

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

Mohammad Ali used to ask, "who is the greatest?" And the answer he used to give was "I am". In today's gospel we find the apostles arguing over the same question. Jesus was not pleased with them. He did not want to see jealousy and false ambition among them. He wanted them to live in peace and harmony. By the way we act we too sometimes put ourselves first, causing hurt to other people. God's inspiration is at work in everyone. However, there seems to be more people in whom it has no effect. People who commit crimes in cold blood and who never rejoice at the sight of the true and beautiful. Even if they may seem to prosper, their punishment is assured even in this world. The anxieties and fears that avail them make their prosperity a bitterness to them. As for the just, even though their passage through life is often dogged by misfortune, obeying the divine is inward satisfaction and strength.

VOCATIONS PRAYER

O God, Father of all mercies, provider of a beautiful harvest, send your graces on those you have called to gather the harvest. Preserve and strengthen them in their life by serving you. Open the hearts of us all that we may discern your Holy Will, inspire in them a desire to surrender themselves to serving others in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ. Teach all your faithful to follow their respective paths in life, guided by your divine Word and Truth. And through the prayers of your Mother grant your Church's needs Amen.

SECOND COLLECTION

The second collection today, **Sunday, 22nd September** is for the work of our parish *St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP)* who very quietly do a lot of work in our parish and wider community to support those in need. Without your contributions, a lot of their work would not be possible. You can donate through the red boxes as you leave Mass, or using the card system at the back of the church, or online using the link on the *News* page of our parish website. Foreign currency also accepted! Thank you for your generosity.

Week 25 in Ordinary Time: Cycle 2 (B)

Sunday 22 Sept.

8.45am Mass (Pat & Geoff Castle Intentions)
10.15am Mass (Sheila Sargeant Intentions
90th birthday)
6.30pm Mass (Marzena & Jacek Wadrzyk
Silver Wedding Anniversary)

Monday 23 Sept.

St Pio of Pietrelcina

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

Tuesday 24 Sept.

Our Lady of Walsingham

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

Wednesday 25 Sept.

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

Thursday 26 Sept.

9.00am Rosary
9.30am Mass (*Special Intention*)

Friday 27 Sept.

St Vincent de Paul

6.30pm Rosary
7.00pm Mass (Edna Harrold RIP)

Saturday 28 Sept.

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

MASS DATES FOR THIS WEEK

Please note that as Fr Jamie will be away, there will be no Masses on Monday 23rd and Wednesday 25th September. Back to normal after that.

CALLING ALL FAMILIES

We will be celebrating the first Children's Mass of this academic year at 10.15am on **Sunday 6th October**. We will be asking children to help us with welcoming, the offertory procession, the collection and singing the final hymn, and would also like some children to read the First and Second Readings (taken from the Lectionary for Masses with Children) and the Bidding Prayers. If your child would like to do a reading or prayer at this Mass then please email Fiona Semple at reception@st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk and she will send you the words so that your child can practise. Thank you in advance for your support!

FAMILY FAST DAY

The CAFOD Family Fast Day appeal will be on **Friday 4 October**. You will be able to pick up an envelope from the table at the back of the church next Sunday and return it with your contribution at the second/retiring collection on Sunday 6th October. Links to other information and online giving are also available on the *News* page of our parish website. By giving to CAFOD, you'll fund training, tools, equipment and safe spaces so that more people like Daniel, a young man in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, can learn new skills and fulfil their God-given potential by carving a better future for their family with skills they learned in a CAFOD-funded training centre.

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.

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).

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.

MISSIO RED BOXES

It is that time of year when we need to collect and count the MISSIO Red Boxes. If you have a box and it is full, please call Clare on 01235 524861 or Wendy on 01235 534873, and they will arrange collection. Thank you.

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.

FUTURE DATES

- **Tue 24th Sept**: *Alpha* course begins in the parish centre from 7pm to 9.30pm.
- **Fri 4th Oct**: CAFOD family fast day.

YOU WILL BE MY WITNESSES

Following Bishop Philip's Pastoral Ten Year Plan and the meeting held in our parish on 10th September to hear what our Pastoral Area "Design" group are suggesting is the best way forward for us in *English Martyrs Vale of White Horse*, a copy of the very positive presentation given for the approach is now available 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**. There is still time to join in! 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.

NEW FEAST DAY

The Vatican's Dicastery for Divine Worship and Discipline of the Sacraments has agreed to the request of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales to raise the status of the memorial of Our Lady of Walsingham on 24th to a Feast in England and Wales. Bishop Philip was ordained as Bishop of Portsmouth on this day in 2012, so please remember him in your prayers. You can find out more about the shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham on the *News* page of our parish website.

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.