

Our Lady & St Edmund of Abingdon
1 Radley Rd, Abingdon on Thames, Oxon, OX14 3PL
St Edmund Campion Deanery, Old Berkshire – Thames ISIS Pastoral Area

Parish Priest: Fr. Jamie McGrath Tel: 01235 520375
Parish Secretary: Lisa Paterson Tel: 01235 520375
Office Hours: 9am-12pm Monday to Friday
Office Email: abingdon@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
We live stream most services (the 10.15am Mass on the first Sunday of every month is not live streamed).
Safeguarding Team: Tel. 07572 935 230
Visits at Oxford Hospitals: Fr Pius 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
Roman Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Reg. Charity No 246871 www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Confessions: Saturday, 11.00 – 11.30am or by appointment

Parish Life

We wish to thank everyone who attended the Parish Christmas lunch on Sunday. Hope it was enjoyed by all. Thank you to the musicians, to everyone who donated the food, cooked it and all who helped in any way to make the day a success. Thank you to all who donated raffle prices. If anyone has ideas how they would like this annual event to continue differently or in the same way please let us know. Happy Christmas and all the best in 2020 to all.

TODAY Prayer Ministry. We invite you to come up after the 10:15am Mass for prayer with members of St Edmund's Prayer Ministry team. Give your hurts and burdens to Jesus, He cares for you.

Penitential Service this Tuesday 17th December at 7pm.

First Holy Communion 2020. The programme for 2020 starts in January. If you haven't already enrolled your child, please contact Fr. Jamie to obtain an enrolment pack. Please phone Ab. 520375 or email abingdon@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk. Any queries please contact Errol Midwinter on Ab. 522679.

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS ON THE PARISH WEBSITE
From Saturday 30th November and throughout the Advent period, there will be a page on the youth section of the parish website www.ourladyandstedmund.org.uk with activities, information and an interactive Advent calendar. Please do visit the website with your child/children. There will also be a page in the What's On section for adults.

HELP NEEDED TO ERECT CHRISTMAS TREES We are hoping to erect our two Christmas trees on the altar in preparation for Christmas Celebrations. I would like to meet on **TUESDAY 17th** (not Wednesday 18th as previously advertised) at 10.30. If you are able to help please contact Jo Milham on 01235 526177. Thank

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sunday 15 December

8.45am	Mass	Marian Schmatz RIP
10.15am	Mass	Gabriel Dover RIP
4.30pm	Polish Mass	
6.30pm	Mass	Special Intention

Monday 16 December

8.30am	Rosary	
9am	Mass	Nola Millikin RIP

Tuesday 17 December

NO Mass See: www.ourladyandstedmund.org.uk/thames-isis-pastoral-area for other masses
7pm Penitential Service

Wednesday 18 December

6.30pm	Rosary	
7pm	Mass	Barry Mair RIP

Thursday 19 December

9am	Rosary	
9.30am	Mass	Simon Sayce RIP

Friday 20 December

6.30pm	Rosary	
7pm	Mass	Annie Furlong Intentions

Saturday 21 December

11am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
11-11.30am	Confessions	
12 noon	Mass	

you.

CAKE & CONVERSATION Our last session before Christmas will be this Wed. (18th). The first session after Christmas will be on Wed. 8th Jan. from 9.30 to 11am in the parish centre. Anyone whose first language is not English is warmly welcome to this friendly informal group.

Taizé Prayer Group meets this Wednesday 18th Dec at 7.30 in the St Edmunds side chapel. The Taizé prayer tradition centres around the singing of some very simple and beautiful chants.

The Baby and Toddler group reopens after our Christmas break on Friday 10th January 2020 in our parish centre on Oxford Road at 9.30am.

CHRISTMAS PLEDGE TREE Please put your pledge in the box on the table at the back of church so that it can be hung on the tree. There are spare pledge cards at the back of church. Your pledge can be as a family or as an individual - and no name is needed.

The winter edition of Christian Focus can be found at the back of the church. There is an article by one of our parishioners on the newly canonised John Henry Newman.

Advent Collection for the Homeless 2019 Owing to the enormous success of last years' collection for O'Hanlon House, we are repeating the collection during this Advent season. Please donate SHAMPOO, TOOTHPASTE, SOAP, NEW SOCKS. The items will be delivered weekly to a hostel for the homeless in Oxford. There is a box for your donations at the back of the Church. With Grateful Thanks.

Parish Office will close from Mon 23rd and re-open on Monday 30th Dec. Can all newsletter inserts for Sunday 22nd and 29th December be sent to the office on or before Wednesday 18th December. Many thanks.

We will be serving Tea, Cake and Mince Pies after 10.15am mass on Sunday 22nd December. Proceeds will go to our homeless charity.

PARISH CAROL SERVICE Sunday 22nd December at 4.00pm. Please join us and have a good sing! Refreshments afterwards in the Parish centre.

Parish Lent Project 2020 Looking ahead to the Lent Project 2020, do you wish to propose a charity? While thinking this Advent and Christmas season about those who are less fortunate than we are, please think about whom you would like the parish to help through our next Lent Project and send your proposal to the Parish Council, through the parish office by Friday 17 January 2020. Many thanks.

Faith Development

Pope Francis 10th December 2019 "Anyone who wants to experience the consolation and tenderness of God simply needs to go to confession. The Lord draws near to those in need with the tenderness of a father. The Lord always consoles us as long as we let ourselves be consoled".

Parish Events for the Week

TODAY Refreshments after 10.15am Mass

Wednesday Cake & Conversation 9.30am

N.B. All take place in the Parish Centre unless specified

Future Diary Dates

22nd December Carol Service, 4pm, Church

23rd – 27th December Parish Office closed

Youth Events

SATURDAY 11TH JANUARY

* *Children of Our Lady (COOL) group meets from 3.30 to 5.00pm in the Parish Centre (primary school years 3 to 6 are all invited).*

* *St Edmund's Knights meet from 3.30-5.00pm in the Parish Centre (young people in secondary school are all invited).*

Reminders of future events are always included in the parish weekly newsletter and the full programme can be viewed in the youth section on our parish website at: www.ourladyandstedmund.org.uk/events

More info: bhabayeb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Christian Aid invite everyone to come and join in the Carol singing with the Abingdon Silver Band on the 20th December in the Abingdon Market Place between 10.30am to 11.30 am.

Come and join the traditional New Years Day Walk in support of Christian Aid, 1st January 2020, 10am Abingdon Baptist Church OX14 5AG Route Circular via Drayton with a distance of 5 miles (or less if you choose!) Refreshments will be provided at the finish. Only £1 payable on the day.

We pray for:

- Noel Guckian, former Ambassador to OMAN who died on December 7th. RIP

Money Matters 8th December 2019
Envelopes £245.83 Loose Plate £723.25
Average weekly Gift Aid Standing Orders £995
Many thanks

Counters: A. & C. Lardner-Brown, N. Cairns
Cleaners: L. Osazuwa, S. Pritchett