **PARISH DAY**

Our parish day last Sunday was a great success and well attended. A big and sincere thank you to all those who came along, all those who helped to set up and clear up, the altar servers, musicians, those who worked on the barbecue and everyone who helped in any way. I was struck by the thread which pulled the day together: discipleship and service. Jesus of the gospel telling us our faith is not a hobby but a living reality and truth, expressed in our covenant with the poor, our prayer and charity this year towards those in need in Lebanon. We were also inspired by the example of the SVP conference, and our

## **Week 14 in Ordinary Time: Cycle 1 (A)**

### **Sunday 9 July**

8.45am Mass (Petri RIP)  
10.15am Mass (Sandra Aruic RIP)  
2.00pm Mass in Polish  
6.30pm Mass (In Thanksgiving Maria Pia And Mike Oliver Anniversary)

### **Monday 10 July**

8.30am Rosary  
9.00am Mass (Hayes Family RIP)

### **Tuesday 11 July**

#### **St Benedict**

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 12 July**

6.30pm Rosary  
7.00pm Mass (Victims of Marcham crash RIP)

### **Thursday 13 July**

9.00am Rosary  
9.30am Mass (Ted Kelly RIP)

### **Friday 14 July**

6.30pm Rosary  
7.00pm Mass (Geoff & Pat Castle Intentions)

### **Saturday 15 July**

#### **St Swithun**

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

CAFOD and Pax Christi commitments. We promise to always see and love Christ in those in greatest need.

## **PARISH OFFICE**

The parish office will be closed on the following dates: **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> July** and from **11.30am on Thurs 10<sup>th</sup> August until Tues 29<sup>th</sup> August.**

## SECOND COLLECTION

This **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> July** there will be a collection for *Light for the Blind* and on **16<sup>th</sup> July** for the *Apostleship of the Sea (Stella Maris)*. In addition to making a donation in the church in the red boxes **after** Mass, or using the contactless card facility at the back of the church; you can also make donations online using the links on the *News* page of our website.

## LIGHT FOR THE BLIND

Fr Thomas sends his apologies for his enforced absence this Sunday but, following a mild heart attack, he is to undergo surgery locally in India. He is in good spirits and sends his love and gratitude for all your prayers and generous support, and hopes to be with us next year. Nevertheless, we, the Abingdon trustees of the charity, will continue with the appeal as planned and one of us will provide a brief update on the work of the charity, and be available after mass to answer questions.

## WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS & ELDERLY

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> July "His Mercy is from Age to Age" (Lk 1:50). This year we will celebrate the third World Day for grandparents and the elderly. Pope Francis in 2021 declared that this special day celebrating grandparents and elderly is to be held on the fourth Sunday of July. This is close to the liturgical memorial of Saints Joachim & Anna, the grandparents of Jesus. The theme this year coincides with that of the World Youth Day in Lisbon.- "His Mercy is from age to age" Let us pray for all the grandparents and elderly in the parish as well as Isaac, Luke and Matias who will be with the Holy Father in Portugal.

## ST RCIA/Journey in Faith sessions - via Zoom

What is Love? What is Happiness? What is the meaning of my Life? Who is Jesus? Who do they say that I am? I am with you always. Peace be with you. Do not be afraid. Come and see. You might wish to find out more about Jesus, would like to receive baptism, become a Catholic, or may be a Catholic but not confirmed? If so, RCIA/Journey in Faith could be for you.

"Come and See" the way we welcome new people into the Catholic Church with an introduction to RCIA Tuesday 12th September, 7.30pm

Sessions begin 19th September, 7.30pm

If you are interested please contact Pauline Hanley email: pehanley@hotmail.com or tel: 07506 753085 for further information and meeting link.

## YEAR OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

In his Pastoral Letter in February Bishop Philip dedicated this year as "The Year of the Holy Spirit". It is the grace of the Holy Spirit that renews us, our hearts and souls and brings our faith alive. The Bishop challenged us to establish or pledge to develop six "holy habits"

- To keep Sunday special attending Mass
- To pray with scripture for five minutes daily

## 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.
- **Wednesday:** Parish lunch in the parish centre at 12.30pm.
- **Wednesday:** Mothers' prayers in French at 8pm in the parish centre.
- **Friday:** *Baby & Toddler* group in the parish centre 9.30am to 11.15am in term time.

## FUTURE DATES

- **Wed 17<sup>th</sup> July:** *Open Doors* in the parish centre from 11.30am to 2.30pm.

- To do some penance on Fridays for the poor and needy
- Fortnightly, to visit the Blessed Sacrament in prayer
- To go to confession monthly
- To join groups for formation, prayer,

## MOTHERS' PRAYERS IN FRENCH

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 12th July at 8pm in the Parish Centre.

## 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.

## CAFOD

CAFOD Portsmouth is hosting two meetings in September so that volunteers and supporters can find out more about our work. The first meeting is on **Saturday 9th September at St Bedes Church hall, Popley Way, Basingstoke RG24 9DX** from 10:30 am to 12:30pm where Philippe Mougou CAFOD's Emergency Response Leader will talk about our work in Pakistan after last year's floods. The second meeting is on **Saturday 16th September at St Michael & All Angels Church hall, Dunsbury Way, Leigh Park PO9 5BD** from 10:30am to 1:30pm (lunch is provided) where Sara Moreno from CAFOD's Partner SIEMBRA from Colombia will speak about her work with human and environmental rights defenders. Everyone is welcome but please book so that we have an idea of numbers by emailing Jo Lewry portsmouth@cafod.org.uk